



Children's Christmas Eve Service

December 24, 2025 at 7 pm

Hymn Sing Begins at 6:30 pm

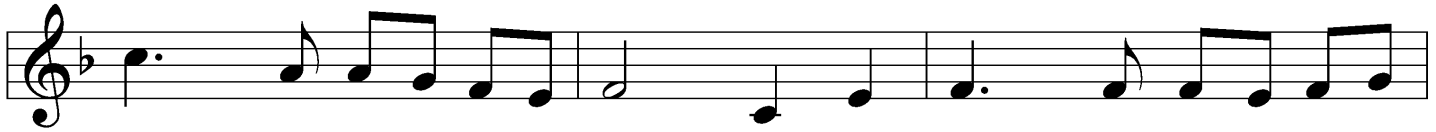
St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Hazen, ND

+ PREPARATION +

376 Once in Royal David's City



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is
 3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by
 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His
 5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her
 God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a
 day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and
 own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and
 ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in



ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y
 sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the
 help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He
 gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He
 heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
 poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 feels for all our sad-ness, And He shares in all our glad-ness.
 leads His chil-dren on To the place where He is gone.
 stars His chil-dren, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818-95, alt.;

Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-76

Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Opening Sentences

LSB 354:1

- P** Arise, O Christian people! Prepare yourselves today;
- C** Prepare to greet the Savior, Who takes your sins away.
- P** To us by grace alone
- C** The truth and light were given;
- P** The promised Lord from heaven
- C** To all the world is shown.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Psalm

Psalm 98:1–6; antiphon: v. 3

- P** He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
- C** All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

P ¹Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!

C His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.

P ²The LORD has made known his salvation;

C he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the
nations.

P ³He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

C All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

P ⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

C break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

P ⁵Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,

C with the lyre and the sound of melody!

P ⁶With trumpets and the sound of the horn

C make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.

C All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

All children are invited to come forward during the hymn for the Children's
message.

O Come, Little Children



1 O come, lit - tle chil - dren, O come, one and all,
2 He's born in a sta - ble for you and for me;
3 See Mar - y and Jo - seph, with love - beam - ing eyes,
4 Kneel down and a - dore Him with shep - herds to - day,



To Beth - le - hem haste to the man - ger so small.
Draw near by the bright, gleam - ing star - light to see,
Are gaz - ing up - on the rude bed where He lies;
Lift up lit - tle hands now and praise Him as they;



God's Son for a gift has been sent you this night
In swad - dling clothes ly - ing, so meek and so mild,
The shep - herds are kneel - ing, with hearts full of love,
Re - joice that a Sav - ior from sin you can boast,



To be your Re - deem - er, your Joy, and De - light.
And pur - er than an - gels, the heav - en - ly child.
While an - gels sing loud al - le - lu - ias a - bove.
And join in the song of the heav - en - ly host.

Text/Tune: German carol - Public domain

Christmas Meditation

All children invited to come up to the front for the Children's Message as presented by Pastor.

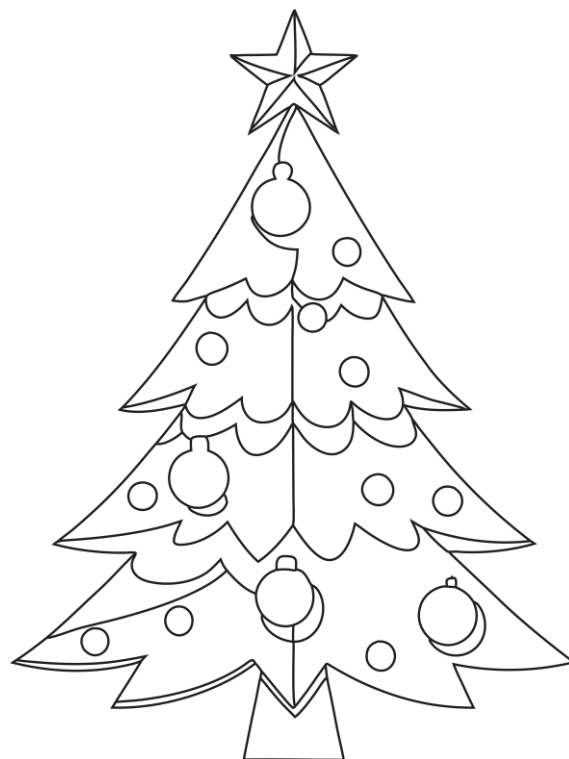
Offering

Violin and Organ Special Music - Joy to the World

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

+ THE MESSAGE PRESENTED BY THE
CHILDREN +

Evergreens



380 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!



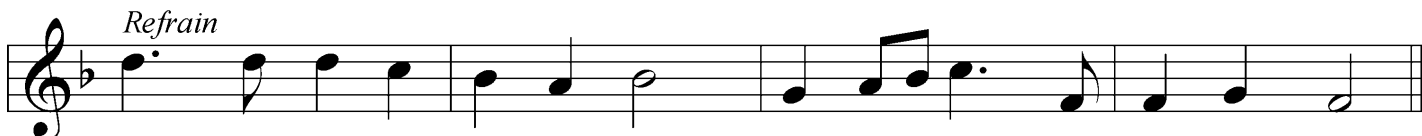
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the 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.



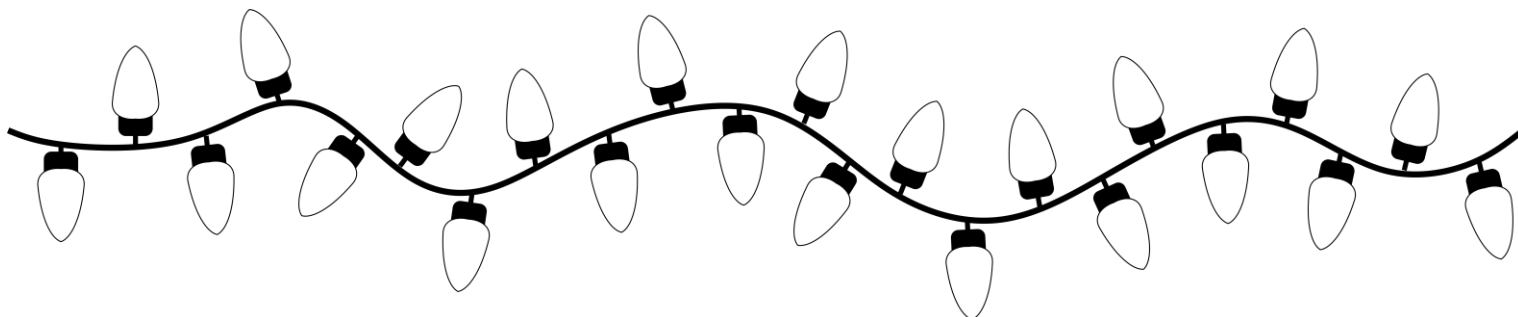
Refrain
Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt.;

Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-47

ext and tune: Public domain

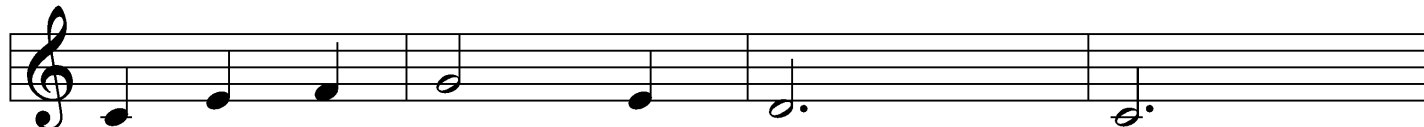
Christmas Lights



411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
 I want to look at Je - sus.
 I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.
 Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
 When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In Him there is no dark - ness at all.



The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.



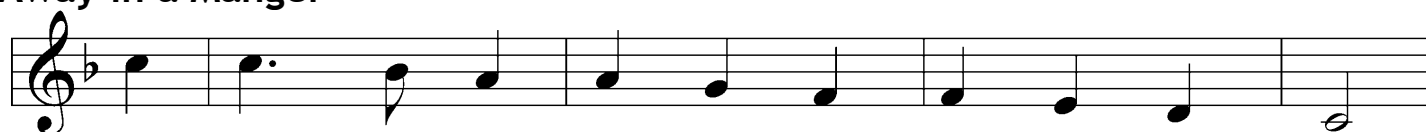
Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Crèche

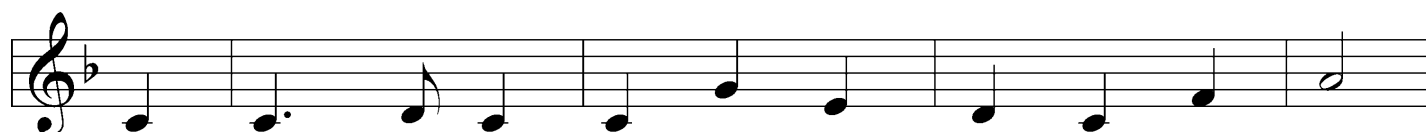


All children sing verse 1 Congregation joins in for verse 2&3

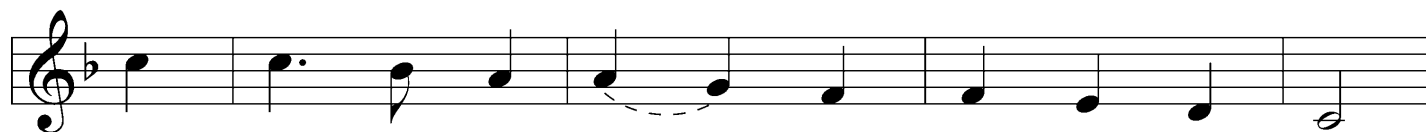
364 Away in a Manger



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.
But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.
Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



The stars in the sky ——— looked down where He lay,
I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.
And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

Text (sts. 1-2): Little Children's Book, 1885, Philadelphia; (st. 3): Vineyard Songs, 1892, Louisville, alt.

Tune: James R. Murray, 1841-1905

Text and tune: Public domain

Christmas Carols



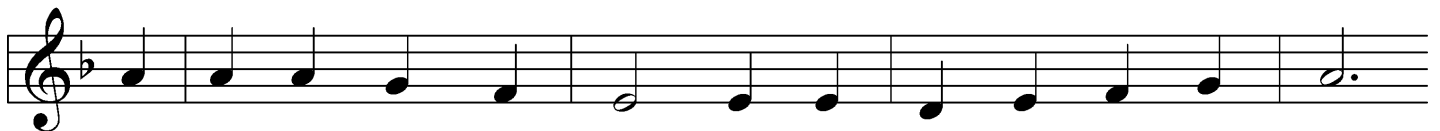
361 O Little Town of Bethlehem



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
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
 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.
 So God im-parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.
 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,
 No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings 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!
 Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.

From thence He will come to judge the living and
the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to
pray:

C 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.

Responsive Reading

adapted from LSB 354:4

- P** Prepare our hearts, Lord Jesus;
C **turn not from us aside,**
P and help us to receive You
C **this blessed Adventtide.**
P From stall and manger low come now to dwell within
us;
C **we'll sing Your praises gladly and forth Your glory**
show.

Prayer

- P** Let us pray.
C **Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Your Son**
to be our Savior. You have given us the best gift of
all: Christ Jesus, who came to earth so that we
might have life with You forever. In His name we
pray. Amen.

Benediction

P The Lord bless and keep you as you celebrate the gift of Jesus, our Savior. The blessing of the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you today and every day.

C Amen.

All children sing v.1 in German and then in English and the Congregation sings v.2&3

363 Silent Night, Holy Night

sts. 1–3, 11



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,
Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,



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
ein - sam wacht Nur das hei - li - ge El - tern - paar,



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
Das im Stal - le zu Beth - le - hem war, Bei dem himm - li - schen



peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.
Kind, Bei dem himm - li - schen Kind.

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820–85;

Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787–1863;

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Evening Prayer

In the evening when you go to bed, make the sign of the holy cross and say:

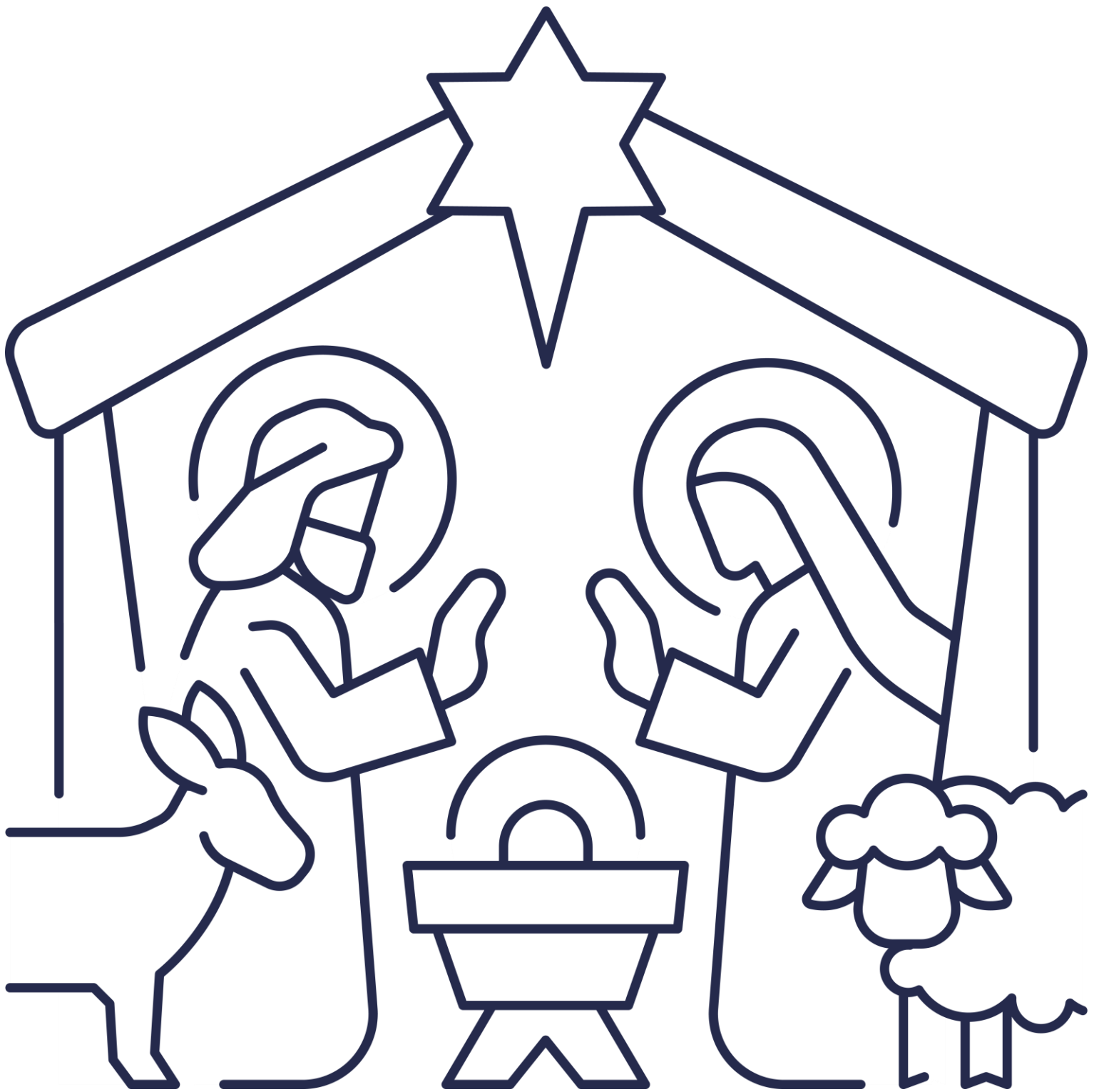
In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then, kneeling or standing, repeat the Creed and the Lord's Prayer. If you choose, you may also say this little prayer:

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Then go to sleep at once and in good cheer.

**Join us tomorrow for
Christmas Day Service at 9am!**



Christmas Eve - - - Hymn Sing

#370 - What Child Is This – vs. 1-3

#387 - Joy to the World – vs. 1, 2 & 4

#367 - Angels from the Realms of Glory – vs. 1-3

#366 - It Came Upon a Midnight Clear – vs. 1 & 2

#392 – God Loves Me Dearly - vs. 1-5

#393 - Infant Holy, Infant Lowly - vs. 1 & 2

#384 – Of the Father’s Love Begotten – vs. 1,3,& 5

#374 - Gentle Mary Laid Her Child – vs. 1 & 2

#358 - From Heaven Above – vs. 1-3

#386 - Now Sing, We Now Rejoice – vs. 1 & 2

#389 - Let All Together Praise Our God - vs. 1,2,& 4

#388 - Go Tell It On The Mountain – vs. 1-3

#383 - A Great and Mighty Wonder – vs. 1 & 2

#379 - O Come, All Ye Faithful – vs. 1,3 & 4

