

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 2:1-20

¹In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ²(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³And everyone went to their own town to register. ⁴So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. ⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” ¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” ¹⁶So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.



ST. JOHN'S & EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCHES

December 24th, 2022
Christmas Eve
Worship Service
St. John's

ORDER OF SERVICE: Prayer at the Close of Day

(Compline)pp. 225-232

HYMNS: 331:1-6, 335, 337

PSALM: Psalm 96 “Let The Heavens Rejoice”

SERMON: Luke 2:8-14 “An Angelic Announcement-
To The Shepherds”

SPECIAL MUSIC:

(1) “Angel’s Gloria” sung by Choir

(Individual candles will be distributed and lit before the
Last Hymn)

(2) “Peace, Peace” Sung by choir
Congregation joins with Closing

Hymn 337, “Silent Night, Holy Night.”

FIRST READING: MICAH 5:2-5a

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel,
whose origins are from of old,
from ancient times.”

³ Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor bears a son,
and the rest of his brothers return
to join the Israelites.

⁴ He will stand and shepherd his flock
in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they will live securely, for then his greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.

⁵ And he will be our peace

SECOND READING: TITUS 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation
to all people. ¹² It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness
and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright
and godly lives in this present age, ¹³ while we wait for
the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our
great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself
for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for
himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what
is good.