

Glynde Lutheran Church



**Friday 25 December 2020, 9am
Christmas Day**

CHURCH@HOME

CALL TO WORSHIP:

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**

*Ö come, let us adore Him,
Ö 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:**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee to be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:**

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

OPENING & CHRISTMAS GREETING:

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

Welcome to our time of worship, especially those of you who are visitors here with us this morning. Please turn to one another, greet one another, and rejoice with one another over the birth of God's Son for us.

SONG: LH 632 "Once in 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)*

WE CONFESS, HE FORGIVES:

I invite you now to join with me in confessing your sins to God our Father. Let's confess our sins and ask him to forgive us for Jesus' sake, who on the cross took the punishment that we deserve for our sins.

Lord God, our heavenly Father, we confess to you that we are sinful. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have failed to do.

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. We deserve your eternal punishment.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

so that we might be your people in this world.

On behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ, I announce the mercy and the forgiveness of God to all of you who repent and believe in Jesus as your Saviour. I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Peace be with you!

Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE: LHS 741 "Infant holy, infant lowly"

<https://youtu.be/2e-U699rvx0>

**Infant holy, infant lowly
For his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all;
Swift are winging, angels singing,
Nowells ringing, tidings bringing
Christ the babe is Lord of all.**

**Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true;
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
Praises voicing, greet the morrow,
Christ the babe was born for you.**

THE THEME OF THE DAY:

Today is the day that we have set aside as the birthday of Jesus, God's Son. In our worship this morning, let's celebrate together the birth of Jesus for us.

LIGHTING OF THE MIDDLE CANDLE

Today we light the middle candle to remind us that today is Christmas day – the day which God's son was born to us.

He is the light of the world and he brings us the Christmas gift of love, peace, joy and hope.

BIBLE READINGS:

Isaiah 9:2 – 7

Titus 3:4 – 7

Luke 2:1 – 20

THE CREED:

I invite you now to join with me in confessing your Christian faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,

and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Amen

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 sun 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.**

*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*

MESSAGE: Luke 2:1-20
“What’s Christmas all about?”

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

SONG: LHS623 “Now sing we rejoice”

<https://youtu.be/smSCU5Tji48>

**Now sing we, now rejoice,
Now raise to heaven our voice;
He from whom joy streameth
Poor in a manger lies,
Yet not so brightly beameth
The sun in yonder skies,
Thou my Saviour art,
Thou my Saviour art!**

**Come from on high to me,
I cannot rise to Thee;
Cheer my wearied spirit,
O pure and holy child,
Through all Thy grace and merit,
Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
Draw me unto Thee,
Draw me unto Thee.**

**Now through His Son doth shine
The Father’s grace divine;
Death o’er us had reigned
Through sin and vanity;
The Son for us obtained
Eternal joy on high,
O that we were there
O that we were there!**

**O where shall joy be found?
Where but on heavenly ground?
Where the angels singing
With all His saints unite,
Their sweetest praises bringing
In heavenly joy and light.
O that we were there
O that we were there!**

Words & Music: German 14th Cent

OFFERING:

We give in gratitude to God for all that He has done for us, and for all that He continues to do for us.

OFFERING PRAYER:

Let us give our thanks to God:

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.

PRAYERS FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Reader 1)

Heavenly Father, we pray that amidst all the joys and festivities of this season we may not forget what Christmas really means: that you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son, who was born to be our Saviour.

Thank you for loving us so much that you sent your Son to be born for us, to live among us, and to suffer and to die for us on a cross.

Thanks, dear Father. Amen.

Reader 2)

We praise you, Lord God, for the good news of Christmas:

for the coming of your Son to rescue all people.

Let it be good news for each one of us at this time

as we open our hearts to your love

and welcome Jesus as our Saviour.

Then show us what we can do to pass on this good news to others, that they may share our joy and give thanks with us for your amazing gift.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Reader 3)

O God, you are the giver of all good gifts....

At this time of giving and receiving of gifts, help us to remember that Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than receive".

Put into our hearts that love which knows that true happiness comes from making others happy, and true wealth comes from sharing all we have.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Reader 4)

Son of Man, our friend and brother,

You were born in a room a long way from your home.

Help us to remember, on this your birthday, those who are a long way from their home, those who are refugees, those who are homeless, and those who are poor and hungry.

Give us an understanding of their needs.

Show us what we can do to help.

And make us generous in our love and gifts because of Bethlehem, because of your love for us all. Amen.

BLESSING:

The Lord bless you and watch over you;

the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you;

the Lord look kindly on you and give you peace.

Amen.

SONG: TAC 44 "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.

Joy to the world! The Saviour reigns:

Let men their songs employ,

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

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.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love.**

*Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)
Music: H Lahee 1826-1912 (1855)*