

Welcome! We are happy to share God's peace with everyone. Visitors are invited to sign our guest book in the entryway. If you have any questions, the ushers are ready to help. Feel free to visit after the service.

- Aids to assist with hearing (Williams Sound System) are available from the ushers.
- Large Print Hymnal Binders are available on the tract desk for those with vision difficulties.
- Personal prayers for use before church or during the week are printed on p. 255-258 in the hymnal.

Please note: this service is being recorded and streamed on YouTube.

[www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar](http://www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar)

**Glory to God!**

**Hymn: 354, “O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

*Please rise*

**Invitation to Worship**

O Lord, open my lips;

**And my mouth shall declare your praise.**

Hasten to save me, O God.

**O Lord, come quickly to help me.**

To us the Savior is born!

**Come, let us worship him!**

**Psalm 96**

Sing to the LORD a new song. Sing to the LORD, all the earth.

**Sing to the LORD. Praise his name.  
Proclaim the good news of his  
salvation from day to day.**

**Tell about his glory among the  
nations, about his marvelous deeds  
among all peoples.**

**For great is the LORD and worthy  
of great praise. He is to be feared  
above all gods.**

**For all the gods of the peoples are  
“nothings,” but the LORD made the  
heavens.**

**Splendor and majesty are before  
him. Power and beauty are in his  
sanctuary.**

**Ascribe to the LORD, families of  
peoples, Ascribe to the LORD glory  
and power.**

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due  
his name. Bring a gift and come  
into his courtyards.**

Bow down to the LORD in the  
splendor of his holiness. Look away  
from his face, all the earth.

**Say among the nations, “The LORD  
reigns.”**

The world is firmly established. It  
will not be moved.

**He will judge the peoples with  
fairness.**

Let the heavens rejoice. Let the earth  
celebrate. Let the sea roar, and all  
that fills it.

**Let the fields be overjoyed, and  
everything that is in them. Then  
all the trees of the forest will sing  
for joy before the LORD,  
for he comes, for he comes to judge  
the earth.**

**He will judge the world in  
righteousness and the peoples in  
his faithfulness.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

**Young Women's Choir:** "On a Silent Night Long, Long Ago"

**First Lesson:** Isaiah 7:14, 9:6, 11:1-2

**Hymn:** 349, "A Great and Mighty Wonder"

**Second Lesson:** Luke 1:26-33

**Hymn:** 315, “Let the Earth Now  
Praise the Lord”

**Third Lesson:** Matthew 1:18-25

**Hymn:** 319, “Jesus Came, the  
Heavens Adoring”

**Fourth Lesson:** Luke 2:1-7

**Solo:** “O Holy Night”

**Fifth Lesson:** Luke 2:8-14

**Hymn:** 350, “Hark! The Herald  
Angels Sing”

**Sixth Lesson:** Luke 2:15-20

**Hymn:** 346, “Angels We Have Heard  
on High”

**Offering**

*Please rise*

# **Prayer of the Church for Christmas Eve**

Oh gracious and almighty Father, we praise you that you kept your ancient promises by sending your everlasting Son in human flesh.

**On this holy night, receive our thanks and devotion, our songs and prayers.**

You sent Jesus as a lowly child to demonstrate your concern for all, the weak and lonely, the troubled and frightened, the timid and helpless. No one is overlooked by your ever-seeking eyes. No one is excluded from your upholding arms. No one is denied the comfort and help of your outstretched hand.

**Bless us with a childlike faith in the divine assurance that you love and care for us always.**

You sent Jesus as the Savior of the world to deliver all from the curse of sin, the power of death, and the torment of hell. He took our place. He was born under the law to set us free. He became the innocent lamb of sacrifice. He came to die and rise again in order that we might live eternally. Firmly implant this good news in our hearts, and fill us with an eager desire to spread the Word concerning what we have heard tonight.

**May all who hear the message, in every nation under heaven, be amazed and believe what is told them about the child.**

You sent Jesus as the Light of the world to drive out all darkness that would rob us of the full life that you intend for us. May the “joy that will be for all people” be our joy. May the “peace on earth to all on whom his favor rests” be our peace. May the treasure that Mary pondered in her heart be our treasure.

**For today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to us. He is Christ, the Lord. Amen.**

**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.

### **Benediction**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord (+) make his face shine on  
you and be gracious to you. The Lord  
look on you with favor and give your  
peace.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

**Hymn:** 337, “Silent Night, Holy  
Night”