

In the Gospel according to Luke we hear the angels
say to the shepherds,



Glory to God IN THE
HIGHEST HEAVEN,
and peace to God's people
ON EARTH.

At this time of the year, perhaps our longing for peace is even more acute. We know the world isn't right. Nevertheless, we wait for and trust in Jesus, the Prince of Peace. The angels proclaimed, "Peace on Earth. Good tidings we bring." We pray for peace in our world and in our communities. Every week we take time during worship to greet one another with the message of peace. We reach out, grasping hands across pews, across the aisle. Some may walk to other areas of the sanctuary to give a message of peace to a neighbor or a visitor. "The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you." We share the peace, the love of God, and as we do, we know that God has reached from heaven to earth and, in the Prince of Peace, is sharing God's peace with us. In this season and all year round, may the peace of Christ be with you.

Merry Christmas, dear church.
Elizabeth L. Eaton



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

For pastoral care or other needs please contact the Pastor or the church office at 651-429-4828.

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**Please stand as you are able.*

Pastor Rebecca Sullivan
Music Leaders Betsy Murray, Lyn Campbell
LAM Trip Sullivan
Reader Bea Jones
Communion Sally Hesse, Bonnie Jackelen
Acolyte Alex Johnson
Ushers Michele Murray, Scott Tradup
AV Jason Clapper, Julia Clapper
Altar Guild Lori Fredericks, Lori Wills
Hospitality Mike Wallace, Joan Macheledt,
Terry & Peggy Keohen

PRELUDE	"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming," by J. Carter "On Christmas Night," ELW #274	Betsy Murray
CALL TO WORSHIP		Screen
CANDLE LIGHTING	"Christ Be Our Light," by B. Farrell	King's Choir
*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS		Screen
*OPENING HYMN	"Joy to the World," ELW #267 Trip Sullivan, horn Joe Moore, trumpet Scott Freburg, trombone James Tradup, trombone Beth Tradup, timpani John Murray, percussion	Organ & King's Brass
*GREETING		Screen
*PRAYER OF THE DAY		Screen
	Loving God, We have heard this story before— the story of a star in the sky and a baby who was laid in a manger. We have heard this story before— passed down in hopeful whispers through the generations. So this night, as we lean our hearts and our ears closer to you, we ask that you would make room in our souls to hear this story again. Make room in us for awe. Make room in us for wonder. Make room for heartache and compassion. Make room in our hearts for you. For we know that you are still speaking. So speak to us again this night. We are listening. We are already making room. Amen.	
SPECIAL MUSIC	"Come and Hear the Joyful Singing," by M. Perry	King's Choir

LESSON	Isaiah 9:2-7, p 555 NRSV	
PSALM	Psalm 96 (read responsively) p 479 NRSV	Screen
*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	“O Come, All Ye Faithful,” ELW #283, v 1&2	Organ & King’s Brass
*GOSPEL	Luke 2:1-20, p 832 NRSV	
CHILDREN / YOUTH TIME		Pastor Rebecca
SERMON		Pastor Rebecca
*HYMN OF THE DAY	“Angels We Have Heard on High,” ELW #289	Organ & King’s Brass
*APOSTLES CREED		Screen
*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE		

Leader: Trusting in God’s good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

A brief silence.

After each petition:

Leader: . . . Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Leader: Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

All: Amen.

*PEACE		Screen
OFFERING	“Christmas Pastoral,” by G. Richolson	Betsy Murray
*OFFERTORY	“Lord of All Good,” by B. Beebe Tradup (sung to the tune of “Joy to the World”)	Screen
*OFFERING PRAYER		Screen

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our Hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

*SANCTUS Holy, Holy, Holy,” ELW p. 108 setting 1 Screen

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*THE LORD’S PRAYER Screen

DISTRIBUTION “Away in a Manger,” ELW #277 Screen

“There is Room for the Stranger,” by Tice, Dengler King’s Choir

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear,” ELW #282 Screen

“I am So Glad This Christmas Eve,” ELW #271 Screen

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BLESSING “I Can Celebrate You,” Screen
(sung to the tune of “In the Bleak Midwinter”)

*CANDLE LIGHTING “Christmas Starlight,” by E. Lorenz Betsy Murray

*SENDING “Silent Night,” ELW #281 Screen

*SENDING OUT

POSTLUDE “He is Born,” by R.J. Powell Betsy Murray

