# The Eighth Day of Christmas January 1, 2023 10:00am



Central Lutheran Church 1857 Potter Street Eugene, Oregon 541-345-0395 www.connecttocentral.org Each year as the sun sets on Christmas Eve and Advent comes to a close, **Christmas** or the **Season of the Nativity of our Lord** commences for Christians who observe the liturgical calendar. **Christmas** culminates in **Epiphany** twelve days later (hence the popular secular carol: *The Twelve Days of Christmas*). The Day of **Epiphany** on January 6th concludes the cycle, commemorating the visit to the Christ Child by the Magi (Three Kings) from the East.

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Carillon

**PRELUDE** 

Il est nè (He Is Born), a French carol

Wood

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** (please stand as you're able)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, Love from the beginning, Word made flesh, Breath of heaven. **Amen.** 

Let us confess our sin before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy, grace, love, and forgiveness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

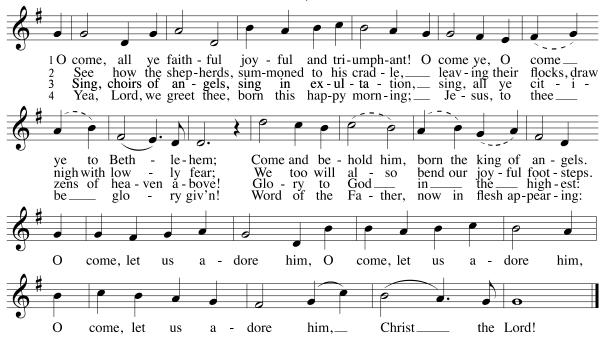
Merciful God,

we confess that we are not perfect. We have said and done things we regret. We have tried to earn your redeeming grace, while denying it to others. We have resisted your call to be your voice in the world. Forgive us, loving God. Give us your righteousness, the strength to put aside our failures, and the courage to begin anew. Amen.

Dear People of God, hear the good news:

Christ the Savior is born! You are loved and forgiven in the name of  $\pm$  Jesus, who has come among us. You are freed from proving that you deserve to be loved, because God's love is given to you as the most precious gift of all. Rejoice in this love and share it with the world. **Amen.** 

# PROCESSIONAL CAROL O Come, All Ye Faithful



### **CHRISTMAS GREETING**

The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, born of Mary, be with you all. **And also with you.** 

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (please be seated)

## CAROL #282 It Came upon the Midnight Clear Stanza 3 Solo

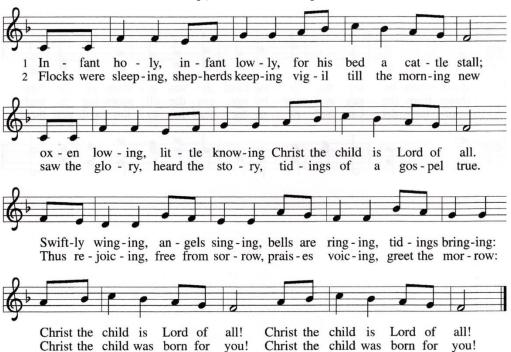


God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or an angel. God's own presence brings salvation. The prophet and all who read these words join in celebrating God's gracious deeds. God trusts that the people will not act falsely.

#### FIRST LESSON Isaiah 63:7-9

Reader: Christa Brombaugh <sup>7</sup>I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. 8For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their savior <sup>9</sup>in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# CAROL #276 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



Through Jesus' suffering and death, the trail to eternal salvation has been blazed for us. We do not fear death, because he has conquered the power of death. Thus Christ, our merciful and faithful high priest, has the final say over the destiny of our lives.

**SECOND LESSON Hebrews 2:10-18** Reader: Christa Brombaugh <sup>10</sup>It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup>saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." <sup>13</sup>And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." <sup>14</sup>Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup>For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



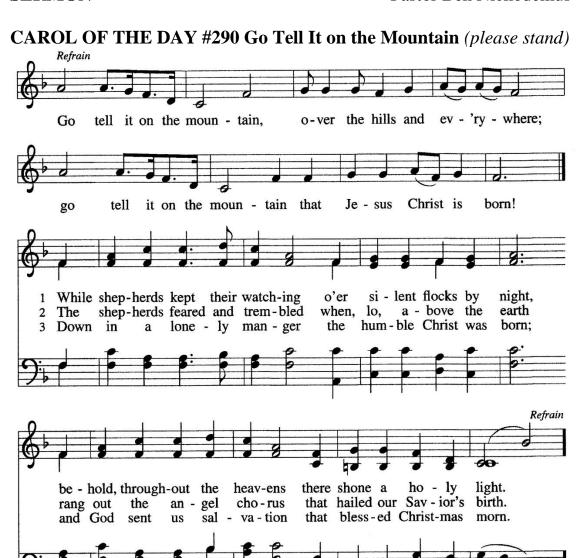


## **HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 2:13-23

The Gospel according to Matthew, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter: Glory to you, O Lord. <sup>13</sup>Now after the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." <sup>14</sup>Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." <sup>16</sup>When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. <sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: <sup>18</sup>"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." <sup>19</sup>When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup>"Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." <sup>21</sup>Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

#### **SERMON**



# PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (please be seated)

**OFFERING** 'Cold December Flies Away' David Gustafson, Tenor

## OFFERTORY CAROL #279 O Little Town of Bethlehem St 3. Solo



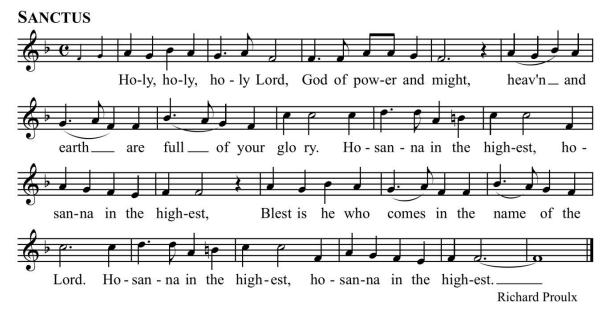
#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Generous God, you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the meal of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.** 

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.** 

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and he hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### **EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, and ever. Amen. (please be seated)

## COMMUNION CAROLS DURING DISTRIBUTION

#### #296 What Child Is This



# #281 Silent Night, Holy Night!



#### **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, so send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us to shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

#### **BENDICTION**

God bless you and keep you,  $\pm$  Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen.** 





#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God!

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

A French Noël

Louis Claude Daquin

**Together Tuesdays will resume on January 10th** with the meal served beginning at 5:15pm, followed by Music Together, Children's Choir, and Adult Education from 6-6:45pm. (Note: There will be no Together Tuesday activities on Jan. 3.)

**Music Together - Winter Term (10-week classes)** begin the week of January 10th. This is a unique program for children under the age of 5 years to be exposed to early childhood music education. The child must be accompanied by a parent/grandparent. To register, or for more info, go online to <u>musictogethereugene.com</u>.

