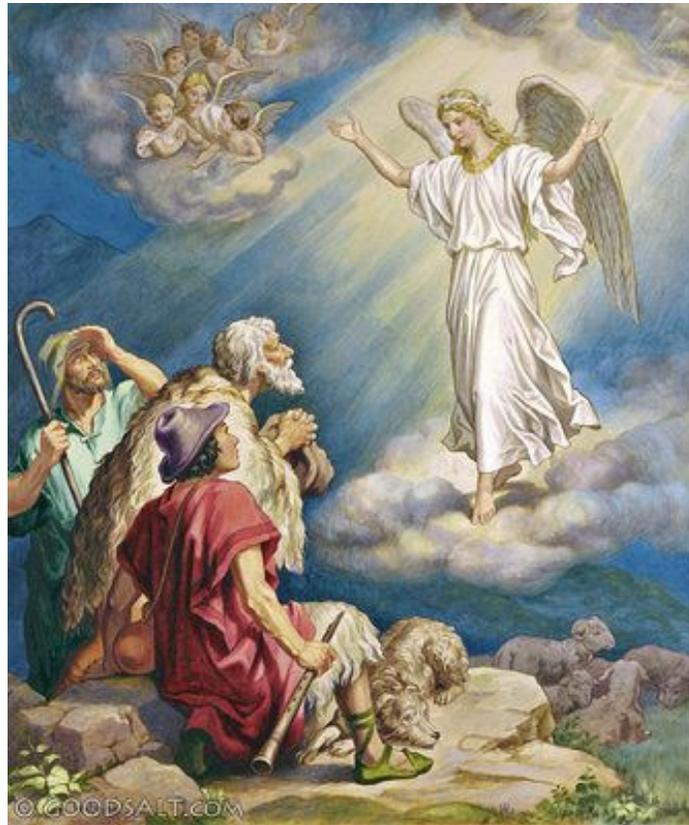


House of Prayer Lutheran Church



*"... my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples." Is. 56:7*

**House of Prayer Lutheran Church
795 North Rose Street
Escondido, CA 92027
760-745-3738
www.hoplutheran.com**

Welcome to Worship!
We are a “Church Together”

God calls us to be a church together as we find ourselves physically separated, but spiritually united as one community of God. Whether you are a visitor or longtime member, you are welcome to join us in worshipping Jesus Christ. You might do this by:

- Using this bulletin as a devotional.
- Watch and follow the worship video on our website at www.hoplutheran.com.

Offerings may be mailed to the office:

House of Prayer Lutheran Church
795 North Rose St.
Escondido, CA 92027

Contact the Office and Pastor:

Office phones (760-745-3738) will be monitored during office hours and messages responded to in a reasonable manner. For the safety of everyone during this pandemic, we have been told to not have in-person meetings or visits. If you have a pastoral concern, call the office and leave a message to set up a time to converse with the pastor.



Sunday, December 13, 2020

Third Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE “Improvisation on God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”

Henry Doktorski

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Reader One: We want everything to look nice: the decorations of the season, our homes with their lights and tinsel, wreaths and ribbons. We want to lighten the darkness around us, bring beauty to the ugliness that wears us down. We decorate, because it is tradition. Because it lifts our hearts. Because it makes us feel like children again. We deck our halls because company is coming.

Reader Two: The prophet Isaiah smiled when he said, “God will give a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.” No matter how far we feel from the spirit of the season, God promises to decorate us with love and with joy.

Reader One: We light this candle as a sign of our joy in the beautiful things of this season – not just the things that glitter and flash, but the deeper things, the beauty of the heart and the soul, the beauty of love shared in service and hospitality. We light this candle of joy because company is coming.

(candle is lit)

Reader Two: Come now and set us free .

ELW #247 V3

**Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.**

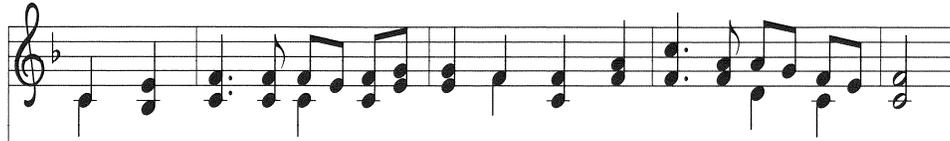
SHARING OF THE PEACE

Peace of the Lord be with you; **And also with you.**

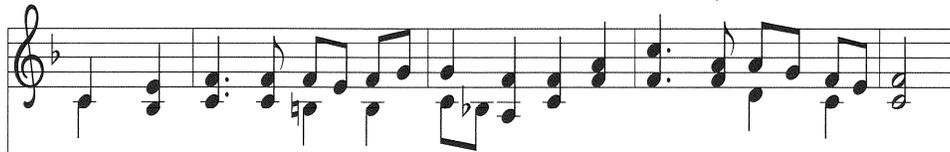
Vs. 1, 2

Once in Royal David's City

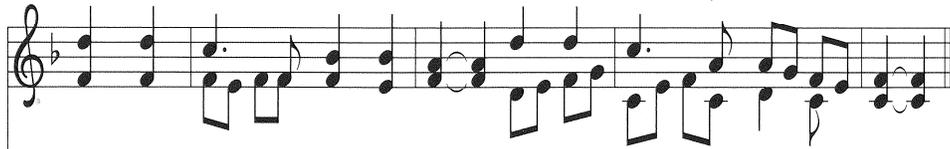
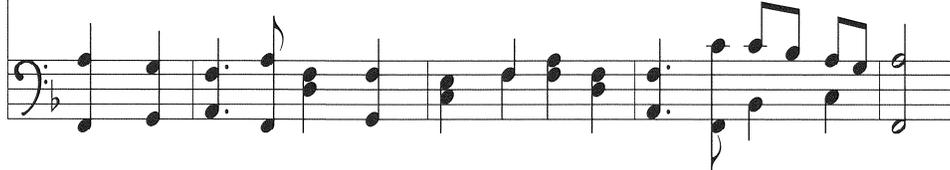
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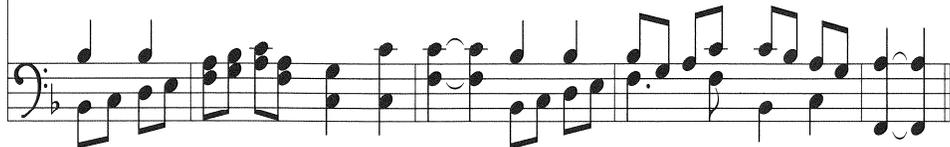
1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.



GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.....

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

¹The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. ⁸For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The word of the Lord;

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126

Hal H. Hopson

Hal H. Hopson

Refrain

Those who sow their seeds in tears
reap in joy through - out the years.

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When the Lord brought home our treasure,
All delights were like a dream;
In defeat, a shout of vict'ry;
In the sand, a flowing stream. **R**

Mouths that once were parched with anguish
Now with shouts of joy are filled;
Laughter now displaces sadness
For the goodness God has willed. **R**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (PAGE 188)

*Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Al-le-lu-ia.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-a. Al-le-lu-ia.
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.*

GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-14

The holy gospel according to St Luke;
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. ⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

The gospel of the Lord;

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: Rev. Karin Boye

Vs. 1, 2

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O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

APOSTLES' CREED (PAGE 105)

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.*

...Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

*Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.*

OFFERING PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER (PAGE 191)

**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.**

SENDING

BLESSING

Response: Amen

Vs. 1, 3

CHRISTMAS

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Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with an - gel - ic hosts pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain

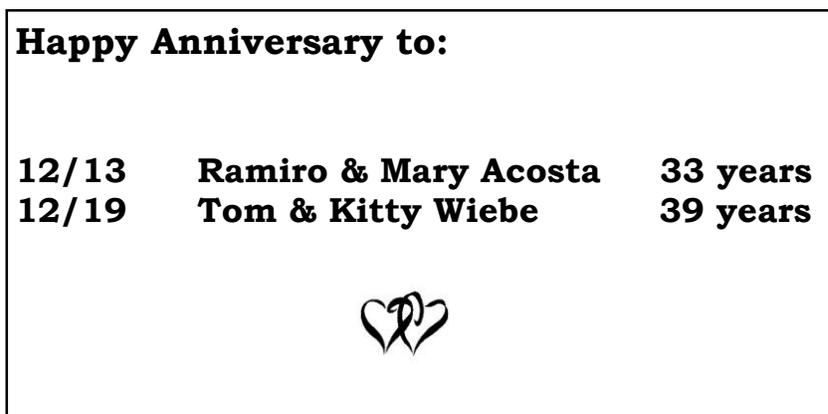
Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord; **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE “He Is Born, the Holy Child”
Prayer House Ringers**

J. Krug



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Kitty Wiebe, Youth Director
Henry Doktorski, Organist

Becca Gross, Reader
Kitty Wiebe, Office Administrator
Mark Worman, Custodian
Clementina Lopez, Custodian

If you want your staff to know...

There is a wonderful saying: "Our assumptions and the truth dine at totally separate tables!", meaning that most often our wants and likings determine our expectations and actions - and they are not necessarily connected with reality.

So if you are expecting the office or your pastor to know about something - please, call the office. Messages left on the office's answering machine are checked multiple times during the day! In case of an emergency you may call Pastor Karin directly: (c) 949-705-9966. Thank you for your ongoing support.



Mission Statement
As the body of the risen Christ, nurtured by
Word and Sacrament,
House of Prayer Evangelical Lutheran Church
is called to proclaim the creative and redemptive work of God,
in lives of loving service to its fellowship,
to North San Diego County and, in cooperation with others
to the ends of the earth.

