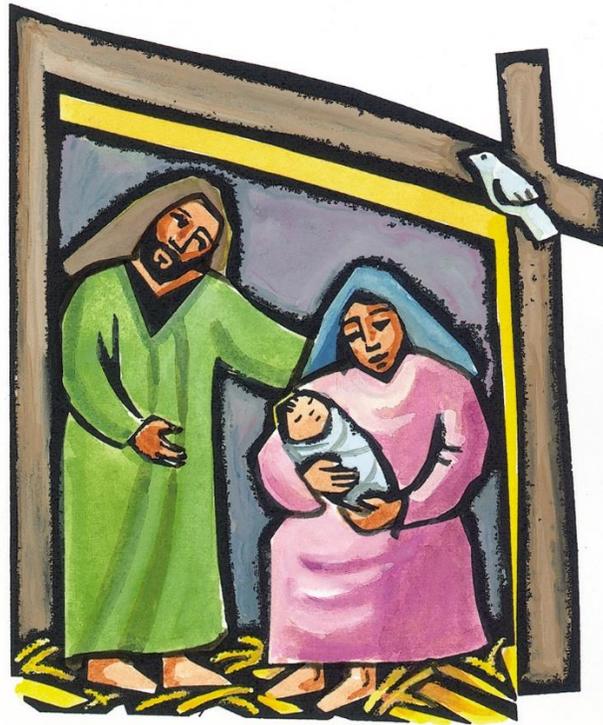


# First Sunday of Christmas



Lessons & Carols

December 26, 2021

9:30 a.m.

HOLY NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

New Hope, Minnesota

[www.holynativity.net](http://www.holynativity.net)



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

# Welcome to WORSHIP at Holy Nativity!

Holy Nativity Lutheran Church ~ 3900 Winnetka Avenue North ~ New Hope, MN 55427  
Phone 763-545-1647 [www.holynativity.net](http://www.holynativity.net) Email: [office@holynativity.net](mailto:office@holynativity.net)

*Our Mission & Ministry: "Grounded in Christ's love, Holy Nativity Lutheran Church is a welcoming community dedicated to helping all know God's love through worship, service, and fellowship."*

Join us for Sunday worship at 9:30am  
in person or on Facebook "LIVE"  
at [facebook.com/holynativitynewhope!](https://facebook.com/holynativitynewhope)

*In accordance with CDC guidelines,  
please wear a mask even if you are vaccinated.*

## **Staff Members:**

**Rev. Jason Wahlstrom**, Senior Pastor  
**Rev. Ashley Updegraff**, Associate Pastor  
**Iver Hubert**, Director of Music & Worship  
**Lisa Baker**, Organist & Communications Coordinator  
**Kristen Chamberlain**, Sunday School Director  
**Linda Lien**, Congregational Care Coordinator & Funeral Coordinator  
**Wendy Grimes**, Youth Ministry Associate  
**Tom Wiblishauser**, Custodial Care & Activity Set-Up  
**Kara Holt**, Financial Coordinator  
**Amy Laite**, Sunday Nursery Coordinator  
**Tawn Hanson**, Wedding Coordinator  
**Brittany Anderson**, Director of Week-Day  
Childcare Center ([hncccc.org](http://hncccc.org))

## **Worship "Stream" Team:**

Mark Chamberlain  
Andrew Kubly  
Chris Daniels  
Greg Eklund  
Brian Hanson  
Mark Eggert

# ORDER FOR WORSHIP

## WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

*This is a time to quietly listen, pause to pray, and reflect on why we are here.*

### GATHERING MUSIC

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Ashley Updegraff

### INVOCATION

*P: We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

**C: Amen**

### OPENING DIALOGUE (P-Pastor, C-Congregation)

P: Jesus, our Light, has come!

**C: The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.**

P: He has come to bring love,

**C: greater love than we have ever known.**

P: He has come to bring joy,

**C: to transform our sorrow and despair.**

P: He has come to bring peace,

**C: peace that will unite all peoples and nations.**

P: He has come to bring hope,

**C: assuring all creation that God fulfills God's promises.**

P: Praise to the One who enters our world, walks beside us, and provides the way to abundant life.

**C: Praise to the one who has come—Emmanuel—God with us!**

## WE PRAISE GOD

### GATHERING HYMN

*“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

Hymnal #270

(Please stand as you are able)

*1) 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!”*

*(Refrain) Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”*

*2) Christ, by highest heav'n 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! (Refrain)*

*3) Hail the heav'nborn Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!*

*Light and life to all he brings, ris'n 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.*

## GREETING

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** (unison) **Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.** (please be seated)

## GOD'S WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED

### FIRST READING

Genesis 1: 1-5, 14-18

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup> the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

<sup>3</sup> Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

<sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

<sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>14</sup> And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so.

<sup>16</sup> God made the two great lights-- the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night-- and the stars.

<sup>17</sup> God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup> to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

### CAROL

*"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"*

Hymnal #275

*1) Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:*

*(Refrain) Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.*

*2) Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light. (Refrain)*

*3) Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great desire of nations, you have seen his natal star. (Refrain)*

*4) All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One. (Refrain)*

### SECOND READING

Micah 5: 2-5a

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; <sup>5</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.

1) *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.*

2) *For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!*

3) *How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming; but, in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.*

4) *O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!*

**THIRD READING**

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness - on them light has shined. <sup>6</sup> For 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.

<sup>7</sup> His 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.

**CAROL**

## "Once in Royal David's City"

Hymnal #269

1) *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.*

2) *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.*

3) *And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above;  
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.*

4) *Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;  
There his children gather round, bright like stars, with glory crowned.*

## FOURTH READING

Isaiah 11: 1-6

<sup>1</sup> A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

<sup>2</sup> The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

<sup>3</sup> His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

<sup>6</sup> The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

## CAROL

*“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”*

Hymnal #272

*1) Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright,  
Amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.*

*2) Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in mind;  
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright,  
she bore to us a Savior, when half-spent was the night.*

*3) This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere. True man, yet very God,  
From sin and death he saves us and lightens ev'ry load.*

*4) O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe;  
O Savior, king of glory, who dost our weakness know: bring us at length, we pray,  
To the bright courts of heaven and into endless day.*

## FIFTH READING

Matthew 1: 18-25

<sup>18</sup> Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

<sup>19</sup> Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, <sup>25</sup> but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

## OFFERING/CHILDREN'S TIME

## SIXTH READING

Luke 2: 8-20

<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

<sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

<sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see-- I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

<sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

<sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup> When 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." <sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

<sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

<sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

## CAROL

*"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

Hymnal #289

*1) Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.*

*(Refrain) Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*2) Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song? (Refrain)*

*3) Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. (Refrain)*

## SEVENTH READING

Matthew 2: 1-12

<sup>1</sup> In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

<sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

<sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared.

<sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

<sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

<sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

- 1) *Love has come – a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.  
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises:  
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.*
- 2) *Love is born! Come, share in the wonder. Love is God now asleep in the hay.  
See the glow in the eyes of his mother; what is the name her heart is saying?  
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers; Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.*
- 3) *Love has come and never will leave us! Love is life everlasting and free.  
Love is Jesus within and among us. Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.  
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*(After each prayer petition... P: Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.)*

**LORD'S PRAYER** (unison)

Hymnal Pg. 112

**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.**

**BLESSING**

P. Praise to the one that enters our world, walks beside us, and provides the way to abundant life.

**C: Praise to the one that has come – Emmanuel – God with us!**

P: The Christmas story is ours to share and to live; we are the shepherds telling the story.

**C: We will tell it to friends and neighbors, in the streets and across the land.**

P: We are the wise ones worshipping with thanksgiving.

**C: We will worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.**

P: We are the angels announcing peace!

**C: We will live with joy and go now in peace.**

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**SENDING CAROL**

"Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Hymnal #290

*(Refrain) Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

*1) While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (Refrain)*

*2) The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)*

*3) Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born;  
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)*

**DISMISSAL**

P: Glory to God in the highest!

**C: Peace to God’s people on earth!**

P: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**SENDING MUSIC**

*“God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen”*

Wilbur Held

*Flowers by the altar are given by Alice Evans in memory of Bob Evans, husband,  
Hazel Hamblock Good, mother, and Anita Pavlich, sister.*

**WEEKLY INFORMATION**

<p><b>Sunday, December 26</b>  <b>First Sunday of Christmas</b>            9:30am Worship (in person and online)            10:30am Fellowship Time            1:00pm Word of Life Worship            6:00pm Word of Life Youth            7:00pm Youth (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grades) Party at Pastor Ashley’s</p>	<p><b>Thursday, December 30</b>            Office Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm            9:00am Quilters            9:30am Showtime Choir              7:00pm Word of Life Worship</p>
<p><b>Monday, December 27</b>            Office Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm            5:30pm Centering Prayer</p>	<p><b>Friday, December 31</b>            Office Hours 9:00am – 1:00pm            7:00pm Word of Life Choir</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, December 28</b>            Office Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm</p>	<p><b>Saturday, January 1</b></p>
<p><b>Wednesday, December 29</b>            Office Hours 9:00am – 3:00pm            9:30am – 11:30am Lounge reserved</p>	<p><b>Sunday, January 2 Second Sunday of Christmas</b>            9:30am Worship w/Communion            (in person and online)            10:30am Fellowship Time            1:00pm Word of Life Worship            6:00pm Word of Life Youth</p>
<p><b>PRISM’s focus for December is holiday toys.</b>  <b>December's Mission Offering</b> is Beacon’s Families Moving Forward. <i>“Our many faiths call us to act to create more equitable communities where all people have a home.”</i></p>	

**INFORMATION...**

**No Education Hour today.** Sunday School, Youth Forums, and Sunday Forums return on Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Stewardship Response.** If you haven’t already, please return your commitment form for 2022 or fill out [our online intent form](#). Thank you!

**Sunday morning worship assistants needed!** Please sign up to help on a Sunday:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050b48afad2fa4fb6-holy1>

**Thank you for your continued financial support!** If you are worshipping with us at home, there are still many ways you can financially support Holy Nativity!

1. **Mail your offering** (you may use your offering envelopes or mail checks to us at Holy Nativity, 3900 Winnetka Avenue N, New Hope, MN 55427).
2. **Give online** via [our link](#). Or just go to our website at [holynativity.net](http://holynativity.net) and click on “Make Donation.”
3. **Ask the office to send you a Simply Giving form** for automatic withdrawals.

*Council Host:*

*Social Hour Hosts:*

*Scripture Reader: Lynn Kvalness*

*Greeters:*

*People & needs to keep in your prayers this week:*

*Mary Lazerine, Ruth Schopf, Geri Lingen, Mary Warner, Tim Champion*

*If you have a prayer request or update, or wish to be added to our prayer group, please contact the church office at 763-545-1647 or [office@holynativity.net](mailto:office@holynativity.net).*