

University Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

December 24, 2016



Christmas Eve

Our Mission:

- To live among God's faithful people;
- To hear God's Word through the Spirit and share in the Lord's Supper;
- To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed;
- To serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus;
- To strive for justice and peace in all the earth. ✦



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN

CHURCH on this Christmas Eve when we rejoice that Jesus once again breaks into our world and renews our hope for peace. If you are visiting for the first time, this congregation offers you a place to be and belong. For those of you who are “returning home,” we are glad to see you again, and cherish the time that we can be together. Tonight is a time to dwell together in the joy and peace of Jesus Christ and renew our commitment to the peace and good will that Jesus came to reveal.

WE WELCOME EVERYONE TO THE LORD’S TABLE to receive God’s gift of forgiveness and the powerful freedom of a new life in Christ. Please come down the center aisle, proceed to the communion rail, and kneel or stand at the first open space. Hold out your hand to receive the bread. **Gluten-free wafers are available.** Please indicate your desire at the time you are offered the bread. You may drink either from an individual glass, which will be served first, or from the chalice. The individual glasses in the center of the tray contain grape juice (golden color). The outside glasses contain red wine. An acolyte will pass by to pick up your individual glass. In the spirit of continuous communion, please return to your seat via the side aisles after you have drunk from the glass or chalice. After everyone has been served at the communion rail, the ministers will serve anyone in the pew that is unable to come forward. Please indicate your desire in this regard to the pastor. Parents who desire that their children not receive communion may bring them forward for a blessing.

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR ATTENDANCE at worship today and your participation at the Lord’s Supper by completing the enclosed Worship Registration form and placing it in the offering plate. Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the lounge after the service.

THERE ARE CHILDREN’S BAG with bulletins and books available in the lounge and the narthex. They are hanging on the wall.

CHILD CARE is available in the Nursery for children of any age. Ask the usher for directions.

OUR PRAYERS are with those living in fear or sorrow, those who are lonely, those that are unheard and anxious and for our members who are in need of strength and prayer.

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL WALK WITH THE MAGI on Sunday, January 8, 2017. We will meet in the lounge following our 9:30 a.m. worship service to follow the star around the block and see who we may run into. This event is open to everyone, and we especially would like to encourage all children to join us! Our Wise Men will lead us on a journey to find the baby Jesus (as well as some goodies for the children)! There will be a lunch in the fellowship hall after our walk as well and a piñata to crack open . Come and join the celebration!

Prelude

Welcome

(Please stand as you are able)

Processional

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Green Hymnal #45

(Follow the cross as it is carried forward.)

(vv, 1, 3 & 4)

Call to Worship

P: We gather on this Christmas Eve to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

C: O come, let us sing praise and rejoice in the gift of our Savior.

P: We gather in the name of God, our Creator, who made the heavens and the earth.

C: O come, let us join the angels in singing peace on earth and good will to all.

P: We gather in the name of Jesus, our Prince of Peace, who makes all things new.

C: O come, let us join the shepherds in seeking the One who ushers in peace on earth.

P: We gather in the name of the Spirit who fills us with peace for our journey.

C: O come, let us prepare to leave this place with a renewed commitment to peace.

P: We gather to bear witness to all that we have seen and heard on this holy night.

C: O come, let us worship the God of our salvation. Amen.

Prayer

A: Let us pray together:

C: God of love and Creator of the universe, you have revealed yourself through Jesus of Nazareth and shown us the way of salvation. Fill us with your Spirit so that we may love with your love and pursue the things that make for peace within our families, in our communities, and throughout the world. Help us to put aside all animosity and enmity this night in order to make room for the One who comes to reconcile all of us with one another and with you. We pray in Jesus’ blessed name. Amen.

(Please be seated)

Lessons and Carols

Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

Carol

“Once in Royal David’s City”

**Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.**

**He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.**

*Lesson
Carol*

Isaiah 11:1-9
“Lo, How a Rose is Growing”

Green Hymnal #58
(vv. 1 & 2)

*Lesson
Carol*

Isaiah 42:1-4
“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

Green Hymnal #54
(vv. 1 & 4)

*Lesson
Anthem*

Micah 5:2-5a
“O Holy Night”

Adolphe Adam
Arr. Rene Clausen

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,
It is the night of the dear Savior’s birth;
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope; the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks the new and glorious morn:
Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, when Christ was born.

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
Led by a star above them brightly gleaming,
Appeared the wise men from far Eastern land.
The King of Kings lay in a lowly manger,
To us this day is born to be our God:
Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, when Christ was born.
O night divine.

*Lesson
Carol*

Luke 2:1-14
“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Green Hymnal #71

*Lesson
(Please stand)
Carol*

Luke 2:15-20
“Joy to the World”

Green Hymnal #39
(vv. 1, 2, & 4)

(Please be seated)

Homily

“Holy Night, Lonely Night”

(Please stand)

Hymn of the Day

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Green Hymnal #60

Prayers of the People

(Please be seated)

Children’s Message

Children’s Hymn

“Away in the Manger”

Green Hymnal #67

Offering/Musical Offering

“On Christmas Night”

Traditional English Carol

Arr. Werner P. Grams

On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring,
On Christmas night all Christians sing,
To hear the news the angels bring.
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King’s birth.

Then why should men on earth be sad
Since our Redeemer made us glad,
Then why should men on earth be sad
Since our Redeemer made us glad
When from our sin He set us free
All for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before His grace,
Then life and health come in its place;
When sin departs before His grace,
Then life and health come in its place;
Angels and men with joy may sing
All for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night,
All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night;
Glory to God and peace to men
Now and forevermore. Amen.

(Please stand)

Offertory

“From Heaven Above”

Green Hymnal #51

(vv. 1 & 2)

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray together:

C: God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this gift of life that has come into this world to reveal to us your grace and guide us in the way of truth. May these gifts which we offer be an expression and demonstration of our love for all those who long to hear your Word, want to be a part of this community, or need a place to sleep on this cold and wintry night. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: 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, Jesus took bread, 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 Jesus' coming again when all things will be restored in him. By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup that we may live as your children, shining with the light of Jesus, our Christ, through whom all glory and honor are yours, both now and forever.

C: 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

(Please be seated)

Communion Distribution

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

“What Child is This”

“I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve”

Green Hymnal #41

Green Hymnal #40

Green Hymnal #69

(Please stand)

Communion Blessing

P: May the body and blood of Jesus, our Christ, be the gift that liberates us from our past, empowers us for the present, and gives us hope for the future as we follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen

Benediction

P: Go forth in faith and good courage to proclaim the good news of God's love, live according to the justice of Jesus Christ, and dwell in the Spirit of God's peace.

C: Amen.

Lighting of the Candles

(The pastor will light the candles of the ushers, who will light candles at the end of each row. Please pass the flame from one candle to the next, remembering to hold the lit candle upright while the next person lights his/her candle.)

Carol

“Silent Night, Holy 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 Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**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.**

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Tell everyone what you have heard and seen.

C: Thanks be to God. Jesus Christ is born indeed!

Postlude

(Please extinguish your candle and return it to an usher as you leave the sanctuary.)

Preacher: Pastor Tim Wolbrecht

Assisting Minister: Sonora Carroll

Director of Music: Brian Higham

Organist: Wm. Fletcher Bryant

Lectors: Josh Pehrson, Gabe Pehrson, Rebecca Frank, Justin Frank, Christian Hinrichsen

Communion Assistants: Emily Anderson, Phillip Anderson, Christian Oakley

Altar Guild: Nona Taylor

Greeters: Aslaug Haraldsdottir

Acolytes: James Ginger

Ushers: Rick & Sharon Reuter, Michael & Ruth Ann Rouse

Sunday Schedule

Worship with Holy Communion:

9:30 AM

Fellowship: 10:30 AM

Christian Education: 11:00 AM

- Adult Forum
- Sunday School

Child Care: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Outreach at ULC

Elizabeth Gregory Home – Daily

Sanctuary Art Center – 5 times weekly

Teen Feed – 2 times weekly

ULu Women's Shelter - Daily

ULC Outreach in Seattle

Church Council of Greater Seattle

Compass Housing Alliance

Community Lunch at Central LC

Earth Ministry

Faith Action Network

Lutheran Campus Ministry - UW

Lutheran Community Services NW

Open Door Ministries

University Churches Emergency Fund

University District Foodbank

Young Adult Shelter (ROOTS)

WELCOME!

Welcome to University Lutheran Church! We welcome you into the life and ministry of this congregation, and pray that as you worship with us and become familiar with our people and our many activities, you will discover a place to belong and a way to participate in this corporate ministry of Jesus Christ.

ULC is in a period of transition. In September, Pastor Tim Wolbrecht was installed as our interim pastor. Our Transition Team is in place, and working to prepare for the formation of a Call Committee in 2017 to bring a new pastor to ULC.

ULC is also in a period of celebration. We are enjoying monthly special events as we give thanks for our first 100 years and look toward an exciting future.

ULC is a metropolitan congregation, committed to being a vital ministry in the University District and the world. We offer a variety of liturgies for worship in order to make a joyful noise unto God every Sunday.

As a **Reconciling in Christ Congregation**, we affirm the dignity and worth of people of all races, ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, gender identity, social status, age, physical capability and economic condition. As a **Greening Congregation**, we strive to be faithful stewards of God's creation. As an **Advocating Congregation** we make our voices known to our governing authorities on behalf of those who are crying out for justice and peace.

Your presence here is a blessing to us. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the lounge after the service. ✦

1604 NE 50th St, Seattle, WA 98105

www.universitylutheranseattle.org

Facebook - University Lutheran Church - Seattle

206-525-7074

Office Hours:

Monday thru Thursday

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Church Staff

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