

COME TO BETHLEHEM AND SEE

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24, 2020 – 11:00 PM

The Prelude:

“In Dulci Jubilo (In Sweetest Joy)”	J. S. Bach, Marcel Dupré, J. S. Bach
“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”	Harry Strack
“Noël: Grand Jeu et Duo”	Louis-Claude Daquin
“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”	Jan Mulder
“Shepherds’ Dance”	Richard Elliott
“Good People All, This Christmas-Time”	Robert Buckley Farlee
“Toccatina on <i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> ”	Richard Elliott
“Mary, Did You Know?”	Lloyd Larson
“Silent Night, Holy Night”	James Koerts
“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly / He Is Born, the Divine Christ-Child”	Brant Adams
“Solemn Prelude on <i>In the Bleak Midwinter</i> ”	Larry Visser

The Chiming of the Hour

The Introit: “Angels from the Realms of Glory” Richard Webster
*Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o’er all the earth;
ye, who sang creation’s story, now proclaim Messiah’s birth:*

*Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the
newborn King.*

*Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o’er your flocks by night, God
with you is now residing; yonder shines the infant Light: (Refrain)*

*The Call to Worship

He came as a baby in a manger. **O come, let us adore him.**
He came in a lowly stable. **O come, let us adore him.**
Shepherds brought their worship. **O come, let us adore him.**
Angels sang his praise. **O come, let us adore him.**
Magi brought their gifts. **O come, let us adore him.**
What, then, shall we do? **O come, let us adore him.**

*The Opening Carol: Lift Up Your Hearts 82:1,3

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

*(Because we are not able to sing yet, please reflect on
the hymn texts or hum along while the vocalist leads us.)*

* The Greeting

*The People’s Response: **Amen.**

The Welcome

“O THAT YOU WOULD REND THE HEAVENS AND COME DOWN . . .”

Isaiah 64:1a

The Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

The Meditation

The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 61:1

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

“HE CAME TO THAT WHICH WAS HIS OWN . . .”

John 1:11a

He Comes for Creation

The Reading: John 1:1-5

The Meditation

The Anthem: “Jesus Christ the Apple Tree” Elizabeth Poston

*The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit, and always green:
the trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.*

*For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all; but now I see ‘tis found in Christ the apple tree.*

*I’m weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile:
under the shadow I will be, of Jesus Christ the apple tree.*

*This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive;
which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.*

The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 92:1,3

“Joy to the World”

He Comes to Bring Peace on Earth

The Reading: Luke 2:8-14

The Meditation

The Anthem: “While Shepherds Watched their Flocks”

*While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the
ground, the angel of the Lord came down and glory shone
around.*

*“Fear not,” said he—for mighty dread had seized their troubled
mind—glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind:*

*To you in David’s town this day is born of David’s line a Savior
who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:*

*“The heavenly babe you there shall find to human view
displayed, all tightly wrapped in swathing bands and in a manger
laid.”*

*Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:*

*“All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace; goodwill
henceforth from heaven to men begin and never cease!”*

The Hymn: **Worship & Rejoice 191:1,3**

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

He Comes to Break the Power of Sin

The Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

The Meditation

The Anthem:

“You Who Were Rich” arr. John Worst
*You who were rich beyond all splendor, all for love’s sake
became poor; thrones for a manger did surrender, sapphire
paved courts for stable floor. You who were rich beyond all
splendor, all for love’s sake became poor.*

*You who are God beyond all praising, all for love’s sake became
a man; stooping so low, but sinners raising heavenward by your
eternal plan. You who are God beyond all praising, all for love’s
sake became a man.*

*You who are love beyond all telling, Savior and King, we worship
you. Emmanuel, within us dwelling make us what you would have
us be. You who are love, beyond all telling, Savior and King, we
worship you.*

*You who were rich beyond all splendor, all for love’s sake
became poor; thrones for a manger did surrender, sapphire
paved courts for stable floor. You who were rich beyond all
splendor, all for love’s sake became poor.*

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The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 88:1,4

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

He Comes to Be With You

The Reading: Luke 2:1-7

The Meditation

The Anthem: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Harold Darke
In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan. Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone. Snow had fallen, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain, heaven and earth shall flee away, when he comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day, a breast full of milk and a manger full of hay. Enough for him, whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel, which adore.

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

The Hymn: Lift Up Your Hearts 86:1,3
“Away in a Manger”

“BUT HIS OWN DID NOT RECEIVE HIM.”

John 1:11b

The Reading: John 1:9-11

The Meditation

The Musical Excerpt: “Come to Me” Dan Forrest
“Come to me, all you who labor. Come to me, and I will give you rest. Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and you will find rest for your souls.”
Adapted from Matthew 11:25, 28-29
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“YET TO ALL WHO DID RECEIVE HIM . . .”

John 1:12a

The Reading John 1:11-14

The Meditation

The Anthem: “Come to Me” Dan Forrest
“Come to me, all you who labor. Come to me, and I will give you rest. Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and you will find rest for your souls. Come, my child, learn my heart,

for I am gentle and lowly. See how great my love for you, that I have called you my child. Come to me. Come.”

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The Lighting of the Christ Candle

The Christmas Invitation

*The Closing Hymn: “Lift Up Your Hearts 76:1,4”
“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Verse 1

Organ Interlude

Verse 4

*The Benediction

*The Postlude:
“Organ Flourish on *Joy to the World*”

Michael G. Dell

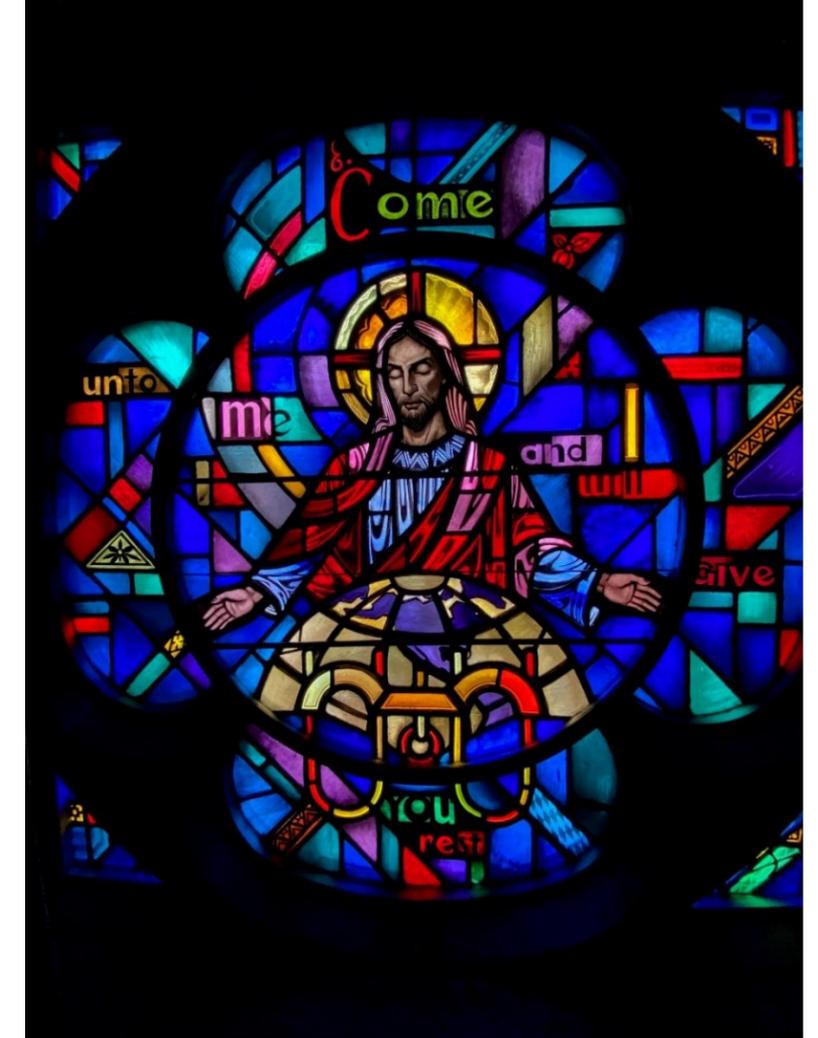
Rev. Peter Jonker – minister
Pastor Bob Grussing – liturgist
Dr. Larry Visser – organist, pianist
Ruth Bylsma – flutist
Alanna Rynders – oboist
Merle Mustert – Vocal Quartet Director
Kathryn Becksvoort – soprano, Jennifer Schroder – alto
Jim Elzinga – tenor, Karel de Waal Malefyt – bass
Ben VanHouten – tenor soloist
Merv Kamper and Rachel Rynbrandt – Cross & Bible Bearers
Jessica Klop – Reader

Cover Design: The rose window from the Dewey Battjes Memorial Chapel, LaGrave Avenue Christian Reformed Church

Your gifts for Bethany Christian Services will be received at the door following the service. Bethany Christian Services is a Christian adoption and family services agency that manifests the love and compassion of Jesus Christ by protecting and enhancing the lives of children and families through quality social services.

Christmas Banners at LaGrave: The primary sanctuary color of Christmas is white, symbolizing the purity and holiness of Jesus. The Christ child born in the manger was truly God and truly man. The only respect in which his humanity differed from you and me is that Jesus was perfect and lived a sinless life. It was that very sinless life that enabled him to take our sins upon himself.

The gold color represents the kingship of Christ. The colors in the banners bring together the First Advent, purple; the birth of Christ, white; and the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent, gold, in the joy and celebration of Christmas. Christ, our King, is born!



*Come to
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and See*