



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023 | CHRISTMAS EVE | 5:00 PM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

Now is the time when we hear the old story
Of God's love born into this world.

Now is the time when we sing the old songs
Joy to the World, the Lord has come!

Now we join with shepherds and angels, the poor and the humble
To see our Lord, born in a lowly manger.

Come, let us worship; come, let us adore him:
Christ the Lord!

HYMN

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

HYMNAL #283

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of light, God of new life, in this time of song and prayer, light and hope, reawaken in us the joy and wonder of Christmas. As we hear again the story of a young woman giving birth to you in a lowly stable, remind us that your good news is being born into our lives again today. In your Son, Jesus' name.

Amen.

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE.

We are so glad that you are here and worshiping God with us today. We know that God loves and welcomes all people and so we do our best to do the same. Feel comfortable being who God created you to be in this space and listen for the ways that the Holy Spirit is calling you to faith and a deeper love for your neighbor. Thanks for joining this community of faith, service, and worship today. You are always welcome!

SERVANT LEADERS TODAY

PREACHING

Pastor Justin Ask

PRESIDING

Pastor Seyward Ask

MUSICIANS

Tim Burns, Organist
Cecilia Buzzeo, Soloist

CAMERA

Anthony Buzzeo

SLIDES

Peggy Karsten



WORD

HYMN

JOY TO THE WORLD

HYMNAL #267

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 2:1-20

About that time Emperor Augustus gave orders for the names of all the people to be listed in record books. These first records were made when Quirinius was governor of Syria.

Everyone had to go to their own hometown to be listed. So Joseph had to leave Nazareth in Galilee and go to Bethlehem in Judea. Long ago Bethlehem had been King David's hometown, and Joseph went there because he was from David's family.

Mary was engaged to Joseph and traveled with him to Bethlehem. She was soon going to have a baby, and while they were there, she gave birth to her first-born son. She dressed him in baby clothes and laid him on a bed of hay, because there was no room for them in the inn.

That night in the fields near Bethlehem some shepherds were guarding their sheep. All at once an angel came down to them from the Lord, and the brightness of the Lord's glory flashed around them. The shepherds were frightened. But the angel said, "Don't be afraid! I have good news for you, which will make everyone happy. This very day in King David's hometown a Savior was born for you. He is Christ the Lord. You will know who he is, because you will find him dressed in baby clothes and lying on a bed of hay."

Suddenly many other angels came down from heaven and joined in praising God. They said:

"Praise God in heaven! Peace on earth to everyone who pleases God."

After the angels had left and gone back to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see what the Lord has told us about." They hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and they saw the baby lying on a bed of hay.

When the shepherds saw Jesus, they told his parents what the angel had said about him. Everyone listened and was surprised. But Mary kept thinking about all this and wondering what it meant.

As the shepherds returned to their sheep, they were praising God and saying wonderful things about him. Everything they had seen and heard was just as the angel had said.

MESSAGE

HYMN

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

HYMNAL #289

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

PRAYERS

MEAL

OFFERING

ANTHEM

OFFERING RESPONSE

THE FIRST NOEL, VS 1

HYMNAL #300

OFFERING PRAYER

God with us: You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine, and you remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. Now bless us and our gifts, that we may bless your world.

Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

COMMUNION

ANTHEM

O HOLY NIGHT

HYMN

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

HYMNAL #270

HYMN

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

HYMNAL # 290

HYMN

AWAY IN A MANGER

HYMNAL #277

*As candles are lit, please keep the **LIT** candle in an **UPRIGHT** position and tip **UNLIT** candles. Please do not walk with a lit candle.*

LESSON

JOHN 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. 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. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

SONG

SILENT NIGHT

HYMNAL #281

SENDING

BENEDICTION

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the + light and life of the Christ child. And may the almighty God who is with us tonight bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Please extinguish your candles. As you depart, return candles in bins.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

COMMUNION

At Vinje, we believe all people are welcome at the Lord's Table regardless of any circumstance.

White grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available (please request from the server).

MAY GOD BE WITH YOU THIS CHRISTMAS AND ALWAYS

We know that Christmas is a very special time of year and can provide some of the most treasured memories of our lives. We gather together so we can share in the good news of Emmanuel, the God who is with us. We also acknowledge that this holy season has the potential to be overwhelming or lonely. Please know, that wherever you find yourself today, God is indeed with you and that this is a community of faith where you are always welcome. We are blessed by your presence and grateful for all you do in the world to share God's love. We know that many live with a deep need for hope in their lives and we all have the opportunity to make the Christmas promise a reality for others. Thank you for sharing God's love with others as you go about your day today and every day. It is through your lives that God continues to be Emmanuel and Jesus continues to be born into our world each day.

The following songs are used with permission under CCLI License #303098 and #CSPLO33131. All rights reserved: "O Come All Ye Faithful" Public Domain "Joy to the World" Public Domain "Angels We Have Heard on High" Public Domain "The First Noel" Public Domain "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" Public Domain "Go Tell it On the Mountain" Public Domain "Silent Night" Public Domain

Remember in Prayer

We would like to check in on you or your loved ones when ill or hospitalized. If you or someone you know is in the hospital please let one of the pastors or the church office know.

RECENTLY ILL OR HOSPITALIZED

Marvin Turnipseed, Karen Wiehr, Sonja Westre, Lane Leedahl, Mona Welker

CONTINUED PRAYERS

Merle Berkeland, Shirley Brandt, Ted Olson, Trevor Hansen, Randy Patton

BEREAVED

Family and friends of Don Handahl following his death on December 19.

VINJE IS HIRING!

Vinje is hiring a PT Faith Formation Coordinator for Wednesday afternoons and Sunday mornings. This 8-10 hour/week position is responsible for coordinating and administering programs for children and youth that foster spiritual growth and faithful understanding. Contact Pastor Justin if interested!

WEDNESDAY TREATS NEEDED!

We are in need of treats (any kind!) to serve with Wednesday suppers! If you are able to bake or buy any sweet treats to share on Wednesdays, they can be dropped off in the office at your convenience. Thanks so much!



MISSION TRIPS!

Info about the youth mission trips to St Louis and Nebraska can be found on the website! Parents, please talk with your kids about

this fun opportunity! Contact Pastor Justin with questions.



REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

Your Circle of Welcome team is happy to announce that our refugee family has arrived and moved into their new home last week. As we have been working with them and assessing their needs, we have come up with a new list of items they'll need as they get settled in. Head to our website to check out this list and let us know if there is an item (or more) that you can help with. Thanks for your generosity in continuing to help this family get on their feet!

THIS WEEK AT VINJE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

9:30 AM WORSHIP
3:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP
5:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED—MERRY CHRISTMAS!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26

10:00 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27

NO WORSHIP OR ACTIVITIES!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

9:30 AM WORSHIP

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED—HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Nursery care is available during all worship services in Loving Arm's Pre-K Room located in the east hallway.



USHERS NEEDED!

We are in need of ushers for upcoming Sundays. If you can pitch in and help out with this important, yet easy task, please email melissah@vinjchurch.com or call the church office. Thanks!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sponsors are needed for bulletin, broadcast, bus and coffee for 2024! Please call or email the church office to reserve your dates. Thanks!

THANK YOU

Today's 3 pm wordhip bulletin, broadcast and bus are sponsored by Brenda Woltjer **in thanksgiving for many blessings.**

Today's 5 pm wordhip bulletin, broadcast and bus are sponsored by Pastor Mary Hovland and family **in loving memory of Leon Hovland, Magel and Jim Boyd, Lester and Gunhild Hovland and Lee Boyd.**

SCAN HERE TO
GIVE ONLINE!

