

AUGUSTANA CHRISTMAS EVE 2023, 6 PM
A CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Prelude & Welcome

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Reader A: In God's house, there is hope— For God loves us too much to leave us just as we are.

All: We light the candle of hope.

Reader B: In God's house, there is peace— For all that separates us from God falls away.

All: We light the candle of peace.

Reader A: In God's house, there is joy— . . . God's house surely exudes joy.

All: We light the candle of joy.

Reader B: In God's house, there is love— Because God is love, from start to finish, and that love exists for us all.

All: We light the candle of love.

Readers A&B: And in the center of our hope,

In the center of our peace; In the center of our joy;

In the center of our love, is God—who came to this earth to dwell among us.

So tonight, we light the Christ candle, for God's love just could not stay away.

All: Amen.

(illustratedministry.com)

Gathering Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

#283 ELW

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|--|---|
| 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:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the
Lord! |
| 2) The highest, most holy,
light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh
appearing! Refrain | 3) Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven
above!
Glory to God in the highest: Refrain |
| 4) Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: Refrain | |

A Reading from Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96

¹Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**All: ²Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

³Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

**All: ⁴For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**

⁹Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

**All: ¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved
will judge the peoples with equity."**

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is
therein.

**All: ¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O Lord,
for you come to judge the earth.**

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.
All: Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad.

Children's Time

Gospel Acclamation: "Joy to the World"

#267 ELW

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| 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 all 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 sin and sorrow 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 earth 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. |

Gospel: Luke 2:1-7

Hymn: "What Child is This"

#296 ELW

- 1) What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, who shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe the son of Mary!
- 2) Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?

AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH
Lutherans and Anglicans Worshiping Together

CHRISTMAS EVE 2023, 6 PM
A CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



Unto you is born this day in the city of David
a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord

Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church
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www.augustanasaskatoon.net

Pastor: Kirk Tastad
augustanapastor@sasktel.net

Worship at 10:30 am
YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCua4E9ZVxlZ4Wfmct0ZLnBA>

Good Christian, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nail, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

- 3) So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

Gospel (continued): Luke 2:8-20
The Gospel of our Lord. **All: Praise to you O Christ.**

Hymn: "Angels We Have Heard on High" #289 ELW

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| 1) Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains. | Refrain:
Glo-ri-a, in excelsis De-o;
Glo-ri-a, in excelsis De-o. |
| 2) Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song?
Refrain | 3) Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Refrain |

Meditation

Hymn: "In a Far-Off Place" #908 ACS

- 1) In a far-off place, Jesus comes to earth.
Sheep and cattle grace the site.
As the angel songs begin, like the whisper of the wind,
nature's hope awakes again; Jesus comes.
- 2) For the poor in heart, Jesus comes to earth.
Humble shepherds start the news.
For each homeless infant born, for the meek and those who mourn,
for the weary and the worn, Jesus comes.
- 3) In our deepest night, Jesus comes to earth:
radiant star to light our way.
Summer's heat or winter's chill, with a warm and loving will,
to a world that needs him still, Jesus comes.

Offering

*We give thanks for all who wish to partner with us in the ministry of this place.
There are several ways you can do this: By including cash or cheque in an envelope provided in
the back of the seat in front of you and place in the offering plate;
By using the QR code to link to give online through Canada Helps; By e-Transfer to
augustana@sasktel.net; Note that tax receipts are given out to donations of at least \$15.
Please provide your contact information including email address.
If you would like to know about what work we are engaged in, please visit our website
www.augustanasaskatoon.net or just ask!*

Augustana Lutheran Church

Lutherans and Anglicans worshipping together

A CANDELIGHT SERVICE

6 PM, December 24, 2023

Offertory Prayer

Leader: Gracious God,

Your story is one that forever invites us to be our full selves, to take up space, to go where we feel called, and to allow this community to feel like home.

All: So use these gifts to keep building your home here.

With gratitude as tall as the ceiling, we pray. Amen.

(illustratedministry.com)

Choir Anthem: “Christmas Peace” by Joel Raney

Prayers of the People

God among us . . . **hear our prayer.**



Sharing the Light

During this time, the pastor, taking a large candle, lights it from an altar candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world of whom John's gospel (John 1:1-5) speaks. The ushers light their candles from this candle, then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted but is always held upright when giving light to another. Parents, please supervise small children closely.

Leader: As we light our candles from the Christ candle tonight, we illuminate new possibilities.

All: May the light that pierces the darkness shine brightly in our hearts and in our world.

Song: “Night of Silence” by Daniel Kantor

(after 2 verses we join in singing Silent Night)

- 1) Cold are the people, Winter of life
We tremble in shadows this cold endless night,
Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping,
Flowers that will echo the sunrise,
Fire of hope is our only warmth,
Weary, its flame will be dying soon.
- 2) Voice in the distance, Call in the night
On wind you enfold us You speak of the light,

Gentle on the ear you whisper softly,
Rumours of a dawn so embracing,
Breathless love awaits darkened souls,
Soon will we know of the morning.

Hymn: “Silent Night, Holy Night!”

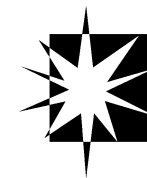
#281 ELW

- 1) Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2) Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
- 3) Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light;
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Blessing & Dismissal (Candles are extinguished)

Postlude

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Thank you to all those who assisted with this service: lectors Marilyn Fowlie-Neufeld and Ruth Zuk, our acolyte, musician Anna-Marie Skogsrud, ushers Sharon and Gord Morley, and technical support Greg Fowlie-Neufeld. Also thanks to the the Augustana St. Timothy Choir and Choir Director Deborah Buck for their musical talents.

*Thank you for joining us in this time of celebrating the birth of the Christ King.
Peace be with you and yours during this season.*