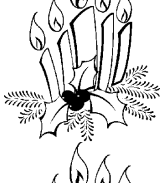


# Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Readiness To Receive

Choir and Band Concert



## Preservice Music

*Christmas Spectacular*  
*Trilogy of Carols*  
*Cantique de Noel*

*Christmas Chorale and March*  
*O Come to the Manger*  
*Joyful and Triumphant*

Band

## Gathering Rite

*Light a Candle in the Night*

The Choir sings verse 4 of Light a Candle in the Night



1. Light a can - dle in the night. Pre - pare the way for the  
2. Light a can - dle in the night. Pre - pare the way for the  
3. Light a can - dle in the night. Pre - pare the way for the  
4. Light a can - dle in the night. Pre - pare the way for the

4



ho - ly Light: God with us, Em - man - u - el, e -  
ho - ly Light: God with us, Em - man - u - el, the  
ho - ly Light: God with us, Em - man - u - el, un -  
ho - ly Light: God with us, Em - man - u - el, the

7



ter - nal hope with — us to dwell. Child of hope, come  
Prince of Peace with — us to dwell. Child of peace, come  
end - ing love with — us to dwell. Child of love, come  
fount of joy with — us to dwell. Child of joy, come

10



in Your glo - ry, heav - en's gift, the won - drous sto - ry!  
in Your glo - ry, heav - en's gift, the won - drous sto - ry!  
in Your glo - ry, heav - en's gift, the won - drous sto - ry!  
in Your glo - ry, heav - en's gift, the won - drous sto - ry!

13



Mes - si - ah King shall come to earth. Pre -

16



pare your heart for His ho - ly birth.



*Stand*

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.



**C: And also with you.**

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.



**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your un-failing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt..**



M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will..



**C: Amen.**

M: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C: Amen.**



**The Lighting of the Advent Candle**

M: We light four Advent candles remembering Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Mary. He came to share our humanity.



**C: We remember Jesus whose name means Savior. He came to save the world from their sins.**

M: We hear his call to give him a place in our hearts.

**C: We light four Advent candles as a sign of our joy and hope.**



M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

**C: Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**



***Four Advent candles are lit.***

*The Congregation sings verse 4 of Light a Candle in the Night*

*Readiness To Receive*



1. Light a can - dle in the night. Pre - pare the way for the  
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 4. Light a can - dle in the night. Pre - pare the way for the



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in Your glo - ry, heav - en's gift, the won - drous sto - ry!  
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*Be Seated*

**THE WORD**

*What's the best way to prepare for his coming? It's not with frantic doing. It's not with a focus on what we have done or promise to do. It's not with how we will pay back what he comes to bring. The best preparation for Christmas is a **Readiness to Receive.***

**First Lesson:**

**2 Samuel 7:8-16**

*Both the coming in grace and the coming in judgment are prefigured in the promise to David. In the gospel lesson their fulfillment is about to be made perfect. The Son of God and*





*Mary's Son will create a home for God's people. The Son of God and Mary's Son will be punished for their sins. The Son of God and Mary's Son will remain forever to shield and shelter and save those whom God brings into his eternal house and kingdom. What's left for us to do? Nothing but to welcome and receive him!*



"Now then, tell my servant David, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: I took you from the pasture and from following the flock to be ruler over my people Israel. I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men of the earth. And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.



"The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for you: When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with the rod of men, with floggings inflicted by men. But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever."



**Psalm of the Day:**

**Psalm 89** (p. 98 CW)



**Second Lesson**

**Romans 16:25-27**



*In the midst of all the hustle and bustle of these last moments before Christmas, find time to be quiet, to be alone, to shed tears of joy and gladness: He, the sum of all that God has to say to us, is about to descend once more to the lowly manger of our hearts! Be ready to receive him with joyful praise!*



Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him—to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.



**When Emmanuel Has Come**

Choir

*Piano: Michelle Hintz Flute: Stephanie Beyer*



All the world is waiting for a savior.  
All the world is waiting for a king.  
Soon we will behold what the prophets have foretold.  
Soon we will receive the gift He brings.



All the world is waiting for Messiah.  
All the world is waiting for God's Son.  
Soon He will appear for the time is drawing near.  
Soon we all will greet the Promised One.  
There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come.



Heaven will rejoice and praise His name.  
There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come.  
And the world will never be the same.



All the world is waiting for an answer.  
All the world is waiting for a light.  
Soon it will be dawn and the darkness will be gone.  
Soon a king will come to make things right.



There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come.  
Heaven will rejoice and praise His name.  
There will be joy, joy, joy when Emmanuel has come.  
And the world will never be the same.  
We will never be the same.



**God So Loved The World**

Choir

God so loved the world, that He have His only begotten Son,  
That whoso believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.  
For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world,  
but that the world thro' Him might be saved.



**Hymn of the Day:**

*Oh, Come, Oh, Come Emmanuel (CW 23)*

*Stand*



**Gospel:**

**Luke 1:26-38**

*Luther notes that the Virgin Mother of God received the message of the Incarnation with a simple, Yes! She did nothing but receive. The Greek word for word that is used in vs. 38 is not the usual word that we expect, the word logos. It's rymma. The two words can be synonyms. But the latter sometimes connotes a sound, the full meaning of which is not entirely grasped or understood, as distinguished from logos which conveys a message with a clear meaning. That's how receptive she was: She did not pretend to grasp all that the angel said or its full implication. All she knew was that the message came from God, and that whatever he was about to give—even his only begotten Son!—she was ready to receive. We humbly prepare our hearts to receive Jesus through repentance and rejoicing that a Savior has taken all our sins away!*



In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"



The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.



*Be Seated*



***O Hear The Angel Voices***

Choir

The snow lay on the ground, the star shone bright,  
When Christ our Lord was born on Christmas night.  
Venite adoremus Dominum; venite adoremus Dominum.



See, amid the winter's snow, born for us on earth below;  
See, the tender Lamb appears, promised from eternal years.  
Hail, thou ever blessed morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!



Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
Venite adoremus Dominum! Venite adoremus Dominum!



In the little village of Bethlehem, there lay a child one day;  
And the sky was bright with a holy light o'er the place where Jesus lay.  
Alleluia! O how the angels sang. Alleluia! How it rang!



And the sky was bright with a holy light,  
'Twas the birthday of a King.



O holy night! The stars are brightly shining;  
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining till He appeared, and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!  
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!  
O night divine! O night, when Christ was born!  
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!  
O holy night.



***Were You There On That Christmas Night?***

Choir

*Piano: Rachael Niemi*



Were you there, were you there on that Christmas night  
When the world was filled with a holy light?  
Were you there to behold, when the wonder foretold came to earth?

Did you see, did you see how they hailed Him King  
With the gifts so rare that they chose to bring?  
Did you see how they bowed as they praised Him aloud at His birth?

Did you hear how the choirs of angels sang  
At the glory of the sight?  
Did you hear how the bells of Heaven rang



All through the night?  
Did you know, did you know it was God's own Son,  
The salvation of the world begun?  
Did you know it was love, that was sent from above to the earth?



**And The Angels Sang**

Choir and Band

In Bethlehem town one silent night,  
A baby was born under a star so bright,  
No room could be found to lay his head,  
So a manger in a stable was his bed.



And the angels sang Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Glory to God.  
They sang Gloria, Gloria, Gloria. They sang glory to God!



Wisemen came from far away,  
They had traveled many days,  
Gold and myrrh and frankincense,  
Gifts for a King!



And the angels sang Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Glory to God.  
They sang Gloria, Gloria, Gloria. They sang glory to God!

**Offering**



**Musical Offering**

*Christmas Angels*

Band

*Stand*



**Prayer of the Church**

Advent (CW page 123)

**The Lord's Prayer**

*Be Seated*



**May The Peace Of God Be With Us**

Choir

As we leave this quiet place, the light of Christ will guide us.  
As we share His truth and grace, our Lord will walk beside us.  
May the peace of God be with us as we live and serve in faith.  
May the love of Christ within us show in all we do and say. Amen.



**Closing Hymn:**

*Rise, Arise (CW 30)*



**Postlude**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

Band

Our Stewardship of the Means of Grace:

**Worship:** 303 **Advent:** 187 (136, 51) **Communion:** 190 **Bible Study:** 45(26, 19) **Youth Study:** 15

Monday	7:00 p.m.	Youth Group
Wednesday	5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
	5:00 p.m.	Bible History class
	5:00 p.m.	Confirmation class
	7:30 p.m.	Band at church
	8:00 p.m.	Choir at church
Friday	9:00 a.m.	Children's Christmas Program

