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Ministers: The People of New Joy
Pastor: The Rev. Chris Duckworth

A Congregation of Welcome, Grace, Faith and Promise

December 24, 2020

Christmas Eve @ Home
yet together as one



Christmas Eve Service

We're Glad You're Joining Us This Evening!

New Joy Lutheran Church

is a spirited community, called by God, to extend a radical welcome, share a generous grace, nurture a transforming faith, and live God's promise.



Christmas Eve

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

You are invited to join us each Sunday at 9:30am on our YouTube channel at www.newjoy.org/livestream for our weekly worship service. You may check out more about New Joy on our website, www.newjoy.org.

Prelude

Words of Welcome

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O Come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him,
Born the king of angels.

Refrain: O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens
Of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest. *Refrain*

Opening Prayer

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

Angels of Have Heard on High

Performed by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians

²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

On those living in a pitch-dark land, light has dawned.

³You have made the nation great;
you have increased its joy.

They rejoiced before you as with joy at the harvest,
as those who divide plunder rejoice.

⁴As on the day of Midian, you've shattered the yoke that burdened them,
the staff on their shoulders,
and the rod of their oppressor.

⁵Because every boot of the thundering warriors,
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned, fuel for the fire.

⁶A child is born to us, a son is given to us,
and authority will be on his shoulders.
He will be named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷There will be vast authority and endless peace
for David's throne and for his kingdom,
establishing and sustaining it
with justice and righteousness
now and forever.

The zeal of the LORD of heavenly forces will do this.

Away in the Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the day.

Scripture Acclamation

L: Martin Luther wrote that the Bible is the manger in which the Christ Child lays. Let us prepare to read the Bible and see in it our Lord Jesus.

Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.’ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!’ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Away in the Manger

Be near me Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
And fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Children's Message

Sermon

Go Tell It On the Mountain

Chorus: Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills, and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *Chorus*

The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Chorus*

The Assisting Minister leads this portion of the service, where we proclaim our faith, renew our shared mission, lift our prayers to God, and extend God's peace with one another.

Prayer

The Assisting Minister leads the congregation in the Prayers of the Church, giving thanks to God, and asking God's blessings for the church, the world, and all those in need. After each prayer petition, the congregation responds, "Your mercy is great."

Sharing God's Peace

We greet one another with the words "Peace be with you" now, in the middle of our worship service. We wish for each other that we'd truly experience God's presence and peace. This helps prepare us for the gift of Holy Communion. Our worship service will continue with the Offering

AM: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Hark the Herald Angels Sing
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.”
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
Join the triumph of the skies,
With angelic hosts proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”

WE SHARE GOD'S MEAL

Words of Institution

You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
Born in humility,
he came to rule as the Prince of Peace.
Helpless as an infant,
he showed the power of your love.
Poor in things of the world,
he shared the wealth of your grace.
Rejected by many,
he welcomed all who sought him.
In his dying and rising, you gave birth to your church,
delivered us from the power of sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

We praise you that, on the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks, broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying
“Take and eat, this is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Again after he took the cup, blessed it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
“Take and drink. This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”

We celebrate our Lord’s birth this night,
joining angels and shepherds in singing his praise.
Keep us faithful in your service
until Christ comes again
to join heaven and earth in a new creation
remade according to your glorious intent.

Blessing, praise, and thanks be to you,
holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Holy spirit,
in your church, without end.
Amen.

Let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

Lord's Supper

All are welcome to the table, where Jesus is host and offers himself to all who desire to receive. This is truly our Lord's table. We believe that Jesus shows up in this meal - in the invitation, in the bread and cup, and in the precious words that his body and blood are given and shed "for you." This meal is indeed given for you for the forgiveness of sins and as a promise of our Lord's presence with you.

Instructions on sharing communion at home:

*These are the gifts of God, for you the people of God, and for that we say
Thanks be to God!*

Lamb of God

Your only Son no sin to hide
But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God

Chorus: Oh Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God
I love the holy Lamb of God
Oh wash me in His precious blood
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

Your gift of love they crucified
They laughed and scorned Him as He died
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God. *Chorus*

I was so lost I should have died
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God. *Chorus*

He Came Down

He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.

(light, peace joy)

Prayer After Communion

WE GO OUT WITH GOD'S JOY

(During the singing of this song, you are invited to light candles symbolizing the light that Christ's birth spreads in our world.)

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Blessing

P: Almighty God,
Who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,
Proclaimed joy through the angels,
Sent the shepherds with good news,
And led the magi by a star,
Bless you this day + through the Word made flesh.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sending Song

Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

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New Joy Lutheran Church: A Spirited Community

New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community called by God to extend a radical welcome, share a generous grace, nurture a transforming faith, and live God's promise.

Extend Radical Welcome

New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community that welcomes, values, accepts, and nurtures all people wherever they are in their relationship with God.

Share Generous Grace

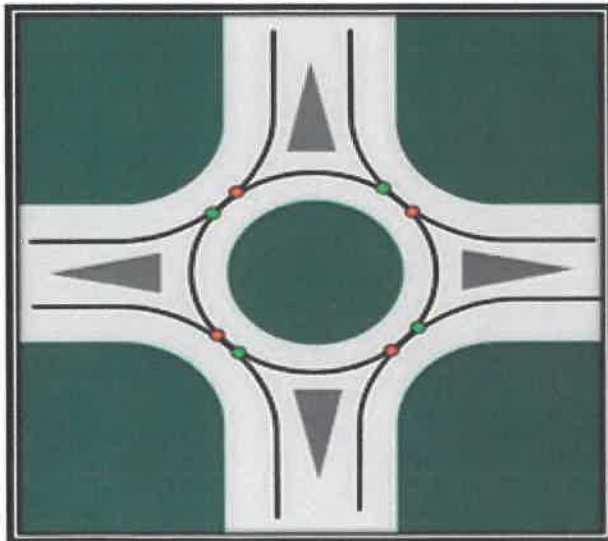
New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community that freely proclaims that forgiveness, mercy, love, and salvation are free gifts of God's grace.

Nurture Transforming Faith

New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community that receives faith as a gift of God that transforms us and the world.

Live God's Promise

New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community that boldly lives in our Lord's promise of renewed and everlasting life.



About New Joy Lutheran Church

New Joy Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), is a community of faith moved by God's Spirit. We come to New Joy from different places, with different life and faith experiences. What draws us together is the center – our Lord Jesus Christ – who welcomes us into a common life and transforming faith, and sends us out to share generous grace and boldly live God's promise.

