



**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church**

**[www.shephills.org/watch](http://www.shephills.org/watch)**

**Saturday, December 26, 2020 | 5:30 PM**

**Sunday, December 27, 2020 | 8:15 AM**

# Jesus - in Flesh The Light Has Come!

## God Gathers Us

### Gathering Music

#### Call to Worship...Isaiah 52:7-10 (NRSV)

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."  
<sup>8</sup> Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the LORD to Zion.  
<sup>9</sup> Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the LORD has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
<sup>10</sup> The LORD has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

#### Special Music #283 vs 1 & 4 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him,  
born the king of angels:

#### Refrain

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing: Refrain

## Prayer of the Day

## Welcome/Life in Community

## Special Music

### *Hear the Angels*

Hear the angels sing; Christ is coming!  
Hear them tell of the Savior's birth.  
Hear the angels sing; Christ is coming!  
"Glory to God, and peace to the earth."

#### Refrain

Alleluia! Angels sing!  
Alleluia! A Savior is born,  
alleluia! Christ is coming.  
All of heaven and earth, adore.

Hear the shepherds sing; come and follow  
by the light of the morning star.  
Hear the shepherds sing, "Come and follow;  
to worship the child we will travel afar." Refrain

Hear the wise men sing; come and worship  
Christ the child, who was born to be king.  
Hear the wise men sing, "Come and worship.  
Gold, spice, and myrrh are the gifts that we bring." Refrain

Hear the angels sing; Christ is coming!  
Hear them tell of the Savior's birth.  
Hear the angels sing; Christ is coming!  
"Glory to God, and peace to the earth." Refrain

## Litany of Christmas

Pastor: In this Christmas time,  
as another year draws to a close,  
we come together before God and with one another, confessing...

**All: the ways in which we have been caught up  
in the different ways we are having to celebrate  
and losing our focus on the Spirit of Peace;  
the times we have focused so much on our own lives and desires,  
that we have neglected the voices of your children  
who cry out for Justice;  
in our focus on making the season perfect,  
we have turned away from the hurting people  
and broken places in our world in need of Healing;  
in the times we have dismissed Christmas as a time only for  
children, and we have stubbornly closed our hearts to your  
amazing gift of Love.**

Pastor: O Holy Child of Bethlehem, Word Become Flesh,  
our Savior and King, hear us as we humbly pray,

**All: Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. Amen.**

Pastor: Hear the good news of Christmas.  
Today God reveals to us the wonders of divine love.

**All: For unto us a Child is born;  
unto us a Son is given.  
His name shall be called Wonderful,  
Counselor,  
the Mighty God,  
the Everlasting Father,  
the Prince of Peace.**

## God Speaks to Us

Special Music #289 vs 1& 3

### *Angels We Have Heard on High*

Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply,  
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn king. Refrain

### Scripture Reading...Luke 2:21-40 (NRSV)

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;  
for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her

marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

#### The Return to Nazareth

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

### Special Music #266

### *All Earth Is Hopeful*

(Solo)

Toda la tierra espera al Salvador  
y el surco abierto, la obra del Señor;  
es el mundo que lucha por la libertad,  
reclama justicia y busca la verdad.

(All)

People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell:  
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel";  
she conceived him, "God with us,"  
our brother, whose birth  
restores hope and courage to children of this earth.

Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared;  
new highways opened, new protocols declared.  
Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace!  
All clear ev'ry gateway, in haste, come out in haste!

We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib.  
This same Lord Jesus today has come to live  
in our world; he is present, in neighbors we see  
our Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free.

Christmas Message    Nunc Dimittis    Pr. Tom Grevlos

## Special Music #292 vs 1 & 3 *Love Has Come*

Love has come—a light in the darkness!  
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.  
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;  
hear how their song of joy arises:  
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!  
Love! Love! Glory to God

Love has come and never will leave us!  
Love is life everlasting and free.  
Love is Jesus within and among us.  
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.  
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas;  
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin  
Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into  
heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

## God Feeds Us

Prayers of the Community

Sharing of the Peace (Virtual Greeting)

## Thank Offering

To give, go to shephills.org and click on Give Here or  
By mail, send to 3525 Bee Cave Rd, Austin, TX 78746  
Scan QR Code to Give now



## Year End Giving – Reminder

If you are mailing your offering to apply to year 2020 giving, please make sure it is postmarked no later than December 31, 2020!  
Thank you for your continued generous support!

## Offering Song #296 vs 1 & 3 *What Child Is This*

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!

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!

## Offering Prayer

## Breaking of Bread

## Words of Institution

## 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;

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.

## Communion Invitation

**As we celebrate this sacrament, all are invited to receive the Risen presence of Jesus.**

Bread/cracker -  
"The Body of Christ given for you."

Wine/juice -  
"The Blood of Christ shed for you."

## Communion Music

## Communion Blessing/Prayer

## God Sends Us

### Benediction

## Special Music #715 vs 1 & 3 *Christ, Be Our Light*

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.

### Refrain

Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.  
Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed. Refrain

## Commissioning

Pastor: In the wilderness of our lives let us hear the voice of God, the hopeful promise of Emmanuel "God with us."  
Like Elizabeth and Zachariah, John the Baptist, Mary and Joseph, Simeon and Anna, may we be a Christ-light to the world as we go out to love and serve the Lord!

**All: Thanks be to God and WE WILL!**

## Postlude

## Prayers

Please pray for Bob Moore, Julie Shank, Jeri Porter, Kristen Murray and Matthew Plummer

Please pray for Sarah Murtaugh, niece of Pr. Tom and Jeanne Grevlos

Please pray for Bert Knight, cousin of Anita and Don Knight

Please pray for Heather Griffin, daughter of Sandy and Don Gaskin

Please pray for Tom Dawson, brother of Bill Dawson

Please pray for Linda Squires, sister of Laura Hills

Please pray for friends of Shepherd members: Ellsworth and Mildred Tonn, Byron and Kay Bradfute, Jean Bessent and Don Bergstrom

We pray for all those affected by the coronavirus and for all those in the medical field caring for the sick and the researchers developing a vaccine. We pray for a cure for the sake of our country and the world.

Please pray for Rev. Karen Castillo in Guatemala; Iglesia Luterana Augustina Virgen del Rosario, Aurora 8 de Octubre, Guatemala;  
Malcolm and Joy Henderson and the ministry of CHARIS in Haiti, Mariposa Family Learning Center, Bread For All

Please pray for the ministry of Mariposa Family Learning Center, Bread For All, Upbring , BeReal and New Life Center

Please pray for our faith community, that we may be a church without walls and live out loud...faithfully!

\*Prayers for family members are listed for 2 weeks, unless we are notified otherwise.

### **WORSHIP TEAM**

**Pastors**

Pr. Tom Grevlos, Pr. Lauren Dow Wegner

**Preaching Pastor**

Pr. Tom Grevlos

**Director of Worship/Arts**

Kevin McClure

**AV**

Bill Dawson and Doug Dawson, Pete Forsberg, James Enochs

**Hosts**

Amanda Forsberg , Judy and Bob Haugen



# NEW YEARS EVE WORSHIP

**Thursday, December 31**  
**5:30 pm in the Courtyard**

COME AND REFLECT ON THIS PAST YEAR AND  
START 2021 IN THE BEST POSSIBLE WAY!



Join Us Outdoors

# COURTYARD WORSHIP

**5:30 pm Saturdays**  
**8:15 am Sundays**

wear a mask, bring a chair