

Order of Service

Prelude Val Rutter and Julie Rutter

Processional O Come All Ye Faithful

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;

Chorus

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

The highest, most holy light of light eternal
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father, now in flesh appearing. *Chorus*

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, In the highest. *Chorus*

Greeting and Prayer

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God sent from heaven above, be with you all.
(All) And also with you.

Let us pray. Incarnate God, on this Christmas Eve we give you thanks for sending your Son to bring light into our darkness. Grant that we, like the angels over Bethlehem, may sing your praises in our hearts and lives. **Amen.**

First Lesson Isaiah 9: 2-7

silence for prayer and meditation

Carol Joy to the World

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.

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rock, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow 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.

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.

Second Lesson Micah 5: 2-52

silence for prayer and meditation

Carol O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in the dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hope and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king and peace to all the earth.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
oh come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Third Lesson Luke 2: 1-20

silence for prayer and meditation

Carol 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime (Huron Carol)

"'Twas in the moon of wintertime when all the birds had fled,
that mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angel choirs instead;
before their light the stars grew dim,
and wand'ring hunters hear the hymn.

Refrain: *Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!*

Within a lodge of broken bark the tender babe was found;
a ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round;
but as the hunter braves drew nigh,
the angel song rang loud and high; ***Refrain***

The earliest moon on wintertime is not so round and fair;
as was the ring of glory on the helpless infant there.
The chiefs from far before him knelt with gifts of fox and beaver pelt; ***Refrain***

O children of the forest free, the angel-song is true;
the holy child of earth and heav'n is born today for you.
Come, kneel before the radiant boy,
who brings you beauty, peace and joy. *Refrain*

Meditation Rev. Richard Hergesheimer

Prayers of Intercession

Gracious God, you come from heaven above into the midst of our world.

Fill our hearts with the joy of the angels at your birth.

You come from heaven to the lowliest of human conditions.

Watch over those in need; the sick, hungry and the grieving.

You come to us from heaven to walk the way of the cross.

Help us to follow your path of forgiveness, compassion and peace.

You come to us from heaven to become flesh and live among us.

May we see your glory, full of grace and truth. Amen.

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

We share a sign or gesture of peace with one another

A Musical Reflection while the table is set:

Val Rutter and Julie Rutter

The Great Thanksgiving
(tune: Good King Wenceslas)

Opening Dialogue

May the Lord be with you all
and with you God's servant

Lift your hearts unto the Lord
Lift we hearts most fervent

Let us give our thanks to God
with thankful hearts we're praising

Good and right it is to do
and it has God's blessing.

Great Thanksgiving

Blessing, honour, glory, power, unto God Almighty
Praise to you eternal Lord, giver of all mercy.

Long ago you made us Lord, made us in your image.

But through sin we broke the for of our Lord within us.

Still your love came shining though, you came to live among us
Your spirit took on human flesh, through Jesus you have loved us.
**Christ did suffer from our sin, died a death most cruel
But he lives and reigns with you. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

We the church on earth do sing with the hosts of heaven
Glory to the one who died, for he has arisen.
**Jesus born at Bethlehem is the King of Heaven,
and we praise your blessed name, with the song unending.**

Sanctus and Benedictus (tune: Angels We Have Heard on High)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts all praise be given!
All your glory fills the earth; all your power fills the heavens,
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

**Blessed is the one who comes, bringing love and light divine.
Blessed is the one who comes, in the bread and in the wine!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

Words of Blessing over the gifts (tune: Good Christian Friends, Rejoice)

Good Christian friends rejoice, with heart and hands and voice.
On the night he was betrayed--Jesus to the Father prayed:
Bless this bread we are to eat, let it bring forgiveness sweet
My body dwells therein, my body dwells therein.

Good Christian friends rejoice, with heart and hands and voice.
Then he took the blessed cup, praying as he raised it up:
In the wine for evermore, I am the way to heaven's door,
My life poured out for you, my life poured out for you.

Good Christian friends rejoice, with heart and hand and voice.
Eat this bread and drink this cup, share the peace from God's own heart,
Angels sing of heaven's bliss as we share this eucharist.
Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this.

Lamb of God (tune: O Little Town of Bethlehem)

**O Lamb of God from Bethlehem, where Mary gave you birth,
grant us your mercy, gracious Lord, redeemer of the earth.
O Lamb of God, forgive us, for we still live in sin.
O come to us, abide with us, and grant us peace within.**

The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done,
On earth as in heaven.
Give us today, our daily bread,
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Distribution of the Blessed Meal

Instrumental music by Val Rutter and Julie Rutter

Prayer after Supper

O Lord our God, we give you thanks for the gifts of bread and wine, the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Send us out into your world to proclaim with joy;
Glory to God in the highest heaven, who unto us the Son has given. Amen.

Sending Hymn Silent Night

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.

Silent night, holy night. Shepherds quake, at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, / heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ the saviour is born, Christ the saviour is born.

Silent night, holy night. Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from your holy face, / with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus Lord at thy birth.

Benediction

May the light of the Christ child glow in your hearts.
May it lead you in this life to share the good news of Christ's coming
with everyone you meet.
Go forth from this place in the sureness and certainty
that you are beloved by God. **Thanks be to God.**