

St. Stephen Lutheran Worship on December 24, 2020 5:00 p.m.

We will be streaming this live on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/StStephenSyl/> If you'd like to watch it later, it will be on the Facebook page and also on our YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcria9edIjTq2IjXXUnB7Q>) If you have the names of specific people you'd like included in our prayers, please e-mail them to Pastor Beth at sslcpastor@buckeye-express.com, before Saturday night at 11:00.

If you'd like to light a candle as we sing "Silent Night" together, you're invited to have one ready!

Announcements

Song: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (LBW 54)



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Litany

- P Sing to God something brand new!
C **For God has done wonderful things!**
P God has not forgotten to love us all!
C **Even the ends of the earth have heard!**
P Make a joyful noise!
C **Break forth in song!**
P With strings and horns,
C **sing praise to the Holy One!**
P With the roaring sea and everything in it!
C **With all the land and everything in it!**
P The fields clap their hands.
C **The hills sing for joy.**
P Thank God! God is coming to set everything right:
C **Justice for everyone, everything fair.**
P Sing to God something brand new!
C **For God has done wonderful things!**

(Based on Psalm 98)

Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7

Luke 2:1-20

Sermon

Song: What Child Is This? (ELW 296)



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

Prayer: Lord, in your Mercy; **Hear our prayer.**

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.**

You're invited to light a candle as we sing together...

Closing Song: Silent Night

Silent night holy night
All is calm I'm singin' all is bright
'Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Oh sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night holy night
Shepherds quake oh at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia
Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born

Silent night holy night
Son of God oh love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus Lord at Thy birth
Jesus Lord at Thy birth

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Benediction

- P** May the Word that Mary brought to birth
carry you into new and abundant life.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms
enfold you with love and strength.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** May the Word that angels proclaimed in song
bring harmony to our world.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** And the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
- C** **Amen.**

Passing of Peace

Postlude "Joy to the World"

Verse 1 Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and heaven and nature sing

Verse 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

Verse 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

Verse 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

"Joy to the World" Words: Isaac Watts and Music: George F. Handel Public Domain

If you wish to contribute to St. Stephen's ministry, we are using Vanco's app, GivePlus. Please see our step by step instructions at <https://www.ststephenlutheran.church/online-giving>. You are also welcome to mail your offerings to 7800 Erie St., Sylvania, OH 43560.