Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool presents



LIGHT THE WORLD

December 8, 2019 Christ Lutheran Church 10:00 a.m.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*If physically able, please stand.

[Please remember to turn off your cell phones.]

WELCOME

Pastor Mary Anderson Silke Pyrlik, Director of Christian Life

PRESENTATION OF CHILDREN Some Children See Him / Alfred/Burt Christ Lutheran Preschool Children

*OPENING CAROL

Go Tell It On the Mountain / Seabird

CLC Youth

Chorus

Go tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere Tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.

Vs. 1

When I was a seeker, I sought both night and day.

I asked the Lord to help me, And he showed me, he showed me the way.

Chorus x 2

Vs. 2

He made a watchman, upon a city wall, And if I am a Christian, I am the least, the least of all.

Chorus x 2

(8 bars instrumental interlude)

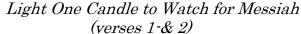
Oh.... tell it on the mountain!

Oh..... Go tell it on the mountain!

Oh..... tell it on the mountain!

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Olivia Sullivan





L Prayer of the Day

Johnathan DeMaria

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C AMEN.

(Please be seated)



THE WORD

THE FIRST READING: ROMANS 15:1-6

Avery White

Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, "How can I help?"

That's exactly what Jesus did. He didn't make it easy for himself by avoiding people's troubles, but waded right in and helped out. "I took on the troubles of the troubled," is the way Scripture puts it. Even if it was written in Scripture long ago, you can be sure it's written for us. God wants the combination of his steady, constant calling and warm, personal counsel in Scripture to come to characterize us, keeping us alert for whatever he will do next. May our dependably steady and warmly personal God develop maturity in you so that you get along with each other as well as Jesus gets along with us all. Then we'll be a choir—not our voices only, but our very lives singing in harmony in a stunning anthem to the God and Father of our Master Jesus!.

R The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God

A CHRISTMAS STORY

Jackie Sullivan

THE FOURTH WISE MAN

We have heard of the Three Wise Men who went to see the Christ-child in Bethlehem, but according to a 19th century story by Henry van Dyke, there was a fourth, writes Marguerite Theophil.

In the mountains of ancient Persia, lived Artaban, whose study of the planets and the stars led him to predict the birth of the King of Kings. He sold his house and every possession and purchased a large sapphire blue as a fragment of the night sky, a flawless ruby redder than a ray of sunrise, and a lustrous pearl as pure as the peak of a snow mountain at twilight — which he intended to carry as tribute to the King.

He then set out for Jerusalem where he had arranged to meet up with three other wise men, or Magi, to find the newborn. After many weeks of difficult travel and frustrating delays, one night, he saw a man lying on the road. His haggard face, pallid skin and laboured breathing, bore the mark of the deadly fever. But, as he turned to leave, the man begged for help.

Artaban hesitated. If he lingered to minister to a dying stranger even for an hour, he could miss his three friends. But if he left now, the man would surely die. He turned to the sick man and carefully attended to him, leaving with him all that he had left of bread and wine, and his store of healing herbs.

"I have nothing to give you in return," said the grateful man, "...only this: our prophets have decreed that the Messiah will be born in Bethlehem, not in Jerusalem. May the Lord bring you in safety to that place, because you had pity upon the sick."

When he reached the meeting place, he received only this message: "We can delay no longer. Follow us across the desert." Artaban backtracked to Babylon, sold the sapphire, and bought a train of camels, and provisions for the journey. He arrived at Bethlehem with his remaining ruby and pearl offerings, but it was three whole days after the three other wise men had found Mary, Joseph and Jesus, and had laid gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh at the baby's feet.

In a little cottage, he met a woman with her son, who told him Joseph had taken his wife and child and fled secretly that very night; Herod was slaying all male children, afraid the promised 'King' would claim his throne. As she spoke, there was uproar in the streets as Herod's soldiers searched each home to kill any male children they found. The terrified young mother clasped her child to her. But Artaban rushed to the doorway and held out the ruby to the soldier, who snatched it eagerly. "March on!" he commanded his men, "there is no child here."

Artaban sighed: "Now two of my gifts are gone. I have spent for man that which was meant for God. Shall I ever be worthy to see the face of the King?" But the woman, weeping for joy, said gently: "Because you have saved the life of my little one, may the Lord bless you and keep you and give you peace." Arbatan wandered for 33 years in search of the little family from Bethlehem. Worn and weary, ill now, and ready to die, but still looking for the King, he had come for the last time to Jerusalem. Hearing of a great person who was to be put to death that very day, and hearing of his life and teachings, Artaban realised this was indeed his 'King', but as he made his way to Golgotha, hoping his priceless pearl could buy the great one's release, he saw a troop of soldiers marching down the street, dragging a young girl in chains. "Have pity on me; save me! I am to be sold as a slave."

The fourth wise man knew what he must do. He took the pearl from his bosom. Never had it seemed so luminous and radiant as it was now. He exchanged the girl's freedom for the pearl. His grief at not being able to see the 'King' caused him to collapse, but in his half-conscious state he heard a gentle yet compelling voice: "Verily I say unto thee, inasmuch as thou hast done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, thou hast done it unto me." His journey had ended. His treasures were accepted. The fourth Wise Man had indeed found the King.

Vs.1

The first No-el, the angels did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay.

In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Chorus

No-el, No-el, No-el. Born is the King of Isra-el.

Vs. 2

They look-ed up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far.

And to the earth it gave a great light, and so it continued both day and night.

Chorus

Vs.

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord.

That hath made heav'n and earth of naught and with His blood creation hath brought.

Chorus x2

Light the World

Directed by Lori Maurer, CLP Music Teacher Narration taken from the Holy Bible: Luke 2 & Matthew 2

The Star of Bethlehem & Twinkly Stars Light up the Night CLP 2-Year-olds

Do You Hear What I Hear?	Lori Maurer, soloist
Little Donkey	Boswell
Lulee Lulay/Away in a Manger	Coventry Carol/Murray
The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy	West Indian Folk Song
Fear Not! ("William Tell Overture")	Rossini, arr. Moore/Maurer
Hallelujah Chorus ("Messiah")	Handel
Sing Noel/Go Tell It On the Mountain	African Carol/Spiritual
Behold the Star	Christmas Spiritual
With a Star that's Bright	Various Artists
Little Drummer Boy	
Happy Birthday Jesus	Carol Cymbala
First Lullaby/Silent Night	Mohr/Gruber/Weeks

"What can I give Him poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.

If I were a Wiseman, I would do my part.

What can I give Him? I can give my heart!"

--Rosetti

*THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

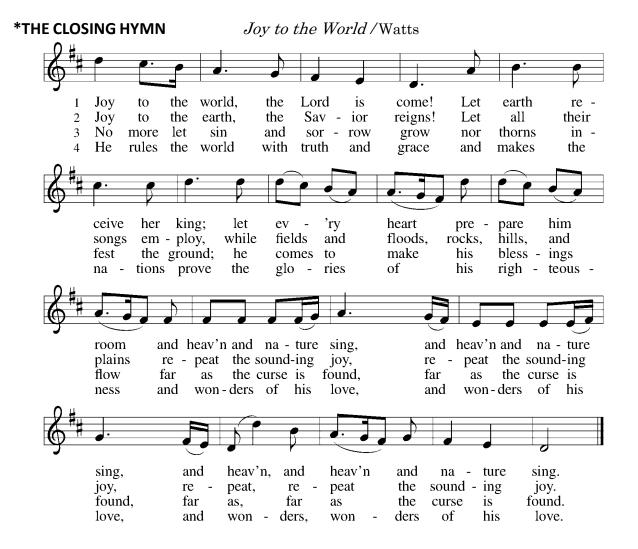
L As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation ...

The assembly will respond:

- L Lord, in your mercy.
- C Hear our prayers.
- L Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C AMEN

*THE BENEDICTION

Pastor Mary Anderson



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You may place your offering & hospitality slips in the plates available at the door

Please join us for a meal immediately following the program!



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