

Christmas Eve 2022

I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve sung by Judy Sadlon, Sheila Baker and Sue Harkins ELW 271

Introduction/Greeting Pastor Wolling

On Christmas Night sung by Judy Sadlon ELW 274

Prayer of The Day Judy Sadlon

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light 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.

Away in a Manger sung by Sue Harkins & Donna Thompson ELW 277

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7 Judy Sadlon

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood

shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Psalm: Psalm 96 Sue Harkins and Judy Sadlon

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad. (Ps. 96:11)

Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.

**For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods. R**

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.

**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

**Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord. R**

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

Tell it out among the nations: “The Lord is king!

The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity.”

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O Lord,
for you come to judge the earth.**

You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth. **R**

Angels We Have Heard on High sung by Jerry Manning

ELW 289

Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14

Phillis Becker

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

O Little Town of Bethlehem sung by Sue Harkin & Donna Thompson

ELW 279

Gospel: Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Pastor Gail Wolling

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Sermon

Pastor Gail Wolling

In a Far-OffPlace, Jesus Comes sung Judy Sadlon

ACS 908

Prayers

Phillis Becker

Let us pray for all God's people and the bountiful creation we have been given as a gift of love

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

Your infinite love is born to us this night. With choirs of angels the church proclaims the good news. Send us out as messengers of the hope that has come to all people.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You are pleased to dwell with your creatures and the whole earth sings for joy. Renew the splendor of creation from the smallest cell to the widest galaxies. Guide us to be wise stewards of your gifts for the sake of generations to come.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your authority is over the nations. Break the rod of oppression in every land and free all people from fear. Bring peace where there is war, compassion where there is suffering, and healing where there is disease (regions in crisis may be named).

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You cherish those who are most vulnerable. Protect infants and children, and bless those who care for them. Watch over women giving birth, attend the dying, and relieve any who are in pain (especially). Shelter refugee families and those who have no home.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your lovingkindness embraces everyone in need. Help any for whom this season is lonely or joyless. Comfort those among us, or known to us, who are experiencing distress of body or mind, missing loved ones, or grieving (especially).

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You welcome those who have died into the joyous light of glory. We give thanks for the saints of every time and place who have praised you with lives of faith and humility. Inspire us by their example to love you by serving others.

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Phillis Becker

**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, the Power, and the Glory,
Forever and ever.
Amen.**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing sung by Jerry Manning

ELW 270

Blessing

Judy Sadlon

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit,
through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.
Amen.

Silent Night sung by Judy Sadlon, Jerry Manning, Sue Harkins, and Donna Thompson

ELW 281

Go Tell It On the Mountain sung by Judy Sadlon, Sheila Baker and Sue Harkins

ELW 290

Merry Christmas!

Thank you to all who helped make this service possible.

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