



St. James Lutheran Church
Sunday School Service
December 24, 2023

The Bells Ring

"O Holy Night"

Solo

Welcome & Announcements

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

357

"Christmas Bells"

Sunday School

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
C **the light no darkness can overcome.**
P Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C **and the day is almost over.**
P Let Your light scatter the darkness
C **and illumine Your Church.**

P Joyous light of glory:
C **of the immortal Father; heavenly, holy, blessed Jesus Christ.**
We have come to the setting of the sun,
and we look to the evening light.
We sing to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:
You are worthy of being praised with pure voices forever.
O Son of God, O Giver of life: the universe proclaims Your glory.

Thanksgiving for Light

LSB 245

P Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Reading

John 1:1–14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to

become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” **379**

The Light of the World *Sunday School*

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” **361**

The Light of the World Comes to Earth *Sunday School*

“Away in a Manger” *Congregation joins for 3rd verse*

“Joy to the World” **387**

The Light of the World Shines Bright *Sunday School*

“The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns” **348**

Offering, with Song and Scripture

“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heav’nly Light” *Solo*

Closing Reflection & Prayer

Prayer

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

“Silent Night, Holy Night” **363**

Thank you to Larissa Hagen, Mason Koertz, Heidi Koertz, Bart and Sandy Johnson, Brianna and Bethany Petrowiak, Daryl and Sonia Hoewisch, and Jody Uttech for sharing their time and talents in this special Christmas Eve service. Special thank you to our Sunday School students for sharing the wonderful story of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

