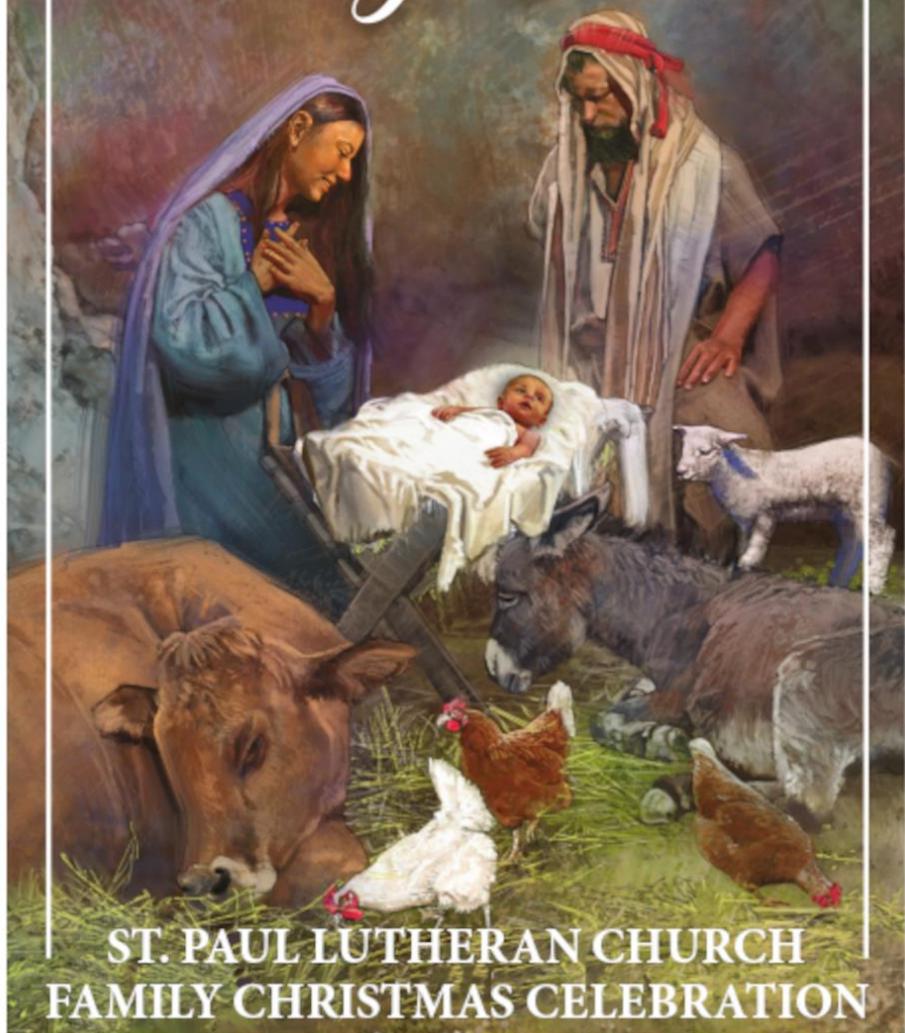


This is My Son



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
FAMILY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

This Is My Son

Prelude

Processional Hymn

“O Come Little Children”

O come, little children, O come, one and all,
To Bethlehem haste to the manger so small.
God's Son for a gift has been sent you this night
To be your Redeemer, your Joy, and Delight.

He's born in a stable for you and for me;
Draw near by the bright, gleaming starlight to see,
In swaddling clothes lying, so meek and so mild,
And purer than angels, the heavenly child.

See Mary and Joseph, with love-beaming eyes,
Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies;
The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of love,
While angels sing loud alleluias above.

Kneel down and adore Him with shepherds today,
Lift up little hands now and praise Him as they;
Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast,
And join in the song of the heavenly host.

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Responsive Reading

Leader: What great love the Father has given to us,

People: That we should be called children of God!

Leader: He sent His Son to save us from death,

People: That we should be called children of God!

Leader: Jesus was born to take our place,

People: That we should be called children of God!

Leader: His work on the cross gives us new life;

People: And we are called children of God!

The Christmas Meditation

The Message Presented by the Children

The Promised Son

Introduction to the Theme and Scripture Reading: 1 John 3:1

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

Action Rhyme:

“Jesus Was a Baby Boy”

Congregation

*Jesus was a baby boy,
Came to earth to bring us joy.*

*God had promised us His Son,
So that sin would be undone.*

*What a gift our Father gave:
Jesus Christ, who's strong to save!*

*Thanks to Him, we are set free.
We are in God's family!*

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Congregational Hymn: “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” LSB 384

- 1 Of the Father’s love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.
- 3 This is He whom seers in old time
Chanted of with one accord,
Whom the voices of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the long-expected;
Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.

The Son in the Manger

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 9:6; Luke 1:26–33

Recitation

Choir Hymn:

“In This Precious Baby Boy,”

stanza 1

In this precious baby boy,
We are given peace and joy.
By the Spirit, hope is won—
Mary bore the Father’s Son.
Son of God and Son of Man:
He fulfills the holy plan.

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Congregational Hymn:

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

LSB 357

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. Refrain

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

The Son and the Cross

Scripture Readings:

Genesis 3:8-13

⁸And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹²The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." ⁶Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." ⁹So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

John 3:14-15

¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

Galatians 4:4-7

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Recitation

Choir Hymn:

"In This Precious Baby Boy,"

stanza 2

God's own children, we have strayed,
Constantly have disobeyed
 In the garden, in the sand,
 Through the river, in the Land.
But the Child who takes our place
Bears the cross to earn us grace.

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Children's and Congregational Hymn:

"Away in a Manger"

LSB 365

Children Only

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

Congregation

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

The Son in Our Hearts

Scripture Readings:

Luke 2:1-20

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. ⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" ¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Recitation

Choir Hymn:

“In This Precious Baby Boy,”

stanza 3

Through this baby in the hay,
God has given us the Way
 To inherit life above,
 Rescued by His perfect love.
In this Child, we all may be
Children of eternity.

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Congregational Hymn:

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

LSB 379

1 O come, all ye faithful,
 Joyful and triumphant!
 O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
 Come and behold Him
 Born the king of angels: Refrain

ref O come, let us adore Him,
 O come, let us adore Him,
 O come, let us adore Him,
 Christ the Lord!

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Responsive Reading

Leader: For to us a child is born,

People: To us a Son is given;

Leader: And the government shall be upon His shoulder

People: And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Prayer

Pastor: We pray:

All: Father in heaven, thank You for Your great love for us. Forgive us for the many times we disobey and stray from You. Thank You for sending Jesus to pay for our sins so that through faith in Him, we can live as Your children forever. In His name we pray. Amen.

Benediction

Pastor: Joy to the world, the Son of God, our Savior, has come! May the peace of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you today and every day.

All: Amen.

Recessional Hymn:

"Joy to the World"

LSB 387

- 1 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.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Refreshments following the program in the fellowship hall.