

# *Christmas Eve*

*December 24, 2019*



**GOLD HILL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*A CONGREGATION OF THE MONTANA SYNOD OF*

*THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA)*

***The Nativity of Our Lord***  
***Christmas Eve Service of***  
***Lessons, Carols and Holy Communion***  
**December 24, 2019**

*\*Indicates that congregation stands.*

Prelude      Special Music by Dave Coleman, Ruthe Meeks, and Paul Vang

Welcome and Announcements

\*Hymn:      *Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful*                      #283

\*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.**

\*Christmas Eve Dialog                      Isaiah 9

P      The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C      **Those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
         on them light has shined.**

P      For unto us a child is born!

C      **Unto us a Son is given!**

P      Authority rests upon his shoulders.

C      **And he will be called Wonderful Counselor!  
         Mighty God!**

P      Everlasting Father! The Prince of Peace!

All    **And he shall reign forever and ever.  
         Hallelujah!**

First Reading                                      Micah 5:2-5a

Hymn:      *O Little Town of Bethlehem*                      #279

Second Reading                                      Luke 2:1-7

Hymn:      *Away in a Manger*                                      #277; vs1, 2

Third Reading                                      Luke 2:8-14

Hymn:      *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*                      #270

Fourth Reading                                      Luke 2:15-20

Hymn:      *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*                      #290

Fifth Reading

Matthew 2:1-11

Hymn: *We Three Kings of Orient Are*



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing  
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I  
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a  
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,  
 bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,  
 owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,  
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,  
 God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.

Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

Sermon

\*Hymn: *What Child Is This*

#296

\*Responsive Prayer

- P Glory to God in the highest,  
C **and peace to God's people on earth.**  
P Blessed are you, Prince of Peace.  
You rule the earth with truth and justice.  
C **Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**  
P Blessed are you, Son of Mary.  
You share our humanity.  
C **Have mercy on the sick, the dying,  
and all who suffer this day.**  
P Blessed are you, Son of God.  
You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.  
C **Reveal yourself to us in Word and Sacrament  
that we may bear your light to all the world.**

Offering

- \*Words of Institution page 108  
\*Lord's Prayer page 112

Communion

*All are welcome at this meal. This evening we are using the ancient method of intinction to receive communion, where you are given a piece of bread or a wafer and then dip it in the wine or grape juice before placing it in your mouth. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request, and there will be a tray of glasses with wine and grape juice that has not had bread dipped into it. If you are unable to come forward, communion will be brought to you. For those who wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, please let Pastor know as you come forward.*

Blessing and Prayer

The Gospel of the Incarnation John 1:1-14

*The minister lights a candle from the large paschal candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world, of whom John's gospel speaks. The ushers light their candles from the minister's candle, then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. Tilt your unlit candle to receive the flame.*

Hymn: *Silent Night, Holy Night* #281

Benediction

*After the Blessing, the candles are extinguished.*

## Proclamation of the Birth of Christ

Hymn: *Joy to the World*

#267

Postlude

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### READINGS

#### **Micah 5:2-5**

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; <sup>5</sup> and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

#### **Luke 2:1-7**

**2** In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> 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.

#### **Luke 2:8-14**

<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> 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: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in

bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”<sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,  
<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

### **Luke 2:15-20**

<sup>15</sup> 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.”<sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.<sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child;<sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.<sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.<sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

### **Matthew 2:1-11**

**2** In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,<sup>2</sup> asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.”<sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him;<sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.<sup>5</sup> They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> “And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.””

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared.<sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.”<sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.<sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.<sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

## The Gospel of the Incarnation

### John 1:1-14

**1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being **4** in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

**6** There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. **7** He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. **8** He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. **9** The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

**10** He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. **11** He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. **12** But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, **13** who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

**14** And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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**A most blessed Christmas to you and yours,  
and thank you for joining us for worship this evening!**

Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church is a faith community

*Empowered by the Holy Spirit, United to Serve.*

We worship each Sunday at 9:30 am,  
with many ministry opportunities throughout the week.

For more information, check out our website:

[www.GoldHillLutheran.org](http://www.GoldHillLutheran.org)

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Rev. Trina Johnsten, interim pastor \* [pastorgoldhill@gmail.com](mailto:pastorgoldhill@gmail.com)

**SERVING IN WORSHIP**

Presiding Minister

Rev. Trina Johnsten

Musicians:

Dave Coleman, Ruthe Meeks, and Paul Vang

Readers:

5 pm – Heatherlynn Meeks, Curt Quist, Dennis Trotter

7 pm – Julie Corbin, Vern Nielsen, Dennis Trotter, Paul Vang

Communion Assistants:

5 pm – Danette Fitzpatrick, Chris Ketchum, Heatherlynn Meeks,  
Cheryl Neuhart, Curt Quist

7 pm – Lynn Aniksdal, Julie Corbin, Kay Vang

Ushers:

5 pm – Rande & JoAnn Farrow

7 pm – Dave & Revonda Stordahl

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**POINSETTIA GIFTS**

**Poinsettias are given in  
loving memory of:**

*Edwin & Florence Thomas by the Thomas Family  
Edwin C. Engle, Clara Engle, Robert “Bob” Engle, and  
Marian Engle by their Family  
Peggy’s parents Leo & Charlotte Kilroy, and Bruce’s  
parents Bob & Fran Graving and Thelma & Lee  
McCown, by Bruce & Peggy Graving  
Bea & Auggie Sampson, by Linda & Dennis Moore*

