

# The Order of Vespers



for Christmas Eve

## **Emmanuel Lutheran Church**

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Las Cruces, New Mexico 88012  
(575) 382-0220 (church office) / (575) 636-4988 (pastor cell)  
[www.GodWithUsLC.org](http://www.GodWithUsLC.org)

## **Sts. Peter & Paul Lutheran Mission**

Silver City, New Mexico  
[www.peterandpaulutheran.org](http://www.peterandpaulutheran.org)

Rev. Paul A. Rydecki, Pastor  
member of the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America (ELDoNA)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome!** Emmanuel is a liturgical, traditional, historical, evangelical, catholic, orthodox, confessional Lutheran congregation, in fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America (ELDoNA). We believe that the Bible is the very Word of God, inspired and without any errors. We confess the truth of Scripture according to the Lutheran Book of Concord of 1580, without exception or reservation. We observe the calendar of the traditional Church Year and follow the Historic Lectionary. We celebrate the Divine Service (also known as the Mass) every Sunday and on other festivals, and we welcome visitors to hear God's Word with us.



**The Order of Service** is the Order of Vespers from *The Lutheran Hymnal* (TLH), in modern English, with extra Scripture lessons and hymns for Christmas Eve. The entire service is printed in this service folder. You will only need a hymnal for the singing of the hymns.

**Individual candles** (both wax and battery-operated) are available in the back of the church. They will be lit as the last hymn, *Silent Night!*, is introduced. The ushers will walk down the center aisle to light the candle of the person nearest the aisle in each row. Please pass the flame to the candle of the person next to you. Those sitting near the candles in the window sills may light their candles from those flames instead. Those with battery-operated candles may turn them on at that time as well. Parents are asked to supervise their children's use of the candles carefully.

## EVENTS IN THE NEAR FUTURE...

- Sat., Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Divine Service, 10 AM
- Sun., Dec. 26 - **(No Sunday School or Bible class)**
  - Divine Service, 10:15 AM (Festival of St. Stephen)
- Sat., Jan. 1 - Matins for New Year's Day (The Circumcision of Our Lord), 10 AM

# The Order of Vespers for Christmas Eve

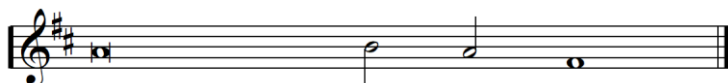
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## HYMN

*Angels We Have Heard on High (p. 6 of this Service Folder)*

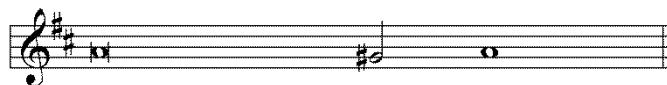
*Stand*

O Lord, open my lips.



And my mouth will de-clare Your praise.

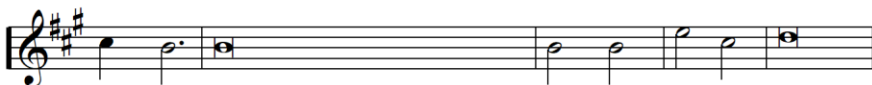
Make haste, O God, to deliver me.



Make haste to help me, O Lord.



Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Ho-ly



Spir-it; as it was in the beginning, is now and ev-er shall be,



for - ev - er - more. A - men. Hal - le - lu - jah!

*Sit*

## HYMN

*TLH #85 - From Heaven Above to Earth I Come (st. 1-6)*

## The Lessons

### FIRST LESSON

*Micah 5:2-5a*

*After each Lesson:*

But You, O Lord, have mercy upon us.



Thanks be to You, O Lord!

## HYMN

*TLH #103 – To Shepherds as They Watched by Night*

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25

HYMN

TLH #76 – A Great and Mighty Wonder

THIRD LESSON

Hebrews 1:1-12

HYMN

TLH #77 - All My Heart This Night Rejoices (st. 1-6)

FOURTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

HYMN

TLH #77 - All My Heart This Night Rejoices (st. 7-12)

SERMON

HYMN

TLH #81 - O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is

*Stand*

VERSICLE

Let my prayer be set forth before You as incense.



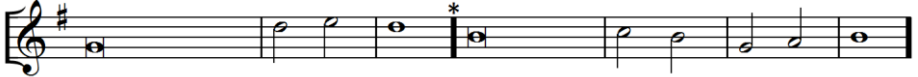
and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

## The Canticle

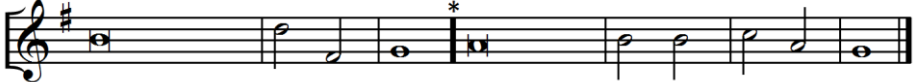
### Magnificat (tune of Cantate Domino)

All sing the Canticle together, after it is introduced.

*Odd verses*



*Even verses*



<sup>1</sup> My soul magni- | fies the | Lord: \*

And my spirit rejoices in | God my | Sav- - | ior;

<sup>2</sup> For He has re- | gard- - | ed \*

The low estate of | His hand- | maid- - | en.

<sup>3</sup> For, behold, from | this time | forth \*

All generations will | call me | bless- - | èd.

<sup>4</sup> For He who is mighty has done great | things for | me, \*

And | holy | is His | name.

- 5 And His mercy is on those who | fear — | Him \*  
 From generation to | ge-ner- | a- - | tion.
- 6 He has shown strength | with His | arm, \*  
 He has scattered the proud in the imagi- | nation | of their | hearts.
- 7 He has put down the mighty | from their | seats; \*  
 And exalted | those of | low de- | gree;
- 8 He has filled the hungry | with good | things, \*  
 And the rich He has sent | emp- - | ty a- | way.
- 9 He has come to the aid of His servant | Isra- | el \*  
 In remembrance | of His | mer- - | cy,
- 10 As He spoke to our fathers, to | Ab-ra- | ham, \*  
 And to his | seed for- | ev- - | er.
- 11 Glory be to the Father and | to the | Son\*  
 And to the | Ho-ly | Spir- - | it;
- 12 As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever shall | be, \*  
 for- | ev-er- | more. A- | men.

## The Prayers

### The Kyrie



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us.



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER *(spoken by all)*

**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 SALUTATION

**P** The Lord be with you.

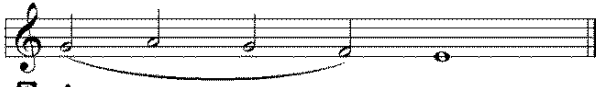


**R** And with your spir - it.

## COLLECTS

### Collect of the Day

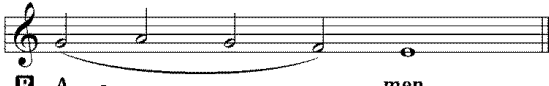
O God, who have made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant, we pray, that, as we have known on earth the mysteries of that Light, we may also come to the fullness of its joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.



**R** A - men.

### Collect for Peace

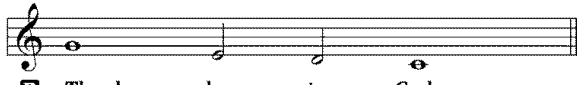
O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works proceed, give to Your servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments, and also that we, being defended by You from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.



**R** A - men.

## The Benedicamus

**V** Let us bless the Lord.



**R** Thanks be to God.

## The Benediction

**V** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



**R** A - men.

**HYMN** TLH #646 - *Silent Night! Holy Night!* (words also printed on back page)

## Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see



sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains, and the moun-tains  
Why your joy - ous strains pro-long? Say, what may the  
Him whose birth the an - gels sing. Come, a - dore on



in re - ply ech - o - ing their  
tid - ings be, Which in - spire your  
bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the



joy - ous strains. Glo - - - - -  
heav'n - ly song?  
new - born King.



- - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o, glo - - - - -



- - - - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o.

*Remain standing for Silent Night. An introduction will be played while individual candles are being lit by the ushers in the center aisle. Please pass the flame to the candle of the person next to you. Those with battery-operated candles may turn them on at this time as well. The congregation then joins in singing the hymn.*

## **"Silent Night! Holy Night!"**

**1. 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.**

**2. Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing, Alleluia.  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**3. Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

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***All are invited to join us tomorrow for our Christmas Day Divine  
Service at 10 AM.***

***A blessed and merry Christmas to you all!***