

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

January 1, 2023 - First Sunday of Christmas



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love
with all people.*

MINISTERS
PASTOR

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
JOHN TWITON

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C = Congregation**)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

WELCOME

+OPENING HYMN

#283 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

+GREETING

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation: And also, with you.

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: At times, it can feel that we walk in darkness.

Congregation: we pray for your grace to light the darkness.

Leader: Where there is despair,

Congregation: we pray for your hope to light the darkness.

Leader: Where there is hatred,

Congregation: we pray for your forgiveness to light the darkness.

Leader: Where there is war,

Congregation: we pray for your love to light the darkness.

Leader: Where there is confusion,

Congregation: we pray for your peace to light the darkness.

Leader: Where there is injustice,

Congregation: we pray for your courage to light the darkness.

Leader: Where there is fear

Congregation: we pray for your joy to light the darkness.

Leader: In Christ Jesus, God comes among us as light shining in darkness. Today, we proclaim with voice and song, the light of Christ shines in the darkness, and the darkness will not overcome it.

Congregation: Come, Lord Jesus, may your light come into our world! Amen.

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Eternal Father,

C: you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 9:2-7

Carol **#276** *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

SECOND READING Micah 5:2-5a

Carol **#279** *O Little Town of Bethlehem (vs. 1 & 4)*

THIRD READING Luke 1:26-38

Carol **# 272** *Lo, how a rose e'er blooming (vs. 1 & 2)*

FOURTH READING Luke 2:1-7

Carol **# 277** *Away in a Manger*

FIFTH READING 2:8-14

Carol **#275** *Angels, From the Realms of Glory (vs 1 & 2)*

SIXTH READING 2:15-20

Carol **#282** *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (vs. 1 & 4)*

SEVENTH READING Matthew 2:1-10

Carol **#300** *The First Noel vs. 2 & 3*

EIGHTH READING Matthew 2:11-15

Carol **#300** *The First Noel vs. 4 & 5*

NINTH READING John 1:1-14

Carol **#295** *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

+Offertory *#288 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

+PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,
Congregation: hear our prayer.

+LORD'S PRAYER

**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**

BLESSING

Leader: May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into
new and abundant life.
Congregation: Amen.

Leader: May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you with love and strength.

Congregation: Amen.

Leader: May the Word that angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world.

Congregation: Amen.

Leader: And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Congregation: Amen.

SENDING HYMN **#267 *Joy to the World***

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.

***Happy
New Year!***