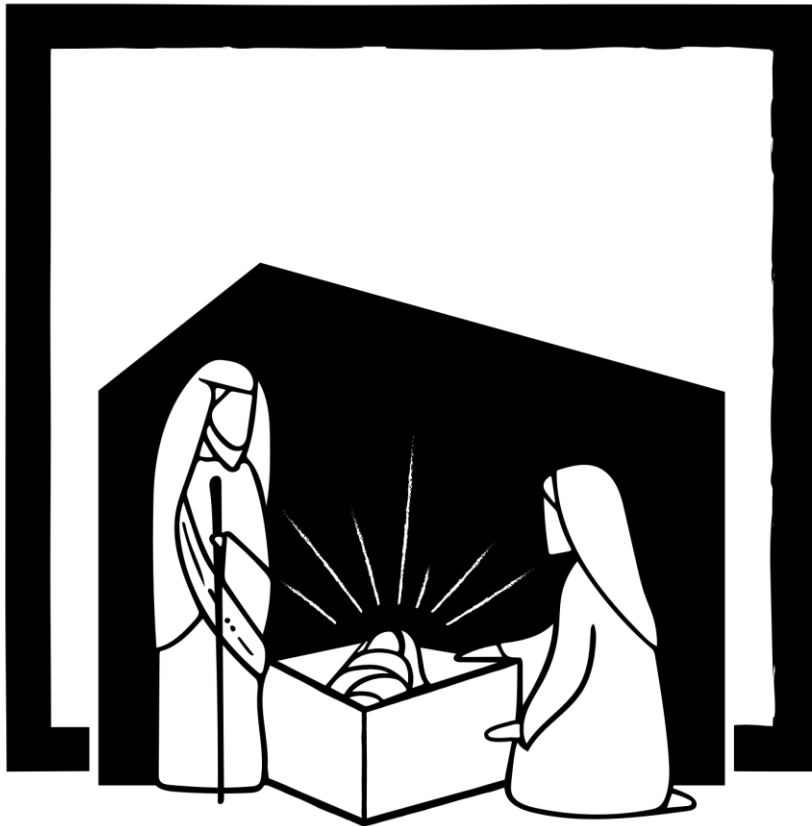


Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church



A SAVIOR IS BORN

December 24, 2022 – Christmas Eve

“A Savior born to change the world”

Beautiful Savior

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Serving all people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ

Welcome-- We are glad you could join us today! It is our hope that this service is a blessing to you. Please join us for worship again soon.

- Please save the last two rows of pews for parents with small children.
- Parents with little ones: If your child becomes restless during the service, that's okay... We're glad they're here, and Jesus is pleased when they are brought to hear his Word: "Let the little children come to me." If you need to be with your child in the Fellowship Hall, the service can be heard through a speaker.
- Five minutes before the worship service begins the usher will light the candles. This is our signal to quiet down and prepare our hearts for worship.
- Restrooms are conveniently located to the left as you exit the sanctuary.
- Please silence your cell phone before the start of the service.

PRAYER FOR WORSHIP

Father, open my heart to hear and believe your word, so that through faith your Son may take his rightful place not just in the manger, but also within my heart. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

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343 Once in Royal David's City

CW 343



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



cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
 Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
 deem - ing love, for that child, so dear and gen - tle, is our
 stand - ing by shall we see him, but in heav - en, set at



man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er
 cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and mean and
 Lord in heav'n a - bove, and he leads his chil - dren
 God's right hand on high. Then like stars his chil - dren



mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 on to the place where he is gone.
 crowned, all in white, his praise will sound.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–1895, abr., alt.
 Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876
 Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

Dialogue of Praise

Unto us the Christ is born:

Oh, come, let us worship him.

Let us worship with each other as we recount the story of his birth:

O Lord, open our lips, and our mouths shall declare your praise.

Let us worship with the angels, and sing praise to the Lord who came to save us:

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.

Let us worship with the shepherds and tell every person about the Child, our Savior.

Christ the Lord, our Savior, everlasting God and Mary's Son, we praise you forever.

Tonight we go to Bethlehem to see Jesus, born to save us. Tonight we want to hear again, to remember anew, to see once more the miracle of Jesus' birth.

Come to Bethlehem and see! The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. Amen.

Christmas Prayer

Lord in heaven, on this special night give me a humble and believing heart that I may joyfully claim the Babe of Bethlehem as my Lord and my God. Remove from me the tattered robes of my own righteousness, and adorn me with the spotless garment that Jesus won for me. Lord, use every gift received from loving friends to remind me of the gift of a Savior so that my heart may rejoice, and my tongue may sing praise to you. Help me to cradle the Christ-child in my heart, O Holy Spirit, and give me the grace and the strength to love and adore him all the days of my life.

Amen.

The Word

Scripture Reading

Micah 5:2–5a

²“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.”

³Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.

⁴He will stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.

⁵And he will be our peace.



333 O Little Town of Bethlehem

CW 333 sts. 1-2, 4



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
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.
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,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings 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.
O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893, abr., alt.
Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908
Text and tune: Public domain

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹²It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

352 Joy Has Dawned

CW 352



1 Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom - ised from cre - a - tion—
 2 Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of an - gels
 3 Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry.
 4 Son of Ad - am, Son of heav'n, giv - en as a ran - som;



God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.
 as the might - y Prince of life shel - ters in a sta - ble.
 Gifts of men from dis - tant lands proph - e - sy the sto - ry:
 rec - on - cil - ing God and man, Christ, our might - y cham - pion!



Not with fan-fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,
 Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in dark - ness,
 gold— a king is born to - day; in - cense—God is with us;
 What a Sav - ior! What a friend! What a glo - rious mys - t'ry!



but a hum - ble gift of love— Je - sus born of Mar - y.
 cling now to a moth - er's breast, _ vul - n'ra - ble and help - less.
 myrrh— his death will make a way, and by his blood he'll win us.
 Once a babe in Beth - le - hem, — now the Lord of his - t'ry.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Text and tune: © 2005 Thankyou Music, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716626

Gospel Lesson

Luke 2: 1-7

¹In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ²(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.



344 What Child Is This

CW 344



1 What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox - en now are
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing, whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the
 own him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
 lov - ing hearts en - throne him. Raise, raise the



Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
 song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.

Tune: English, 16th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

Gospel Lesson

Luke 2:8-14

⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”



350 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

CW 350



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 - ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right-eous-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 ye na - tions rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, hail th' in - car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,



with th' an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.

Refrain



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

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847
Text and tune: Public domain

Gospel Lesson

Luke 2:15-20

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

¹⁶So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Children's Devotion *Ages 3 through grade 5 are invited to come forward for a Bible lesson.*



361 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

CW 361



Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills, and ev - 'ry - where;



go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born,



be-hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: John W. Work II, 1873–1925, verses, alt.; African American spiritual, refrain
Tune: African American spiritual
Text and tune: Public domain

Christmas Devotion

Christmas Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, who sent his Son as my Savior on Christmas Day;

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, my Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, announced by the angels, worshiped by the shepherds, adored by the Wise Men, who lived to suffer, die, and rise again, to free us from sin, death, and the power of the devil;

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who has brought me to faith in the Christ of Christmas and by whose continuous work in my heart I am ever led to lay before the feet of Jesus the treasures of my love and live under him as my King, both now and forevermore. Amen.

Offering *“We love because he first loved us.” 1Jn 4:19 God’s love in sending Jesus to live, to suffer, and to die for each of us motivates the members of Beautiful Savior to show their love and thanks by returning a portion of their income to the Lord. Through these free will offerings, this congregation and its ministries are maintained.*



**If you would like to give your regular offering envelope, you can mail it to the church. If you would like to give securely online, scan this code or follow this link: bslclarksville.com*

Prayer of the Church

Almighty and all-merciful God, in the fullness of time, you sent forth your Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem this fallen world and make us your very own. We give you thanks that the good news of the Savior’s birth continues to be proclaimed throughout the world. Open the hearts of many that together we may give thanks for your boundless mercy. Oh, come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

Gracious God, your Son entered this world not with mighty demonstrations of power but in humility and meekness. Guide us as we go about the work that you have given us to do. Enable us to trust in your promise that your Word will not return empty but will accomplish its purpose—the salvation of souls. Oh, come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

Merciful Lord, the angel gave the shepherds a sign so that they might find the new-born Savior. Grant us also faithfulness to look to the place where you promise to be present for us now-- in your Word. Help us to trust that

through these humble means we meet the same Savior who was born in Bethlehem. Oh, come to us, abide with us,

Our Lord Immanuel!

Shine forth, dear Jesus, light of the world, on all who walk in the darkness. Grant us your grace to be your torchbearers, telling the world of your love. Open the eyes of all to see your light and follow you to eternal glory. Oh, come to us, abide with us,

Our Lord Immanuel! Amen.

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.**

Closing Prayer

Precious Savior, you first came into the world in utter poverty and deepest humility. Today you also came to us in your Word, in love, and in mercy. We know that you are going to come once again, in might and in majesty. Before that great day comes, implant your truth deeply in our hearts, so that all we attempt or achieve will serve to honor you, our Savior-King, who is worthy of all our praise.

Amen.

The Blessing

May he who by his incarnation gathered things earthly and heavenly into one, fill us with the joy that comes with the knowledge of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life.

And the blessing of God Almighty

The Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit

Be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

Lighting of the Candles

Jesus is the Light of the World! We pass the flame from the Christ candle to each of our own candles. This reminds us that the Light of Jesus has come to our hearts and is to be shared.

Note: The ushers will bring you a candle and holder. Please do not tip a lit candle. Only tip unlit candles to receive the flame. Parents are encouraged to “share” their candles with younger members of their families.

When all was still, and the time had fully come, God’s Word descended from the heavenly throne. The glory of the Lord has been revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. God, who once said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts, to give us the light of the glory of God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

337 Silent Night, Holy Night

CW 337



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight. Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts__ sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy



peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Text: tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885; Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848
 Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787–1863
 Text and tune: Public domain

After the final verse of the hymn, you may extinguish your candles. They will be collected by the ushers.

**Thank you for joining us to celebrate the birth of our Savior.
Please worship with us again!**

Worship and Growth Opportunities at Beautiful Savior

There are many opportunities at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church for worship, growth, and fellowship in Christ. We have Sunday morning worship service at 10:30 am. Sunday School for all ages meets at 9:15 am as well as our pre-membership Bible Information Class on Sunday. Our upcoming Schedule:

Sunday, December 25	Christmas Worship	10:30am
Saturday, December 31	New Year's Eve Vespers	6pm
Sunday, January 1	Sunday Worship	10:30am

Bible Information Class

Would you like to take your Bible knowledge deeper and learn the truths of the Bible? Our newest Bible Information Class will begin in January. We will cover the main teachings of the Bible and answer any questions you may have about the Word of God. Each class will be less than one hour. This Bible Information Class also serves as our pre-membership class. If you have any questions, please talk to Pastor Holz.

Our Thanks

We give thanks tonight for those who made use of their musical gifts and shared them with us this evening.

Upcoming Worship Series

The first Christmas sermon was preached to a small congregation consisting entirely of shepherds. The preacher was an angel. The message of his sermon? “*Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you.*” That is a heavy word: Savior. If one needs saving, it means he is totally helpless. It means he is lost. That is the world without Christ. So God sent his only Son to be our Savior.

After December 25 the secular world is done with Christmas. But for the Church, the season of Christmas has just begun. For twelve glorious days—The Twelve Days of Christmas—we will ponder the nativity of the Son of God. We will celebrate what that nativity means. A Savior is born!

Sunday, December 25 - *A Savior born to dwell among us* 10:30am

Sunday, January 1 - *A Savior born to be the True Son* 10:30am

Acknowledgments

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