

HEALING WATERS PARISH

FESTIVAL OF LIGHT
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
DECEMBER 24, 2020



✠ ✠ Festival of Light ✠ ✠
December 24, 2020

Invocation

We worship in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Hymn – Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

FIRST VERSE SPOKEN RESPONSIVELY. REMAINING VERSES AND REFRAINS SILENT SINGING WITH MUSIC.

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:

REFRAIN

Oh, come, let us adore him,
oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

*The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!*

REFRAIN

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest:*

REFRAIN

Litany of Light

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world!

He is the Light no darkness can overcome.

At darkest night we gather to celebrate
the great light of our salvation.

With the heavenly host we sing,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven.”

In Christ, God’s Word is made flesh and lives among us.

With the shepherds,

we will tell of the wonders we have seen and heard.

Hymn - Go, Tell It on the Mountain

FIRST REFRAIN SPOKEN RESPONSIVELY. REMAINING VERSES SILENT WITH MUSIC.

REFRAIN

Go tell it on the mountain,

over the hills and ev’rywhere;

Go tell it on the mountain

that Jesus Christ is born!

*While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.*

REFRAIN

*Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.*

REFRAIN

May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Word

Holy God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor,
at the birth of time your Word brought light into the world,
and throughout the ages, you proclaim newness of life.
For your wondrous Word, we thank you, O God.

We thank you, O God.

In the fullness of time, your Word became flesh,
to shine in our world's darkness, to speak peace to all people,
and to welcome us as members of your family.
For your loving Word, we adore you, O God.

We adore you, O God.

Grant us now the gift of your Spirit, that held, nourished, and
protected by your Word, we may live as your children,
bearing your goodness throughout the world.
For your powerful Word, we praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

All glory to you, holy God,
now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading – Isaiah 9:2-7

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn - Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

FIRST VERSE SPOKEN RESPONSIVELY. REMAINING VERSES AND REFRAINS SILENT SINGING WITH MUSIC.

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!”
Hail the heav’n-born 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.*

REFRAIN

Second Reading – Luke 2:1-7

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn – Away in the Manger

FIRST VERSE SPOKEN RESPONSIVELY. REMAINING VERSES AND REFRAINS SILENT SINGING WITH MUSIC.

Away in a manger,
no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus
laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky
looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus
asleep on the hay.

*The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.*

Third Reading – Luke 2:8-20

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn – Angels We Have Heard on High

FIRST VERSE SPOKEN RESPONSIVELY. REMAINING VERSES AND REFRAINS SILENT SINGING WITH MUSIC.

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.

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

REFRAIN

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

REFRAIN

The Great Thanksgiving

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and 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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word
dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

OPEN YOUR CUPS

Christ's body given for you.

Christ's blood shed for you.

PLEASE DROP YOUR EMPTY CUPS IN THE BASKET AT THE BACK WHEN LEAVING.

Candlelight

The light that shines forth from our candles is symbolic of Jesus as the Light of the World. He is the light that the darkness of humanity cannot overcome. Through Christ, God shares this light with us so that we might share it with others. The light of our candles declares the good news of Jesus' birth.

The Gospel of the Incarnation – John 1:1-14

The Prayers

Wonderful Counselor, increase our joy as the church gathers on this holy night to sing of our dear Savior's birth. May the story of salvation live in the hearts of all who sing of its wonders. God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

Mighty God, you have broken the yoke of sin's burden through the birth of your Son. Comfort those whose burdens distract them from the deeper peace of this holy night and grant them a restful mind. God of peace,

Hear our prayer.

Everlasting Father, uphold all who are in sorrow or need of your divine goodness and mercy. We remember with thanksgiving all who have died and who now rest in your peaceful light. God of love,

Hear our prayer.

Gracious God, bathe us always in the light of your Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Hymn of Light – Silent Night, Holy Night

FIRST VERSE SPOKEN RESPONSIVELY. REMAINING VERSES AND REFRAINS SILENT WITH MUSIC.

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 your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming
grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.*

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.

Blessing

May the Lord God, who has called you out of darkness to be servants of light, grant you the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ Child. In the name of Almighty God, † the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Sending Hymn – Joy to the World

SILENT SINGING WITH MUSIC.

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.*

Gathered in Faith ~ Sent to Serve

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