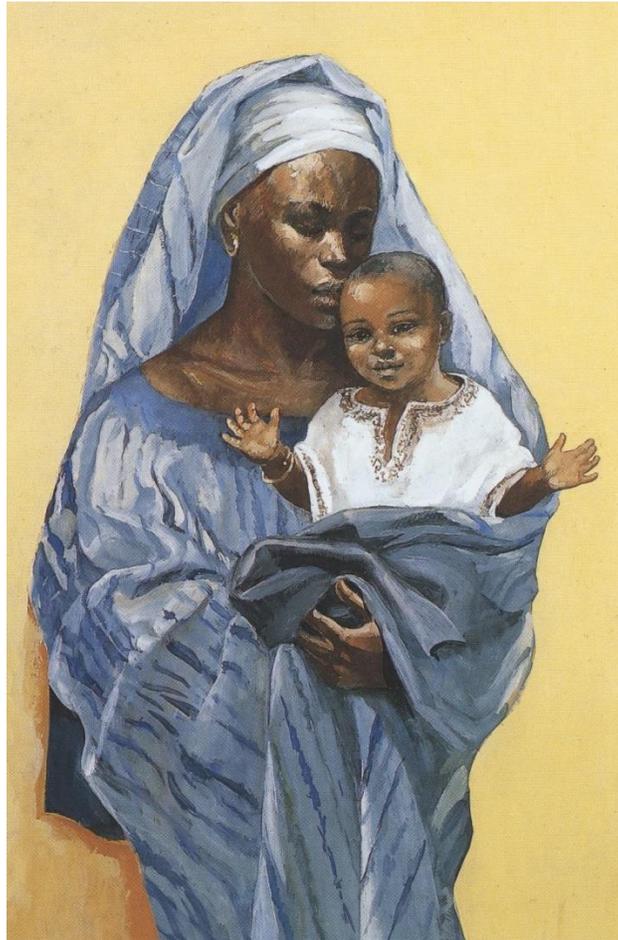




# **REJOICE FELLOWSHIP**

A Ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**PASTOR MADDIE TALLMAN**



**December 24, 2020 at 4:00 pm**

**Luke 2:1-14**

**Christmas Eve Service**

**C:** indicates spoken responses by the congregation  
**P:** indicates the Presiding Minister  
**A:** indicates the Assisting Minister

*Welcome to worship at Rejoice Fellowship! We have moved back to Facebook Live worship only at this time. We also have adopted a few safety measures for the small group that leads worship each week. We thank you for your understanding as we try out new ways of being the church and worshipping during the pandemic.*

*A note about communion—we will be celebrating Holy Communion this evening! We invite you to gather a piece of bread and wine or juice before worship begins. After the Invitation to Communion, all those in-person and at home can consume the elements and receive the blessed sacrament together, even if apart.*

## ✠ Gathering ✠

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### **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

P: Joy to the world.

**C: Joy, joy, joy!**

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**C: Joy, joy, joy!**

P: Let every heart prepare him room.

**C: Let heaven and nature sing!**

P: Let every heart prepare him room.

**C: Let heaven and nature sing!**

P: Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**C: Declare his glory among the nations, his wonders among all the peoples.**

P: Give to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

**C: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth.**

P: Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad, let the sea roar, let the field be joyful!

**C: All the trees of the forest, shout for joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth with righteousness and the peoples with truth.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL**



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711–1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–1880, sts. 1, 3–4; tr. unknown, st. 2  
Music: ADESTE FIDELES, attr. John Francis Wade

## GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may journey in the illumination of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## ✠ Word ✠

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### FIRST READING

### PSALM 96

<sup>1</sup>O sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup>**Sing to the LORD, bless his name;  
tell of his salvation from day to day.**

<sup>3</sup>Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous works among all the peoples.

<sup>4</sup>**For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;  
he is to be revered above all gods.**



*Refrain*

Glo - ri - a  
in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -  
ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864  
 Music: GLORIA, French carol

## THE GOSPEL

## LUKE 2:1-14

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
 and on earth peace among those whom God favors!"

P: The Gospel of our Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We light our final candle in the Advent, the middle candle, signifying Christmas Eve. O Come O Come Emmanuel will be played.

HYMN OF THE DAY

HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING



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-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - 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 you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



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

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.  
Music: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831–1915

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Following each petition:*

A: Hear us O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

## SHARING THE PEACE

A: The peace of Christ be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

*You are invited to safely share a greeting of Christ's peace with one another.*

# ✠ Meal ✠

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## OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

*We are blessed by your generosity! Tithes and offerings can be sent in two ways: electronically by clicking here: <https://rb.gy/ryhn0m> ; or physical checks/cash can be mailed to the office at 105 1st Ave SW, Glen Burnie, MD 21061. Thank you for opening your heart!*

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

## CALYPSO LULLABY

JESTER HAIRSON/ARR. JOEL RANEY

## OFFERING PRAYER

A: Gracious God, you came to us as one unknown, bringing joy and salvation to the earth. Nourish us at your banquet table, that with all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

#### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: The Word is revealed in a manger, in simple bread and wine. Come meet Christ in this meal.

*We believe all are welcome at the communion table. And this year, that table is in your home. If you wish to receive the holy sacrament, we encourage you to grab a piece of bread and some wine or juice and consume them now. The body of Christ given for you; the blood of Christ shed for you.*

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Gracious and abundant God, you have done great things for us, and we rejoice. In this bread and cup you give us life forever. In your boundless mercy, strengthen us and open our hearts to the world's needs, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## ✠ Sending ✠

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As we begin the final stages of this evening's worship, we invite you to participate in our candle-lit sending. Light a candle in your home; turn down the lights in your home; light your candle; and sing along to *Silent Night* with us.

### SONG OF LIGHT

### SILENT NIGHT



<i>Stil - le Nacht,</i>	<i>hei - li - ge Nacht!</i>	<i>Al - les schläft,</i>
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,



<i>ein - sam wacht</i>	<i>nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.</i>	
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 your ho - ly face,	



<i>Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar,</i>	<i>schlaf in himm - li - scher</i>
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 your



<i>Ruh,</i>	<i>schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.</i>	
peace,	sleep in heav - en - ly peace.	
born!	Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!	
birth,	Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.	

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885  
 Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

## BLESSING

P: Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day † through the Word made flesh. That although our celebrations look different this year, Jesus Christ was born all the same for you.

**C: Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

## GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

*Refrain*



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 lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*



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: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.  
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

## **DISMISSAL**

A: Christ is born! Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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