## **KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH** A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor 2650 Farnam Street Omaha, NE 68131-3616 402-341-7761 www.kmlchurch.org 5:00 PM

**December 14, 2024** 

THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE

### PRELUDE

Silence is kept for reflection and meditation. For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation. ~Psalm 62:1

#### Zimbelstern-Prelude

on "Prepare the Way, O Zion" Paul Fey

#### **O** Jesulein Süss

S. Scheidt, 1650/ harm. J.S. Bach, 1736

Spiegel im Spiegel (1978)

Arvo Pärt. b. 1935

Kountze Brass Dan Nesbitt and Jaime Tyser, Trumpets Jason Stromquist and Jay Wise, Trombones

> Gregory Clinton, Cello Mark Jones, Piano

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence Traditional French Carol, 19th c./arr. M. Hayes and M. Gaspard

Mark Jones, Organ

David Gerard, Piano

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming German melody, 14th c./harm. M. Praetorius, 1609

> Nursery care is provided. Please see an usher for assistance. All hymns can be found in the red hymnal in the front of the pews.

Kountze Brass

Mark Jones, Organ

ELW 243 Stanzas 1, 3, & 4

Kountze Choir

Violin Kountze Brass

Cello

## **GATHERING AND WORD**

### Bell Tolls

(Please rise in body or spirit) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel French processional, 15<sup>th</sup> c.

#### **Scripture Reading** Iohn 1:1-9

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

**Processional Hymn** Lost in the Night

(Please be seated) **Choral Anthem** O Come, Emmanuel Text: Latin. 8th- 9th c. Music: E. Hegenberg (2016) Kai Johnson, Violin Handchimes

Pastor Wynard

#### Prayer of the Day O Emmanuel by Malcolm Guite

O come, O come, and be our God-with-us, O long-sought with-ness for a world without, O secret seed, O hidden spring of light. Come to us Wisdom, come unspoken Name, Come Root, and Key, and King, and holy Flame, O quickened little wick so tightly curled, Be folded with us into time and place, Unfold for us the mystery of grace And make a womb of all this wounded world. O heart of heaven beating in earth, O tiny hope within our hopelessness, Come to be born, to bear us to our birth, To touch a dying world with new-made hands And make these rags of time our swaddling bands.

#### Welcome

#### Scripture Reading Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Pastor Wynard

## **Poetic Reading**

## The Word Became Flesh

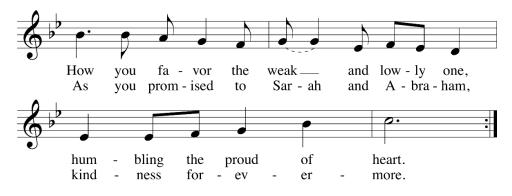
by Susan P. Cherwien, 1953-2021

Men	And the Word became flesh
Women	Hail, most favored! The Lord is with you.
Men	And lived among us.
Women	And you will bear a son.
Men	And we have seen his glory,
Women	He will be great,
Men	Glory as of a father's only son.
Women	And he will be called Son of the Most High.
Men	Full of grace and truth.
Women	My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for God has looked with favor on the lowliness of this servant.
Men	Full of grace and truth.
Women	The Mighty has done great things for me, And holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him
Men	(Let it be according to your word.) And we have seen his glory,
Women	He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
Men	Glory as of a father's only son,
Women	He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly.
Men	Full of grace and truth. (Your word has been fulfilled.)

## Joseph Daffer Pastor Wynard

Violin Stanza 1: Women and Girls Stanza 2: Men and Boys Stanza 3: All





Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

#### Scripture Reading Luke 2: 1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

#### (Please be seated)

#### **Choral Hymn**

#### **Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn**

Text: B. Boye, 1742-1824, tr. C. Doving Music: P. Nicolai, 1556-1608

> Rejoice, rejoice this happy morn, A Savior unto us is born, The Christ, the Lord of glory! His lowly birth at Bethlehem The angels from on high proclaim And sing redemption's story! My soul, extol God's great favor; bless him ever For salvation; Give him praise and adoration!

Kountze Choir Cello

Pastor Wynard

#### Reading

D. Bonhoeffer, 1906 - 1945

"Joy to the world!" Anyone for whom this sound is foreign, or who hears in it nothing but weak enthusiasm, has not yet really heard the gospel. For the sake of humankind, Jesus Christ became a human being in a stable in Bethlehem: Rejoice, O Christendom! For sinners, Jesus Christ became a companion of tax collectors and prostitutes: Rejoice, O Christendom! For the condemned, Jesus Christ was condemned to the cross on Golgotha: Rejoice, O Christendom! For all of us, Jesus Christ was resurrected to life: Rejoice, O Christendom! All over the world today people are asking: Where is the path to joy? The church of Christ answers loudly: Jesus is our joy! (1 Pet. 1:7-9). Joy to the world!

#### (Please rise in body or spirit)

#### Congregational Hymn Joy to the World

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748 Music: English Melody, 18<sup>th</sup> c./arr. R. Hobby

(Please be seated)

#### Sharon's Christmas Prayer

by John Shea

She was five. sure of the facts. and recited them with slow solemnity convinced every word was revelation. She said they were so poor they had only peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to eat and they went a long way from home without getting lost. The lady rode a donkey, the man walked, and the baby was inside the lady. They had to stay in a stable with an ox and an ass (hee-hee) but the Three Rich Men found them because a star lited the roof. Shepherds came and you could pet the sheep but not feed them.

ELW 267 Stanzas 1 & 4 Kountze Brass

Pastor Wynard

Then the baby was borned. And do you know who he was? Her quarter eyes inflated to silver dollars, The baby was God. And she jumped in the air whirled around, dove into the sofa and buried her head under the cushion which is the only proper response to the Good News of the Incarnation.

#### Musical Offering *O Come, Little Children*

Text: German Carol (1798), C von Schmidt Music: J. A. P. Schulz (1790), arr. S. Geschke

> Oh, come, little children, Oh come one and all.Oh, come to the cradle In Bethlehem's stall.Come look in the manger This glorious night, And see the Lord Jesus In heavenly light.

#### Prayer

by Thom Satterlee, b. 1967 from Advent and Christmas ~ Wisdom from G. K. Chesterton

Jesus, you loved children and welcomed them to you. Help us to find their qualities in ourselves — the wonder, the openness, the delight in living — and we will offer you thanks for the love you fill us with. May we, too, walk in the kingdom of heaven.

Choral Anthem/Congregational Hymn Night of Silence ~ Silent Night Text and Music: Daniel Kantor (1984) Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848 Music: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863	ELW 281 Violin
<i>Night of Silence</i> Stanza 1 & 2 Choir	
<i>Silent Night</i> Stanza 1 Congregation (choir director will lead) / Night of Silence Wome Stanza 2 & 3 All	en's Chorus

## Handbell Choir

#### Scripture Reading Luke 2:8-14

- In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,
- G "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

(Please rise in body or spirit)	
Angels We Have Heard on High	ELW 289
Text: French Carol, 1862	Stanzas 1 & 2
Music: French Carol/arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958/arr. Nelhybel	Kountze Brass
(Please be seated)	
Scripture Reading	Joseph Daffer
Luke 2:15-16	

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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly	ELW 276
Text: Polish Carol, tr. E. Reed, 1885 - 1933	Violin
Music: Polish Carol	

#### Prayer

Pastor Wynard

Robert Moore-Jumonville

Lord Jesus, you amazed many at your birth. May we not fail, even at our distance in time, to marvel at these events. Let us share the shepherds' excitement at their encounter with angels. Let their story be our story, too. And let us ponder this miraculous tale, just as Mary did, holding each word close, as close as our own hearts.

#### Scripture Reading Luke 2:17-20

When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

## Meal

(Please rise in body or spirit)

#### The Peace is Shared

- **P** The peace of Christ be with you.
- **G** And also with you.

#### (Please be seated)

Greeting

#### The Offering is Received

We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this church possible. We encourage everyone to give. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate in this portion of worship. If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online or place your offering in the plates that are located at the entrances to the Sanctuary. For those of you watching through our media outlets, if you are able, please mail in your offering or donate online. Thank you!

### The Table is Prepared

#### Choral Proclamation There's a Star in the East

Text and Music: African American Spiritual



Pastor Wynard



Men's Chorus

(Please rise in body or spirit)

#### Offertory Hymn Go Tell it on the Mountain

Text and Music: African American Spiritual Refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925

Refrain: All (sing refrain twice after stanza 3)

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

1. Women & Girls

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

## **Holy Communion**

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### **Preface for Advent**

- It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
  - ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### Sanctus

Holy, Holy, holy Lord, God of might and mercy, your glory fills all heaven and earth. You are holy, God. Blessed be the Savior, the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest. You are holy, God.

2. Men & Boys

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

### 3. All

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

#### The Words of Institution

#### Pastor Wynard

#### The Lord's Prayer



#### **Invitation to Communion**

- P We break the bread of life, and that life is the light of the world.
- **G** God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

## (Please be seated) The Distribution

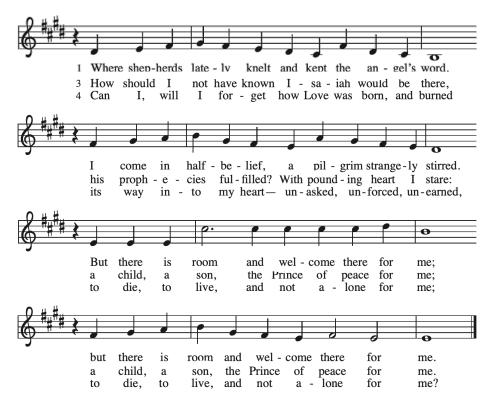
All baptized Christians who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and his Real Presence in, with and under the bread and wine, are welcome to the Lord's Supper. We believe that this is the Lord's table and is he who invites you. So you who are strong in faith, come with gratitude. You who feel weak in faith, come to be strengthened. And you who feel you have no faith, come so that the God of steadfast love will touch your heart with hope and joy. The form of distribution is intinction: you will receive the consecrated bread and then you may dip the bread into the wine. <u>Gluten free bread</u> is available upon request.

#### Communion Hymns *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893 Music: Lewis Redner, 1831-1908 ELW 279 Stanza 1: Women & Girls Stanza 3: Men & Boys Stanza 4: All Violin

#### Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

ACS 909



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008 Music: MANGER SONG, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929 Text © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org. All rights reserved. Music © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

#### **Beautiful Savior**

Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677 Music: Silesian folk tune, 19<sup>th</sup> c. arr. Anders Öhrwall, 1932-2012

(Please rise in body or spirit)

### Prayer after Communion

*Soul of Christ* by David L. Fleming, SJ (based on the Anima Christi)

**P** Jesus, may all that is you flow into me.

## May your body and blood be my food and drink.

May your passion and death be my strength and life.

## **G** Jesus, with you by my side enough has been given.

- May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross.
- **G** Let me not run from the love which you offer,
- **P** But hold me safe from the forces of evil.

# • On each of my dyings shed your light and your love.

- ▶ Keep calling to me until that day comes,
- When, with your saints, I may praise you forever. Amen.

ELW 838 Stanza 1: Men and Boys Stanza 3: Women & Girls

Stanza 4: All

## Sending

## **Scripture Readings**

John 1:14 Pastor Wynard A nd the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as **C** of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

1 John 1:1-4 Ve declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us- we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

#### (Please be seated) **Choral Blessing** Jesus Christ the Apple Tree

Text: from the collection of Joshua Smith (1784) Music: Elizabeth Poston (1967)

Jessica Rajewich, Soprano Kountze Choir

The tree of life my soul has seen, Laden with fruit, and always green: The tree of life my soul has seen, Laden with fruit, and always green: The trees of nature fruitless be Compared with Christ the apple tree.

His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne'er can tell, His beauty doth all things excel: By faith I know, but ne'er can tell, The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.

For happiness I long have sought, And pleasure dearly I have bought: For happiness I long have sought, And pleasure dearly I have bought: I missed of all; but now I see 'Tis found in Christ the apple tree.

I'm weary with my former toil, Here I will sit and rest awhile: I'm weary with my former toil, Here I will sit and rest awhile: Under the shadow I will be, Of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, It keeps my dying faith alive; This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive; Which makes my soul in haste to be With Jesus Christ the apple tree.

#### Pastor Wynard

#### **An Invitation**

H. Nouwen, from Advent and Christmas Wisdom

God came to us because he wanted to join us on the road, to listen to our story, and to help us realize that we are not walking in circles but moving towards the house of peace and joy. This is the great mystery of Christmas that continues to give us comfort and consolation: we are not alone on our journey. The God of love who gave us life sent his only Son to be with us at all times and in all places, so that we never have to feel lost in our struggles but always can trust that he walks with us...

Christmas is the renewed invitation not to be afraid and let him — whose love is greater than our own hearts and minds can comprehend — be our companion.

(Please rise in body or spirit)

#### Aaronic Blessing Numbers 6:24-26

Pastor Wynard

▶ The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

G Amen.

#### **Recessional Hymn**

<b>O Come, All Ye Faithful</b> Text: John Francis Wade, 1711-1786 Music: John Francis Wade/arr. D. Willcocks, 1919-2015	ELW 283 Stanza 1, 3, & 4 Kountze Brass Handbell Choir
<ul> <li>Dismissal</li> <li>P Go in peace, share the news of salvation!</li> <li>C Thanks be to God!</li> </ul>	Joseph Daffer
<b>Postlude</b> <i>The Wexford Carol</i> Irish Traditional	Kountze Brass

+ + +

Zimbelstern-Prelude on Prepare the Way, O Zion © 2021 Paul Fey

*O Jesulein Süss* S. Scheidt, 1650; arr. J.S. Bach, 1736

Spiegel im Spiegel Arvo Pärt, b. 1935 © 1978, 2007 by Universal Edition A.G., Wien All right reserved.

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*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* German melody, 14<sup>th</sup> c./ harm. M. Praetorius, 1609

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* French processional, 15<sup>th</sup> c. Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress. All right reserved.

#### Lost in the Night

Text: Nordic hymn; tr. Olav Lee, 1859-1943, alt. Text © 1932 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All Rights Reserved. All right reserved.

O Come, Emmanuel Text: Latin, 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> c. Music: E Hegenberg © Copyright 2016 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc. All right reserved.

*My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness, O God* Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950; © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. All right reserved. *Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn* Text: Birgitte K. Boye, 1742-1824; tr. Carl Doving, 1867-1937 Music: P. Nicolai, 1556-1608

*Joy to the World* Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748 Music: English Melody, 18<sup>th</sup> c./arr. R. Hobby

O Come, Little Children Text: German Carol (1798), C von Schmidt Music: J.A.P. Schulz (1790), arr. S Geschke © 2002, AHEHR Publishing All right reserved.

Night of Silence Contributor: Daniel Kantor Tune: © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. All right reserved. Music: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863

*Silent Night, Holy Night!* Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885

Angels We Have Heard on High Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, The Crown of Jesus Music, 1864 Music: French Carol/arr. Edward S Barnes, 1887-1958/arr. Nelhybel

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt. Music: Polish Carol Arr. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All right reserved.

*There's a Star in the East* Text & Music: African American Spiritual Go Tell it on the Mountain Text & Music: African American spiritual, Refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt. Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

*O Little Town of Bethlehem* Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893 Music: Lewis Redner, 1831-1908

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008 Music: MANGER SONG, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929 Text © 1986 Concordia Publishing House, cph.org. All rights reserved. Music © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com All rights reserved.

Beautiful Savior Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904 Music: Silesian folk tune, 19<sup>th</sup> c./ arr. Anders Öhrwall, 1932-2012 Jesus Christ the Apple Tree Text: from the collection of Joshua Smith (1784) Music: Elizabeth Poston (1967) © 1967, Banks Music Publications All right reserved.

*O Come, All Ye Faithful* Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2 Music: John Francis Wade/arr. D. Willcock, 1919-2015

The Wexford Carol Irish Traditional © The Oxford Book of Carols, Oxford University Press. All right reserved.

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Worship with Us!

Sunday, December 15 Children's Christmas Program: 9:00 AM

#### Wednesday, December 18

Worship: 12:15 & 6:30 PM Lunch: 11:00 AM – Noon Supper: 5:00 – 6:30 PM

#### **Weekend Worship Times**

Saturdays: 5:00 PM Sundays: 9:00 & 11:00 AM

#### **Christmas Eve**

Family Service: 4:00 PM Candlelight: 7:00 & 11:00 PM

Thank you for joining us in word and song! Thank you to all who have given of their time and talents this evening! Please join us for a cheese and dessert reception following the service.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**