

While Shepherds Watched



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND STUDENT CENTER

December 8, 2021

Second Midweek Advent Service

7:00 p.m.

—The Shepherd Moses—

Welcome

Invocation and Call to Worship

- P** *We begin in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
- C** **Amen**
- P** *O Shepherd of Israel, you lead your people like a flock.*
- C** **The law was given to us through Moses, but grace and truth have come to us through Jesus Christ.**
- P** *We are the people you care for, the flock for which you provide.*
- C** **You make us lie down in green pastures; you lead us beside the still waters; you restore our souls.**
- P** *All of us were like sheep who had gone astray, turning to our own ways.*
- C** **You lead us in the paths of righteousness for your name's sake.**
- P** *From death you raised our Lord Jesus, the Great Shepherd of the sheep.*
- C** **Even in the valley of darkest shadows, your rod and staff provide comfort.**
- P** *"Have no fear, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom."*
- C** **At your table we are secure; our heads are anointed, our cups overflow.**
- P** *The Lamb at the center of the throne will be our Shepherd, to wipe away every tear from our eyes.*
- C** **And we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**
- P** *The law was given to us through Moses, but grace and truth have come to us through Jesus Christ.*

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Opening Hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

--- LSB #357
Verses 4-7

- 4 **O come, Thou Branch of Jesse’s tree,
Free them from Satan’s tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow’r to save,
And give them vict’ry o’er the grave. *Refrain***

- 5 **O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav’nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. *Refrain***

- 6 **O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death’s dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain***

- 7 **O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain***

Text: Public domain

The First Lesson

Joshua 22:1-5

Then Joshua summoned the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh, and said to them, “You have observed all that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, and have obeyed me in all that I have commanded you; you have not forsaken your kindred these many days, down to this day, but have been careful to keep the charge of the Lord your God. And now the Lord your God has given rest to your kindred, as he promised them; therefore turn and go to your tents in the land where your possession lies, which Moses the servant of the Lord gave you on the other side of the Jordan.

Take good care to observe the commandment and instruction that Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, to love the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to keep his commandments, and to hold fast to him, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul.”

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 11:23-29a

By faith Moses was hidden by his parents for three months after his birth, because they saw that the child was beautiful; and they were not afraid of the king’s edict. By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called a son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to share ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered abuse suffered for

the Christ to be greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to the reward. By faith he left Egypt, unafraid of the king's anger; for he persevered as though he saw him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel. By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land.

The Gospel

John 3:13-17

No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Hymn of the Day 🎵 **"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"**

---LSB #380

**1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the_angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!" *Refrain***

ref **Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

**2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the_incarinate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel! *Refrain***

**3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. *Refrain***

Text: Public domain

The Message in Dramatic Form: “The Shepherd Moses”

The Prayers

Lord’s Prayer

C 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

The Benediction

A Benediction

Hebrews 13:20-21

- P** *From death God has raised our Lord Jesus, the Great Shepherd of the sheep.*
- C** **His sacrificial death guarantees the eternal covenant.**
- P** *May the God of peace provide you with every good thing you need in order to do his will.*
- C** **And may God, through Jesus Christ, do in us what pleases him.**
- P** *And to Christ be the glory forever and ever.*
- C** **Amen.**

Closing Hymn 🎵 “Abide With Me”

---LSB 878 Verses 1,2 &6

- 1** Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.
- 2** I need Thy presence ev’ry passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter’s pow’r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.
- 6** Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
Heav’n’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Text: Public domain

Silent Prayers

Announcements

Postlude

Participants

Liturgist: Rev. Marty Marks
Skit participants: Tom Sawyer
Organist: Linda Conrad
Pianist/Vocalist: C-J Motisi
Acolyte: Heather Allen