

Nativity of Our Lord
ELW Holy Communion Setting One
Thursday, December 24, 2020



All Saints Lutheran Church, ELCA

722 Rockbridge Road SW

Lilburn, GA 30047

Rev. Dr. Ruth E. Hamilton, Interim Pastor

John Womack, Director of Music and Organist

www.allsaintsilburn.org

Introduction to the day

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

---GATHERING---

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ZOOM NARTHEX TIME

6:45-7:00 pm

PRELUDE

"GLORY"

by Matt Maher

"NOEL"

by Chris Tomlin

Presented by the Celebration Band

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
The Maker of heaven and earth,
The Word made flesh,
The Lord and giver of life.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of peace,

**we confess that we are not at peace--
with others or with ourselves.**

We bring to you all that tears us apart:

Discord in our families,

Violence in our world,

Our own conflicted hearts.

In your mercy, mend us.

Reconnect us to one another and to you.

Let peace reign over all the earth,

Through the Prince of peace, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

In the Word who has come to dwell with us,

God has given us grace upon grace: forgiveness that is stronger than our sins,

Love that can heal every broken heart.

Hear this word of pardon and peace:

in the name of ✠ Jesus Christ our Savior,

You are free from all your sins.

Rise, shine, for your light has come.

Amen.

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 be 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!

Tune: arr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; v. Frederick Gaisley, 1802-1881, nos. 1, 3-4; ii unknown, n. 2
 Music: ADIUSTE FIDELIS, arr. John Francis Wade

GREETING (ELW p. 98)**Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 102)**Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

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.

Amen.

---WORD---

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S SERMON**Pastor Ruth Hamilton****FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7****Mary Kay Kates**

This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this!

A reading from Isaiah.

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

³You 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.

⁴For 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.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For 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.

⁷His 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.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 96

John Womack

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

¹Sing to the LORD | a new song;
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

²Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.

³Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

⁴For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods. R

⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

⁶Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.

⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.

⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD. R

⁹Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

¹⁰Tell 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 peo- | ples with equity."

¹¹Let 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.

¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing, O LORD,
for you come to | judge the earth.

¹³You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth. R

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

Mary Kay Kates

The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.

A reading from Titus.

¹¹The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, ¹²training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior,

Jesus Christ. ¹⁴He 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.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 102)

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Alleluia. 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 Messi- | ah, the Lord. *Alleluia.* (Luke 2:10-11)

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

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And 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.

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

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

[

¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.]

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



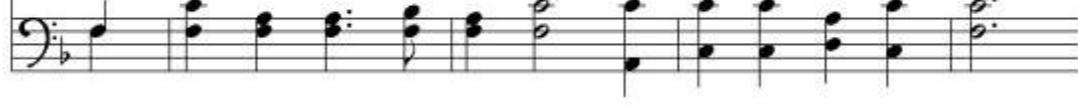
Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Mary Kay Kates

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

The shepherds sing, “Jesus Christ is born!” Let your church throughout the world proclaim this good news, over the hills and everywhere. Unite the voices of all your faithful people in songs of praise and rejoicing. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Heaven and nature sing, “Joy to the world!” Give respite to flocks, fields, and those who tend them. Come near to us in the beauty of nighttime, the shining of the stars, and the hush of a world at rest. May our wonder at your creation rouse our care for all the earth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The angels sing, "Peace on earth!" Come quickly to still the strife of this world. Hush the noise of war and violence in places of unrest. Inspire leaders of nations to seek lasting peace and sustainable provision for all in their care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Mary sings melodies of comfort to her newborn child. Bring rest and reassurance to those facing struggles this night. Shelter travelers and those without homes. Console those who lie awake due to pain or anxiety. Heal those who are sick or hurting. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Love sings through the sound of a new baby's cry. Bless new parents and expectant parents. Comfort those who long for children, especially those running out of hope or options. Surround families of every shape and size with your love and care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The heavenly chorus sings, "Glory to God in the highest!" We give you thanks for all the saints who have proclaimed your glory in word and deed. Let us join them this night in joyful praise around your eternal throne. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

PEACE

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

---MEAL---

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

<https://www.aplos.com/aws/give/AllSaintsLutheranChurch1/general>

OFFERING of Bread and Wine

Preparing your bread and wine

All

OFFERING PRAYER

Mary Kay Kates

Good and loving God,

We rejoice in the birth of Jesus,

Who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace.

As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others

With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven,

We shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

+GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

+DIALOGUE (ELW P. 107)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+PREFACE (ELW p. 108)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

+HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 108)

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

John Womack

+THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,
Creator of all and Source of life,
at the birth of time
your word brought light into the world.
In the fullness of time,
you sent your Word, born of Mary,
to shine in our darkness
and to make us your daughters and sons.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Remembering, therefore,
his birth and life among us,
his death and resurrection,
we await his coming again
when all things will be restored in him.

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup,
that, held and nourished by you,
we may live as your children,
shining with the light of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.
Amen.

+LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 112)

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

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor Ruth Hamilton

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

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond: Amen

COMMUNION SONGS

"THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS"
John Womack, solo

by Dan Forrest

"SHALOM"
Ramielle Moorer and John Womack, duet

by Dan Forrest

Instructions to congregants regarding candle lighting: an usher will bring a lit candle to the end of each pew. The person at the end will light his/her candle, then the next person will light their candle, and so forth down the row. **IMPORTANT NOTES:** The unlit candle is the one to be tilted to the lit candle. Please be mindful of hair and clothing near the flame. We ask that adults hold candles for children in their charge.

Silent Night, Holy Night!

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!

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

ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
 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,

Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
 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

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

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace unto life everlasting.

Amen.**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION****Mary Kay Kates**

We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us from your very self
with the body and blood of Christ.
Through this mystery, send us forth
to proclaim your promise to a world in need,
through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.**---SENDING---**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING (ELW p. 114)**Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into new and abundant life. **Amen.**

May the Word the Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you with love and strength. **Amen.**

May the Word that angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world. **Amen.**

And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the **+** Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG**ELW 267***SEE FOLLOWING PAGE***DISMISSAL****Pastor Ruth Hamilton**

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Poinsettia Dedications

Joann & Brad Rosselle

*In Memory of Joseph & Harriett Tortora, Joann's parents
In Memory of Cynthia Weaston & George Rosselle, Sr.,
Brad's parents*

Al and Mary Kay Kates

*In Memory of Marie Zagaglia
In Memory of Shirley Fareed*

Mark and Angie Sanderlin

In Memory of Johnny Harris, Mark's uncle

Sharon Marion

In Honor of Charlene Meyer (Sharon's mother)

Betty Bradford

In Honor of Joyce Holdrich

Tom and Sheila Wagner

*In Memory of Carl and Article Hanson
In Memory of Eugene and Carolyn Wagner*

Jack and Lisette Branscomb

*In Honor of Levi Kish's first Christmas, grandson of Jack
and Lisette
In Honor of Glenn and Lauren Branscomb and Katie
and Dan Kish, Jack and Lisette's children
In Honor of John and Dot Branscomb and in memory of
Lois and Milton Dasher, parents of Jack and Lisette*

Martha Wooden

In Memory of Phil Wooden, Martha's husband

Bruce and Kelly Kraus

*In Memory of George and Joyce Green, Kelly's parents
and In Memory of Eleanor Kraus, Bruce's mother*

John Womack

In Memory of his parents and grandparents