

# First Sunday of Christmas

January 1, 2023



*"Dawn," by Eric Gill, 1929*

***A Service of Lessons and Carols***  
HOLY COMMUNION

**St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church**

2695 Luther Drive | Chambersburg, Pennsylvania | 17202

**Dialogue**

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

**By day and night he shines for all to see.**

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

**that the world may see the justice and richness of God.**

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

**so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.**

Jesus is the light of the world.

**Jesus is the light of our lives.**

Sing to God a new song!

**A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.**

**Opening Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Gracious God of heaven and earth,  
you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness—  
a beam of light that shines through Jesus.

Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation.

Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life.

Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world  
and in our hearts. **Amen**

## Lessons and Carols

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1–5, 14–18 Linda Miller

FIRST CAROL *'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime* ELW 284 verses 1 & 4

SECOND READING: Micah 5:2–5a Linda Miller

SECOND CAROL *O little town of Bethlehem* ELW 279, verses 1-2

THIRD READING: Luke 1:26–35, 38 Shelly Davies

THIRD CAROL *Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming* ELW 272

FOURTH READING: Matthew 1:18–25 Charles Davies

FOURTH CAROL *Peace Came to Earth* ELW 285

FIFTH READING: Luke 2:8–20 Pastor Frye

FIFTH CAROL *On Christmas Night* ELW 274, verse 1

SIXTH READING: Matthew 2:1-11 Anita Walter

SIXTH CAROL *What Child is This* ELW 296

SEVENTH READING: John 1:1–14 Pastor Frye

SEVENTH CAROL *Of the Father's love begotten* ELW 295 verses 1 & 5

## Responsive Prayer

It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.  
**Your Word, Jesus, is truth.**

In his light, draw all to the manger  
**to gather in wonder with the shepherds.**

In his light, draw all to the manger  
**to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.**

In his light, draw all to the manger  
**to sing for joy with the angels.**

In the brightness of his life  
**cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty,  
and hunger in the world.**

It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.  
**In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life.**  
**Amen**

## Offering

*In response to all that God has done and continues to do for us in Christ Jesus, we now come to that part of our worship when we give . . . not reluctantly, but cheerfully and in thanksgiving.*

*However you choose to give, please know that your gifts make a difference. Your support of our mutual ministry enables us to reach out with the gospel in word and deed in our community and to the world.*

## Offertory Music

*Bethlehem Lullaby*

David Paxton

## Offertory Hymn

*He Came Down*



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.  
he came down that we may have peace;  
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

## Offertory 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**

## Great Thanksgiving

## Eucharistic Prayer

## **Lord's Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**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**

## **Communion**

### **Communion Hymns**

ELW 270, 269, 282, 286

## **Table Blessing**

### **Post-Communion Prayer**

**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**

## Blessing

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!  
**Praise God, all creatures here below!**

You are the shepherds telling the story.  
**We tell it in the streets and across the land.**

You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.  
**We worship with gifts of song and service,  
talents and treasures.**

You are the angels announcing peace.  
**We live with joy and go now in peace.**

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen**

## Sending Song

*Good Christian Friends Rejoice*

ELW 288

## Dismissal

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

## Postlude

*Voluntary on "In dulci jubilo"*

James Mansfield

**Assisting Minister:** Anita Walter  
**Lector:** Linda Miller  
**Acolyte:** Vanessa Hepfer  
**Crucifer:** Luke Davies  
**Communion Assistant:** Jodi Foster & Dick Foster  
**Greeters:** Dudley & Karen Gayman  
**Altar Guild:** Anita Walter & Velegai Beyan  
**Ushers:** Bob & Norma Huss  
**Offering Counters:** Shelly & Charles Davies  
**A/V:** Shelly Davies & Sue Pettyjohn

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**Organist:** Sherry Fahnestock  
**Choir Director:** James Martin  
**Custodian:** Vanessa Hepfer

**Sunday 8:45 a.m.** Faith Formation/Christian Education  
**Sunday 10:00 a.m.** Worship with Holy Communion

**Wednesday - 11:00 a.m.**  
Holy Communion with Rite of Healing (Chapel)

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