

Glynde Lutheran Church



Church@Home



**Sunday 20 December 2020, 9am
Readings & Carols**

OPENING & WELCOME

L: 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:**

PRAYER

L: 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”

<https://youtu.be/tRIZ22dn-XY>

**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

CHILDREN'S ADDRESS: "Shepherds Visit" from The Beginner's Bible

- * Well, it's nearly Christmas!! What do you like about Christmas? *Presents, Santa Claus, Christmas trees, plenty of food, fun times.*

What's the real reason for Christmas, though?
It is the birthday of Jesus, God's Son.

- * I love hearing the story of the Shepherds and the angels, because it is a story that reminds us that the birth of Jesus is a time of joy and celebration, a joy that spills over in telling others what Christmas is all about....
- * This morning, I want to read to you another one of the stories in THE BEGINNER'S BIBLE called "Shepherds visit *baby Jesus*". It's a story that reminds us of the joy the shepherds felt when they saw the baby Jesus, a joy that expressed itself in telling everyone what they had seen and heard.

Read the story from THE BEGINNER'S BIBLE entitled "Shepherds visit",
or view from YouTube: <https://youtu.be/vs4SQP9QSXE>

- * What do you like about this story?

I like:

#The message of the angel to the Shepherds: "So not be afraid. I bring **joyful news** to all people. Today in the town of Bethlehem, a **Saviour** has been born! He is lying in a manger.

Do you think that it is "joyful news" that Jesus was born for us? *I do!*
Without Jesus, we wouldn't know how much God loves us, and we wouldn't have a Saviour from our sins (point to the cross).

- The fact that **the Shepherds tell everyone the good news that "a Saviour" has been born.**
- Do you tell your friends what Christmas is all about? *Some people don't know what Christmas is all about, and unless we tell them, they won't know....*

- * Let's now sing about the good news of Christmas: that it is birth of Jesus, our Saviour...

CHILDREN'S SONG:

“Jesus saves” by Colin Buchanan
<https://youtu.be/UuW20ke2hgE?t=21>

LYRICS:

The world belongs to God
He spoke and there it was
Though it was very good
It all went bad because
The man that God had made
And the woman there with him
Turned their backs on God to get
A deadly taste of sin, but...

Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Jesus is the way
Jesus is the savior you can come to him today
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
People from their sin
You will find forgiveness
When you put your trust in him

Well, if you look around
You will see how sin has spread
Turning light to dark
And living things to dead
But God still rules the world
He always had a plan
To send his son to save us in the likeness of a man

Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Jesus is the way
Jesus is the savior you can come to him today
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
People from their sin
You will find forgiveness
When you put your trust in him
Well if you come to God
You still have time you know
He will wash your sinful heart
And make it white as snow
Come taste eternal life
And death will have no sting
All who trust in Jesus are the children of the king

Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Jesus is the way
Jesus is the savior you can come to him today
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
People from their sin
You will find forgiveness
When you put your trust in him

SONG: LH 634 “Away in a manger”

<https://youtu.be/HREMQWW9KME>

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me for ever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

*Anonymous, USA, c1883
St. 3: John Thomas McFarland (1851-1913)*

FOURTH BIBLE READING:

[Luke 2:8 – 12](#)

The message to the shepherds

FIFTH BIBLE READING:

[Luke 2:13 – 20](#)

The shepherds go to visit Jesus

MESSAGE:

Luke 2:8 – 20

“The **outreach** if the shepherds”

The values of Christmas: outreach (4)

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

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

<https://youtu.be/Fe6X7PyCKDY>

**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)
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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 16th century

OFFERING PRAYER:

L: 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:

L: 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.**
L: 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:

L: 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:

L: 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)*