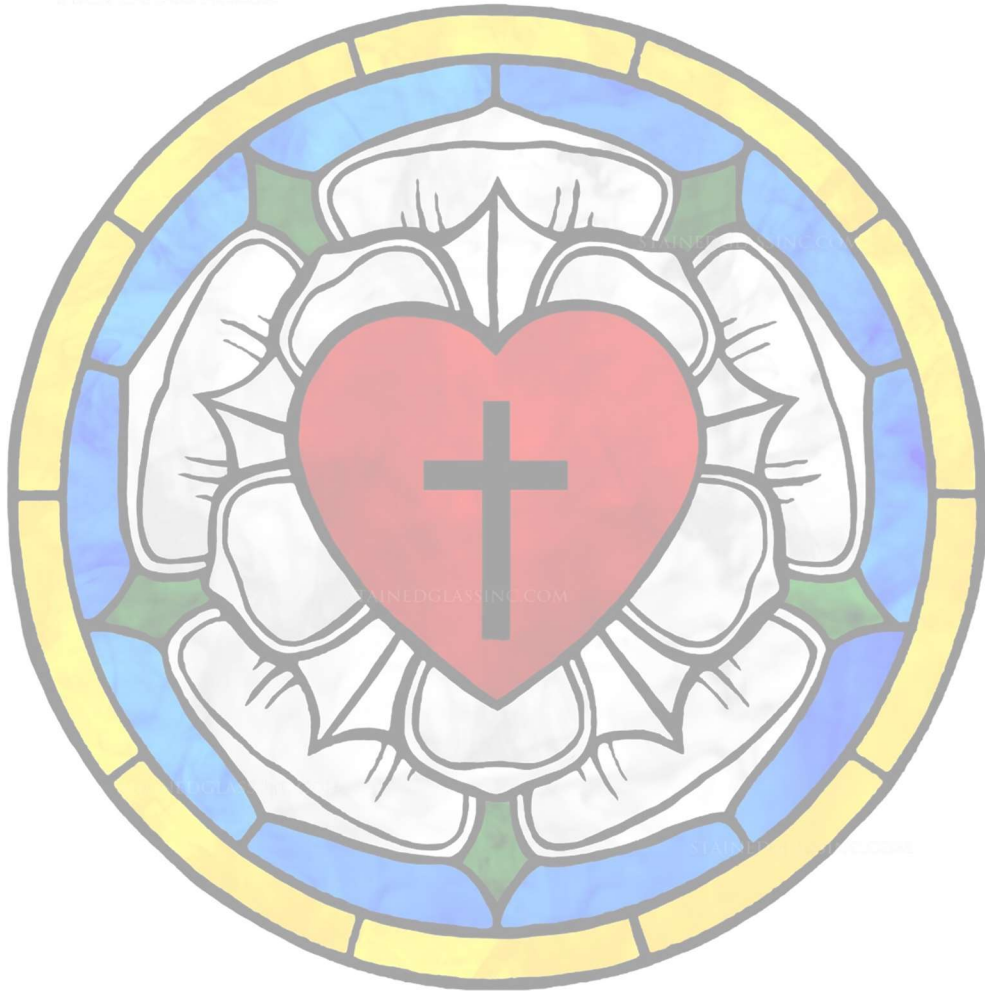


INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

✝ Christmas Eve ✝ December 24th, 2021

To facilitate our safe worship together, please follow all guidelines set forth by church staff; remain six feet away from others at all times and wear a mask. If you are considered high-risk, or have an immediate family member in isolation or quarantine, then please stay home and join us via Facebook for Worship at 10am. Bulletins, Communion cups, hand sanitizer, and extra masks are available at the entrance.



GET CONNECTED, STAY CONNECTED!

Like and follow us on Facebook and **Subscribe** to us on YouTube!



Incarnation Lutheran Church

3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. • 803-256-2381 • office@incarnationlutheran.com

www.incarnationlutheran.com



@INCARNATIONLUTHERAN



Worship Notes:

Our Lector for today is Mimi Fisher

Our Crucifer for today is Teresa Boykin

Our Cantors for today are Emma Schwertfuehrer, Kevin Piner, and Cynthia Hopkins, flutist

GATHERING

The congregation is invited to sing all hymns and all parts of the liturgy.

PRELUDE:

Prelude in C Major, *BWV 545a*

Johann Sebastian Bach

(1685-1750)

Les Noëls Françaises

Chantons je vous prie

A minuit fut fait un Réveil

Jean-François Dandrieu

(1682-1738)

C'est a la venue de Noël

Or nous dites Marie

Michel-Richard de Lalande

(1657-1726)

"O Holy Night"

The Incarnation Ringers

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Declare his glory among the nations, his wonders among all the peoples.

Give to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth.

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad, let the sea roar, let the field be joyful!

All the trees of the forest, shout for joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth with righteousness and the peoples with truth

CAROL: ELW 283

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELES

GREETING

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: ELW 167

Now the Feast and Celebration

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Please be seated.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL: ELW 270

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
MENDELSSOHN

SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14

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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL: ELW 289 (v.1-2)

Angels We Have Heard on High
GLORIA

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

Before the Reading: 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.]

After the Reading: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

CAROL: ELW 289 (v.3)

Angels We Have Heard on High
GLORIA

SERMON

Pastor Emily Willhide

CAROL: WOV 638

Holy Child within the Manger
JOYOUS LIGHT

1 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, long a -
 2 Once a - gain we tell the sto - ry— how your
 3 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, lead us

go yet ev - er near; come as friend to ev - 'ry
 love for us was shown, when the im - age of your
 ev - er in your way, so we see in ev - 'ry

stran - ger, come as hope for ev - 'ry fear.
 glo - ry wore an im - age like - our own.
 stran - ger how you come to us to - day.

As you lived to heal the bro - ken, greet the
 Come, en - light - en with your wis - dom, come and
 In our lives and in our liv - ing give us

out - cast, free the bound, as you taught us love un -
 fill us with your grace. May the fire of your com -
 strength to live as you, that our hearts might be for -

spo - ken, teach us now where you are found.
 pas - sion kin - dle ev - 'ry land and race.
 giv - ing and our spir - its strong and true.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes "*Hear us, O God.*" We respond: "**Your mercy is great.**"

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

ANTHEM:

"And the Word Became Flesh"

Walter L. Pelz (b. 1926)

Text: John 1: 14, 16

OFFERTORY CAROL: ELW 269

Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY: ELW 190

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

GREAT THANKSGIVING: ELW p.199

The Lord be with you. **And al - so 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy one, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we will remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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

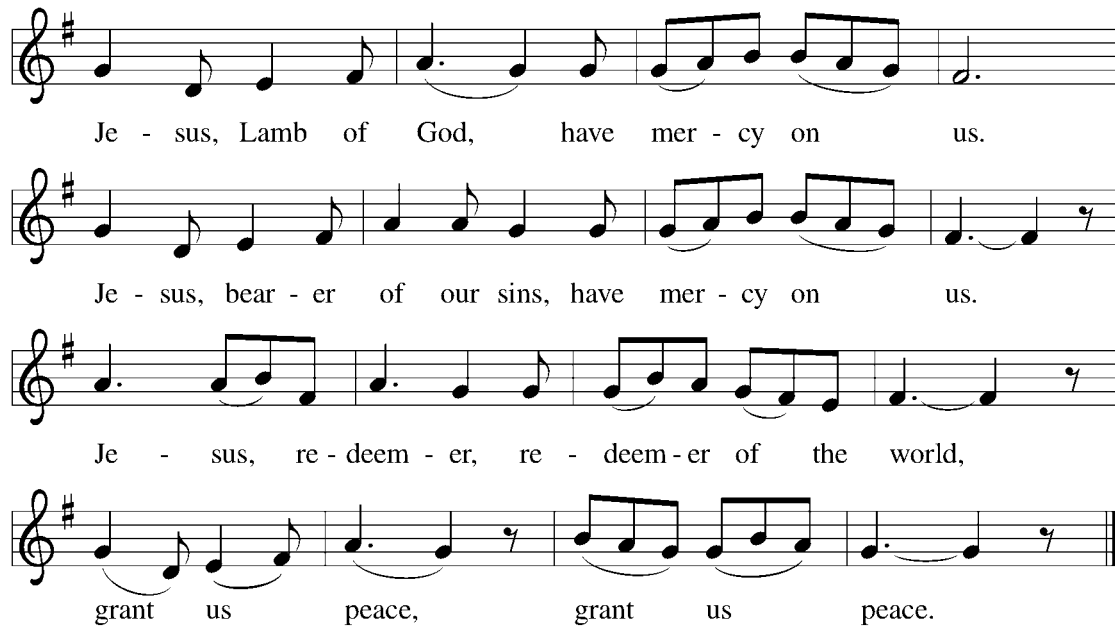
In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.
Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

We invite you to either take communion in your pew with the communion pods, or to come to the front of the church to receive a wafer and wine. The communion cups are in trays at the front of the church. There are discard trays by the side aisles.

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

LAMB OF GOD: ELW 199



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

ANTHEM:

“Riu, Riu, Chiu”

Mateo Flecha
(1481-1553)

COMMUNION HYMN: ELW 276

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
W ZLOBIE LEZY

COMMUNION HYMN: ELW 282

It Came upon the Midnight Clear
CAROL

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Please stand as able.

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

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.

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this night ☩ through the Word made flesh.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior. **Thanks be to God.**

VOLUNTARY:

Fugue in C Major, BWV 525b

Johann Sebastian Bach



CHRIST *the savior*
is **BORN**

