

# **Glynde Lutheran Church**

**a multi-cultural community of faith**



**Church@Home**  
**Glynde Lutheran Church**  
**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022, 9am**  
**Readings & Carols**



## **OPENING & WELCOME**

P: We begin our time of worship this morning in God's name: in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

We welcome you, especially those of you who are visitors here with us this morning. Please turn to someone near you and shake their hand as a way of welcoming them to God's house to worship.

### **SONG: LH 34 "O come all ye faithful"**

<https://youtu.be/Q8dgI4-bVPU>

**O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful & triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him,  
Born the King of angels**

*O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him. Christ the Lord!*

**God of God,  
Light of light,  
Lo, He abhors not the virgin's womb;  
Very God.  
Begotten, not created:**

**Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God  
In the highest:**

## **INTRODUCTION**

P: Dear friends in Christ: Let us hear again the message of the angels, and in heart and mind go to Bethlehem and see the loving-kindness of our God, and the Baby lying in a manger. Let us listen to what the Bible tells us about the birth of God's Son for us, and let us thank God for the gift of His Son with our carols of praise.

This morning we will remain seated throughout our time of worship. Let's now hear what the Bible tells us about the birth of God's Son, Jesus, for us, and respond by singing our carols of praise.

**FIRST BIBLE READING:**

[Luke 1:26 – 38](#)

*The birth of Jesus is announced*

**SONG: LH 632 “Once in a royal David’s city”**

Once in royal David’s city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed.  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child

He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable,  
And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,  
Through His own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heaven above;  
And He leads His children on  
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see Him; but in heaven,  
Set at God’s right hand on high;  
Where like stars His children crowned  
All in white shall wait around.

*Words: Cecil Frances Alexander (1823-1895)*

*Music: H J Gauntlett 1805-1876 (1849)*

**SECOND BIBLE READING:**

[Matthew 1:18 – 25](#)

*You will name him “Jesus”*

**SONG: LH 633 “O little town of Bethlehem”**

<https://youtu.be/iqt66rXDKJE>

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by:  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary;  
And, gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently,  
the wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
the blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming;  
but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive Him, still  
the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Immanuel!

*Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893)*

*Music: English traditional melody*

**THIRD BIBLE READING:**

[Luke 2:1 – 7](#)

*The details of Jesus' birth*

## CHILDRENS MESSAGE

“Let the Christmas tree  
remind you ...”

- \* Who has put up a Christmas tree at home? Who put the decorations of the tree? Did you help?
- \* What decorations are on your tree, or on the Christmas tree in church?  
*A star, fairy lights, angels, candy can, the baby Jesus under the tree*
- \* How do these decorations remind you of what Christmas is all about?
  - The angel reminds us of the angel that appeared to Mary to tell her that she would give birth to baby Jesus, and the angel that appeared to the shepherds out in the field
  - The star and the fairy lights remind us of the star that the Wise Men saw in the night sky
  - The candy cane tells the message of how the baby Jesus went to the cross to suffer and to die for our sins: red for his blood, and white for our forgiveness (*See Colin's song*).
  - The presents under the tree remind us of God's great gift to us of the baby Jesus
  - The brightly coloured balls remind us of the joy of Christmas
  - The baby Jesus in the manger *under the tree in the church* reminds us what Christmas is all about: the birth of God's Son for us
- \* Colin has a song about how the Christmas tree reminds us of important things about Christmas, and trusting in Jesus. The song is called: “The King of Christmas

## CHILDRENS SONG

The King of Christmas

<https://youtu.be/VHUXTDv5L88?t=21>

### Lyrics:

[Verse 1]

**Let the Christmas tree remind you of**

**The one who trusts the Lord**

**Who walks the path of godliness**

**And loves to hear God's word**

**Pray that as you grow up, that's just how you will be**

**Standing tall for Jesus like a Christmas tree**

[Chorus]

**Let your love show ho ho!  
Let your faith grow ho ho!  
That everyone will know...  
Christ the King of Christmas!**

[Verse 2]

**Well, let the fairy lights remind you  
Of that bright and shining star  
Spotted by the wise men who travelled from afar  
They gave Jesus all their treasures  
And they worshipped him that night  
Let your worship of King Jesus shine like fairy lights**

[Chorus]

**Let your love show ho ho!  
Let your faith grow ho ho!  
That everyone will know...  
Christ the King of Christmas!**

[Verse 3]

**Well, let the candy cane remind you  
Of God's amazing grace  
Red, the blood of Jesus  
As he suffered in our place  
White, the full forgiveness  
Won as Jesus rose again  
You can tell your friends the gospel with a candy cane**

[Chorus]

**Let your love show ho ho!  
Let your faith grow ho ho!  
That everyone will know...  
Christ the King of Christmas!**

[Verse 4]

**Well, let all the gifts at Christmas time  
Fill your heart with praise (Oooo!)  
To God for all his goodness**

Shown in oh so many ways  
That every day, in every way,  
You'll be completely His  
Give your life to Jesus as a Christmas gift

[Chorus]

Let your love show ho ho!  
Let your faith grow ho ho!  
That everyone will know...  
Let your love show ho ho!  
Let your faith grow ho ho!  
That everyone will know...  
Christ the King of Christmas!

**FOURTH BIBLE READING:**

[Luke 2:8 – 12](#)

*The message to the shepherds*

### **LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH CANDLE**

The fourth candle – symbol of hope

This candle reminds us of God's Christmas gift of hope. Because of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection for us, we have a certain hope for the future. We know that we are God's forgiven children as we trust in Jesus as our Saviour, and we know that God will raise us from the dead one day, just as Jesus was raised from the dead. Then Jesus will take us home to be with him forever.

**FIFTH BIBLE READING:**

[Luke 2:13 – 20](#)

*The shepherds go to visit Jesus*

### **SONG: LH 23 "From heaven above"**

<https://youtu.be/e4Iw1LGKQyc>

'From heaven above to earth I come  
To hear good news to every home;  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,  
Whereof I now will say and sing:

'To you this night is born a child  
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;  
This little child, of lowly birth,  
Shall be the joy of all the earth.

**‘This is the Christ, our God and Lord,  
Who in all need shall aid afford;  
He will Himself your Saviour be,  
From all your sins to set you free.**

**Now let us all with gladsome cheer  
Follow the shepherds, and draw near  
To see this wondrous gift of God,  
Who hath His own dear Son bestowed.**

*Vom Himmel hoch o komm ich her  
Martin Luther (1483-1546)  
Tr Cathering Winkworth 1855  
Music: M Luther 1483-1546 (1539)*

**MESSAGE:**

Galatians 4:4 – 7  
“God’s Christmas gift: given so that you  
may have hope”  
*God’s Christmas gift (4)*

Click [HERE](#) to view the message on YouTube

**SONG: LH 33 “Hark! The herald angels sing”**

<https://youtu.be/F6X7PyCKDY>

**Hark! The herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim:  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.**

***Hark! The herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new-born King.***

**Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail, the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel!**

**Hail, the heaven-born Prince of peace!  
Hail, the son of righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings,  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.**

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
Revised by George Whitefield (1714-1770)  
Martin Madan (1726-1790) and others  
Music: F Mendelssohn-Bartholdy 1809-1847 (1840)  
ad W H Cummings 1831-1915 (1856)  
Used with permission CCLI 39324*

**SIXTH BIBLE READING:**

[Matthew 2:1 – 12](#)

*The wise men are led to Jesus*

**SONG: LH 744 “The first Noel”**

<https://youtu.be/tvAJqK9a6Bw>

**The first Nowell the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep:**

***Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell  
Born is the King of Israel.***

**They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the East, beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued, both day and night.**

**And by the light of a shining star  
Three wise men came from country afar;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went:**

**Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord  
Who has made heaven and earth of nought,  
And with his blood mankind has bought:**

**SEVENTH BIBLE READING:**

[John 1:1 – 14](#)

*The Word became flesh*

**SONG: LH 746 “What child is this?”**

<https://youtu.be/wO8qluGa-tM>

**What child is this who, laid to rest,  
On Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary.**

**Why lies he in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass were feeding?  
Good Christians, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary.**

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own him;  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born.  
The babe, the son of Mary.**

*Words: William Chatterton Dix 1837-1898*

*Music: Traditional English 16<sup>th</sup> century*

**OFFERING PRAYER:**

**P: Let us give our thanks to God:**

**C: Gracious Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given to us; ourselves, our time, and our possessions – signs of your goodness and symbols of our love. Receive them for the sake of him who suffered and died for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **CHRISTMAS PRAYER:**

P: O God, our loving Father,  
Help us rightly to remember the birth of Jesus:

C: **That we may share in songs of the angels,  
the gladness of the shepherds,  
and the worship of the wise men.**

P: May the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children,

C: **And the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful  
thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

*Robert Louis Stevenson's Christmas prayer*

## **OTHER PRAYERS:**

P: Let us pray for the needs of others:

Dear Father, bring peace and goodwill among all people. Look in mercy on the poor and helpless; the homeless, the hungry, and oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved; the aged and the little children; and all those who do not know the Lord Jesus, or who do not love him, or who by sin have grieved his heart ...

We pray this in the name of Jesus, your Son or Lord and Saviour, who taught us to pray:

All: **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

**BLESSING:**

P: May Christ, the Son of God, give you joy and peace by his presence with you; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

**SONG: LH 627 “Joy to the world”**

<https://youtu.be/kyciMYZq2-Y>

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come:**

**Let earth receive her king;**

**Let every heart prepare Him room,**

**And heaven and nature sing,**

**And heaven and nature sing,**

**And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns:**

**Let all their songs employ,**

**While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains**

**Repeat the sounding joy,**

**Repeat the sounding joy,**

**Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow,**

**Nor thorns infest the ground;**

**He comes to make His blessings flow**

**Far as the curse is found,**

**Far as the curse is found,**

**Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,**

**And makes the nations prove**

**The glories of His righteousness,**

**And wonders of His love,**

**And wonders of His love,**

**And wonders, wonders of His love.**

*Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

*Music: H Lahee 1826-1912 (1855)*