

**CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Steamboat Springs, CO**  
www.steamboatlutheran.org  
***"Learning, Living, Sharing the Gospel"***

**Pastor:** Dave McKnight **DCE/Youth Director:** Ellie Bach

**Christmas Eve, December 24, 2006**  
**Candlelight Service**

**Pre-Service Music & Christmas Prelude**  
Kizaray Edmunds (Harp)

**Welcome**

**The Invocation**

**The Opening Prayer**

Pastor: Gracious God, because You once caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of true Light, grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light here on earth, may come to the full measure of it's joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**"O Come All Ye Faithful"**

(LW 41 vs. 1-3)

Oh, come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant!  
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him  
Born the king of angels:  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

Highest, most holy,  
Light of light eternal,  
Born of a virgin,  
A mortal he comes;  
Son of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing!  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God  
In the highest:  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.

### **The Prophecies**

Isaiah 7:14  
Isaiah 9:6-7  
Micah 5:2-4

### **"O Little Town of Bethlehem"** (LW 60 vs.1,3)

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

### **The Blessing**

*(The Candles are extinguished now)*

### **"Joy to the World"** (LW 53)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive its King;  
Let every heart prepare him room  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ  
While fields and floods, rocks, hill, 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.

### **"A Blessed Christmas to You All!"**

We would like to invite everyone to join us for  
Christmas Day Worship service at 10:00am tomorrow  
and to our New Year's Eve Day services next Sunday  
morning at 8:00 and 10:45am.

*(The Pastor will then light the ushers candles, who in turn will give light to each worshipper at the end of each pew.)*

*THE LIGHTED CANDLE IS NOT TO BE TILTED. IT IS ALWAYS HELD UPRIGHT TO GIVE LIGHT TO OTHERS.*

When all of the candles appear to have light, Pastor will lift his candle and proclaim: Jesus said, "I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness." (John 12:46)

**"Silent Night, Holy Night"**  
(LW 68)

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,  
Heavenly 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 your holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

**The Lord's Prayer**

How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.

**The Preparation Begins**  
Luke 1:26-28

**"What Child is This"**  
(LW61)

What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

## **The Reading of The Christmas Gospel**

Luke 2:1-20

### **"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"**

(LW49)

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all you nations, rise;  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!  
Hail, incarnate deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise each child of earth,  
Born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn king!"

### **The Christmas Eve Message**

*"The Angel's View"*

### **The Gathering of Offerings**

*\*\*\*A Note to Our Guests: Returning gifts to the Lord from all the blessings He has given us is our privilege as His children. You are invited to join us in this privilege, but do not feel pressured to do so. We are happy to have you as our guests today. "Each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7)*

### **Special Music During Offering**

"O Holy Night"

Paul Draper

### **The Prayer of Confession**

### **The Sharing of Forgiveness**

### **The Word's of Institution**

### **The Sharing of Peace**

### **The Distribution of the Sacrament**

*(Tonight we will use a "continuous distribution" for Holy Communion. Two stations will be present. Come forward with your row to receive the Lord's Supper and then return to your seat. There will be a common dismissal blessing after all have communed.)*

### **Special Music**

Kizaray Edmunds (Harp)

### **The Candle-lighting Ceremony**

*Pastor Dave will take a large candle, light it and say:*

Jesus said: "I am the Light of the World, he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the Light of Life." (John 8:12) Our Savior also said: "You are the light of the world...let your light so shine before men that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in Heaven." (Matthew 5:14,16)