

Sion Lutheran Church
Lancaster, Minnesota

Welcome to our special worship this morning, we are glad you are here! As we hear the Christmas story, may we rejoice together in song as we celebrate the promised child sent to bring salvation to the world!

1st Sunday of Christmas: Lessons & Carols Sunday
December 31st, 2017

Prelude

Gathering: Welcome & Announcements

***Gathering Song:** ELW # 267 "Joy to the World"

*** Dialogue:** Isaiah 9:2a-6

L: The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light;

C: those who lived in the land of deep darkness- on them a light has shined.

L: You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy;

C: they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

L: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders;

C: and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

***Prayer of the Day:**

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

God's Word: First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5, 14-18

Hymn: ELW # 283 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Second Reading: Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9

Hymn: ELW # 296 "What Child is This?"

Third Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

Hymn: ELW # 279 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Fourth Reading: Luke 1:26-35

Hymn: ELW # 257 (vs. 1-4) "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Fifth Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

Hymn: ELW # 277 "Away in a Manger"

Sixth Reading: Luke 2:8-20

Hymn: ELW#300 "The First Noel"

Seventh Reading: Matthew 2:1-11

(Offering will be received during the hymn)

Hymn: ELW # 281 "Silent Night"

Eighth Reading: John 1:1-14

Hymn: ELW#288 "Good Christian Friend, Rejoice"

***Responsive Prayers for the People of God:**

L: Glory to God in the highest,

C: and peace to God's people on earth.

L: Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

C: Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

L: Blessed are you, Son of Mary, You share our humanity.

C: Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.

L: Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

C: Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.

***The Lord's Prayer**

Blessing: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

***Sending Hymn:** ELW #290 "Go Tell it on the Mountain"

