

Prelude Music

Bea Bastyr

Sermon

Pastor Nathan Mugaas

Welcome/Sharing of the Peace

L: The Peace of Christ be with you always. **All: And Also with you.**

Carol

**"Angels We Have Heard on High"**

**ELW 289**

**v. 1 & 3**

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

L: Today we light all the candles on the advent wreath as we celebrate the coming of the Messiah.

Arise, shine, for your light has come.

**All: Oh, come let us adore him!**

L: Unto us a Child is born!

**All: Oh, come let us adore him!**

L: And the government shall be upon his shoulders.

**All: Oh, come let us adore him!**

Pastor: And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Almighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**All: Oh, come let us adore him!**

Carol

**"O Come All Ye Faithful"**

**ELW 283**

**v. 1 & 3**

**Christmas Confession and Forgiveness**

L: Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High, † one God, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

L: Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

Gracious God,

**All: in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

L: I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in † Jesus' name.

**All: Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Micah 2:2-5

Carol

**"O Little Town of Bethlehem" v. 1**

**ELW 290**

Gospel Acclamation

**"Go Tell It on the Mountain" v. 1**

**ELW 290**

Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

Gospel Response

**"Go Tell It"**

**ERLC Choir**

Children's Message

Carol

**"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"**

**ELW 270**

L: Arise, shine, for your light has come.

**All: Oh, come let us adore him!**

L: The light shines in the darkness

**All: And the darkness cannot overcome it.**

L: Jesus is the light of the world. You are the light of the world.

**All: Let us fill this world with the light and love of Christ!**

L: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God in heaven.

**All: This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine.**

L: Thanks be to God.

**All: Amen!**

Offering

Offertory

**"I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve"**

**ERLC Choir**

Offering Prayer: **Creator God, we are filled to overflowing with the joy of this season. As the Magi offered their best to the Christ child, we place before you our offerings from the gifts you have given to us. May they be used to further your work among us. Amen.**

**Communion Canticle**

L: It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

**All: Your Word, Jesus, is truth.**

L: In his light, draw all to the manger

**All: to gather in wonder with the shepherds.**

L: In his light, draw all to the manger

**All: to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.**

L: In his light, draw all to the manger

**All: to sing for joy with the angels.**

L: In the brightness of his life

**All: cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.**

L: It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

**All: In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life. Amen**

Words of Institution

The 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.**

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion at Elk River Lutheran; members and visitors, young and old, all are welcome. There is bread or gluten free wafers, and wine (red) or grape juice (white).

Communion Carols

“Away in a Manger”  
“What Child is This”

ELW 277  
ELW 296

Christmas Communion Prayer: **Great and saving God, you have gathered your scattered people around gifts of grain and wine, the body and blood of our Savior Christ. As we, like the shepherds, return on our way, may we proclaim all we have heard and seen, praising you in word and loving deed for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Lighting of Candles (Please be seated)**

P: Let your light shine before others, so all may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16)  
*(When lighting the candles, please tip only the unlit candles.)*

Special Music

“**There is Peace in the World Tonight**” John & Conni Natwick  
Jim Acers, Taylor Quinn & Bea Bastyr

**Responsive Reading**

L: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. (Genesis 1:1-2)

**All: In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.** (John 1:1-2)

L: And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. (Genesis 1:3)

**All: 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.** (John 1:3-4)

L: The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness, did not overcome it. (John 1:5)

Carols by Candlelight

“**In the Bleak Midwinter**”  
“**Silent Night, Holy Night**”

ELW 277  
ELW 281

Blessing

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**All: Amen.**

*“Go in peace, Share the Good News! We Will! Thanks Be to God!”*

Postlude

## Christmas Eve, December 24, 2017 – 10:00 pm



Merry Christmas and welcome to Elk River Lutheran Church!

We are so glad you have chosen to join us for worship this Christmas season as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us.

We are a forward-thinking congregation, striving to create community that brings joy and hope. Worshipping together since December 2009, we believe that all people are welcome in the Lord’s house, to hear the Word, share the Sacraments, and be strengthened for the life of faith.

We are a child friendly congregation and welcome kids with their wiggles and noises in worship. We are also aware that as a parent, time away from wiggles and noises can be a blessing too. You will find our staffed nursery (For children 5 and under) in the far corner of the fellowship hall.

Please take a moment to sign the worship registration slip and place it in the offering plate. We hope and pray you have a wonderful worship experience here today and invite you to join us again.

