



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Warda, Texas | Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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The Light
shines in the
darkness
and the darkness has
not overcome it.

1873-2024

151 Years of God's Grace

Sharing with Everyone the Good News of Salvation Through Jesus Christ!

Divine Service with
Holy Communion
9:00am

Bible Class and
Sunday School
10:15 a.m.

Welcome to
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
WARDA, TEXAS - LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
PO Box 69 Warda TX 78960
979.242.3333 holycrosswarda.com

Tuesday, December 24, 2024

Children's Christmas Eve Program

✠ IN NOMINE JESU ✠
(In the Name of Jesus)

GUESTS & VISITORS: Welcome to Holy Cross and to this evening's program. We are glad you are here! Please register your attendance in the Fellowship Book in the pew (be sure to include the name of any children with you tonight). We invite you to come and worship with us again. If you have any questions, or have an interest in joining Holy Cross, please speak with Pastor or one of our Elders.

Children's Christmas Program

PROCESSIONAL HYMN *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

LSB Hymn 379

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;

Refrain:

- O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!
2. Highest most holy, Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes.
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God In the highest; *Refrain*
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!,
Word of the Father Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Ghost.

C Amen.

OPENING VERSICLES

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
C the light no darkness can overcome.

P Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,

C and the day is almost over.

P Let Your light scatter the darkness

C and illumine Your Church.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C and with thy spirit.

P Let us pray. O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true light, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

READINGS:

Isaiah 9:6 (Rachel Herbrich, Emma Herbrich, Jolee Briscoe)

⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Luke 1:26-38 (Layna Woelfel, Dylan Beck, Elijah Kueck, Bryn Henderson)

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of

Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

³⁵ And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.”

Matthew 1:18-24a (Jay Woelfel, Dylan Beck)

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel”

²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him...

Luke 2:6-7 (Layna Woelfel)

⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Luke 2:8-14 (Scarlett Landry, Sarah Herbrich, Katrina Kueck, Isabelle Kueck)

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them,

“Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger. ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

HYMN: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

TLH Hymn 94, v. 1-2

Children:

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

2. Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin’s womb,
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail th’ incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell; Jesus, our Immanuel! *Refrain:*

THE CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

RECEIPT OF OFFERINGS

HYMN: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

TLH Hymn 94. v. 3-4

Congregation:

3. Hail, the heav’n-ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He leaves His throne on high, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth. *Refrain:*
4. Come, Desire of nations, come, Fix in us Thy humble home;
Oh, to all Thyself impart, Formed in each believing heart!
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!” *Refrain:*

Luke 2:15-20 (Elijah Kueck, Slayde Burgess)

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.

²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Shepherds:

Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

1. While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night.
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Refrain:*
2. The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth;
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Saviors birth. *Refrain:*

Matthew 2:1-2 (Jay Woelfel, Aidan Halpain)

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

Matthew 2:9-11 (Jay Woelfel)

⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

HYMN: “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Children:

1. Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav’nly song? *Refrain*

Congregation:

3. Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*
4. See within a manger laid Jesus, Lord of heav’n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, with us sing our Savior’s birth. *Refrain*

John 1:14 (Sawyer Burgess)

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Acts 4:12 (Styne Schramm)

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH - *Responses drawn from the hymn, "Creator of the Stars of Night"*

P Let us pray.

Creator of the stars of night, Thy people's everlasting Light:

C **O Christ, Redeemer, save us all and hear Thy servants when they call.**

P O God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, the wonder and beauty of Your creation is surpassed only by the awe and miracle that You became one with us in the incarnation of the Son of God, the Son of Mary.

Thou, grieving that the ancient curse should doom to death a universe,

C **hast found the healing, full of grace, to cure and save our ruined race.**

P O Jesus Christ, true Son of God, You came into the world to save sinners. Come now to us in Word and Sacrament to give us life by living in us.

O Thou, whose coming is with dread to judge the living and the dead,

C **preserve us from the ancient foe while still we dwell on earth below.**

P O Holy Spirit, Lord and giver of life, move us to truly repent of our sins and more truly to be filled with faith in Christ, our life.

As the angels revealed to Mary and Joseph the miracle of Your visitation and to the shepherds the majesty of the incarnation of Your Son and to the Wise Men the holiness of the gift of Your salvation, so continue to send forth preachers of Your Word and witnesses of Your truth, that many may come to believe in Your love and receive eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Inspire those whom you send to preach and proclaim Your salvation, that they may remain steadfast in the clarity and purpose of Your Word. Fill the entire earth with the beautiful news of Your grace and mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P For all who are in any need—all who suffer illness, injury, or any adversity—send Your healing and help, forgiveness and strength. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** Give Your peace and comfort to all who grieve for those who have died in Christ. Bring us all at last to the great joy of our resurrection and the life of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.
- P** *To God the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit, Three in One,*
- C** praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

- 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.**

BENEDICTION

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.
- C** Amen.

SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CHORAL HYMN: *"What Child is This"*

HYMN: *"Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht" "Silent Night, Holy Night"* TLH Hymn 646

1. Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht! Alles schläft Einsam wacht,
Nur das heilige Elternpaar, Das im Stalle zu Bethlehem war:
Bei dem Himmlischen Kind, Bei dem Himmlischen Kind.
1. Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!
3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

YOUTH CHOIR HYMN: “*O Holy Night*”

RECESSIONAL HYMN: “*Joy to the World*”

TLH Hymn 87

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King!
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.

*God grant you a restful night's sleep
filled with the hope, peace, joy, and love that are yours in Christ!*

*Please join us tomorrow at 9am to continue our celebration of Christ's birth as
we gather around Word, Sacrament, and even more beloved hymns of Christmas!*

Merry Christmas!

Children:

Mary - Brynn Henderson

Joseph - Benjamin Kueck

Angel Gabriel - Dylan Beck

Angels - Lexi Ahrens, Jolee Briscoe, Sayble Burgess, Kamryn Canada, Rachel Herbrich, Sarah Herbrich, Emma Knox, Isabelle Kueck, Katrina Kueck, Presley Landry, Tinsley Schlotterbeck, Elleri Singh, Caisley Schubert, Raylie Woelfel

Shepherds - Hank Beck, Sawyer Burgess, Slayde Burgess, Gabe Kueck, Josiah Kueck, Jett Lamont, Kortlynd Schramm, Carter Swearingen

Sheep - Myles Canada, Koleson Tonn

Kings - Weston Beck, Aidan Halpain, Styne Schramm

Narrators:

Elijah Kueck, Scarlett Landry,
Layna Woelfel, Jay Woelfel

Helper:

Emma Herbrich

Youth Choir:

Elijah Kueck, Nikki Kueck
Layna Woelfel, Jay Woelfel

Musicians:

Melissa Alford - piano
Cory Knox - horn
Carol Schramm - organ

Set Creation:

Mark Woelfel - stable
Paige Johnson - backdrop
James "JT" Teinert - star

Costumes:

Marty Neuman
Irma Eilerts

Video/Sound System:

Shea Kasper

Photographer:

Roland Guettler

Sunday School Staff:

Chelsea Beck, Shannon Herbrich, Jonathan Kueck, Nikki Kueck, Gale Mersiovsky, Calvin Mersiovsky, Alicia Moerbe, Patty Schulze (superintendent), LaVerne Tonn

Parents:

This program would not be possible without your support and dedication. Thank you for allowing your children to tell us the Christmas story.

A BIG THANK YOU to Shirley Varner and Sunny Woelfel for directing tonight's program! We pray you have a blessed Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

Christmas Poinsettias

In memory of Helen "Nene" Schlotterbeck by Dylan, Michaela, and Tinsley Schlotterbeck

In memory of David Schramm and my parents, Monroe and Verna Mae Becker, by Allene Schramm and family

In memory of my husband, Wallace Lehmann, by Carol Lehmann

In memory of Roy and Ruth Lehmann by Roland and Betsy Guettler

In memory of my mom, Delphine Shepherd, by Karen Stephenson

In memory of Bill and Emily Gallmeier and Rev. Gerhard and Dorothy Bode by Al and Kathy Gallmeier

In memory of Buddy Whited, Harold and Irene Kasper, and Ralph Kasper by Margie Whited and family

In memory of Otto and Alice Kunze and Glenn Kunze by Allen Kunze, Charles Kunze, and Karen and Mark Gerdes

In memory of Elmo and Adele Schulze and Kenneth Wiederhold by Dennis and Diann Pietsch

In memory of Elmo and Helen Pietsch and Daniel Pietsch by Dennis and Diann Pietsch

In memory of Jimmie and Carolyn Lehmann Buscha by their children and their families

In memory of our loved ones by Danny and Judy Jurk

In memory of John and Renata Teinert by Dee Herbert

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. John Comeaux and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Heselmeyer by Lee and Cindy Heselmeyer

In memory of Billy and Jo Ann Lange by Patrick, Meghan, Rayden and Rylen Lange, and Kevin, Sandra, Alexa and Raina Lange

In memory of Wallace Lehmann by Gary and Diane Becker

In memory of Wallace Lehmann by Sophie Becker and Chesston, Abby, and Scarlett Melcher

In memory of Clarence and Martha Urban, Robert and Della Mae Lehmann, Clarence (Buddy) Urban and Rebecca (Becky) Urban by David and Linda Lehmann

In memory of Evelyn Buscha and Barbara Buscha by the Buscha Family

In memory of Carolyn Buscha by Bobby Buscha, Sr.

In memory of George and Eunice Dunk and Freddie Zoch by Daryl and Patty Schulze

In memory of Wallace Lehmann, Robert Hentschel, Sr., Lois Hentschel, Frances Hentschel, Ronald Hentschel, and Donald Hentschel by Ricky, Janis, Brianna, and Brooke Lehmann

In memory of Peggy Varner by Brian Varner and family

In memory of Ted Tonn by LaVerne Tonn and family

In memory of Larry Joe and Mary Jane Briscoe by Tucker, Leann, Alyssa and Jolee Briscoe

In memory of Richard Rucker by Mary Ann Rucker

In memory of our parents, Victor and Mary Schimank and Otto Becker, Jr. by the Clyde Schimank family

In honor of Janiece Becker by the Clyde Schimank family

In honor of Harry and Patricia Lehmann by Tucker, Leann, Alyssa and Jolee Briscoe

In honor of the Holy Cross Sunday School teachers by Daryl and Patty Schulze

To the glory of God for my children and grandchildren by Allene Schramm

To the glory of God by Delbert and Judy Zoch

Soli Deo Gloria
(To God alone be Glory)