



July 26, 2026 9am Service Christmas in July with Holy Communion

Welcome & Announcements

Special Music

O Holy Night

Grace Lenhart

Please Rise

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Opening Prayer

Let us pray. Help us, O God, to rightly remember the birth of Jesus all year long. Let us share in the songs of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the magi. Close the door of hate and open the door of love around the world. Let mercy and kindness be the gifts we give and that we receive. Deliver us from evil by the blessing that Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the memory of Christmas morning make us happy to be your children, and the blessing of the Christ child fill us with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven for Jesus' sake.

Amen.

Opening Hymns

Go Tell It on the Mountain

#290

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

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

2. The shepherds feared and tremble when, lo, above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain
3. Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born; and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Refrain

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#270 vs 1,3

1. 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!"
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 we no more may die, Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. Refrain

Please be seated

First Reading

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please Rise

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia

page 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 2:1-7

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.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Hymn

Silent Night

#281

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, Heav'nly 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 your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Please be seated

Children's Time

Please Rise

Prayers for the People

Prayer Petitions will end with "Lord in your Mercy"

Prayer response is **"Hear Our Prayer"**

Sharing God's Peace & Noisy Offering

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Offertory

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

#283. Vs 1,3,4

1. Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold him born the king of angels:
Refrain Oh, come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! Glory to God in the highest: Refrain
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n! Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: Refrain

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you
will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in
righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and
the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your
glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

In 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 supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
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.

The Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Invitation to Communion and Distribution

All are welcome to receive the sacrament. If you are unable to hold the bread or wine, require gluten free, or would prefer grape juice, please tell the server. If you are unable to come forward, please inform an usher and you will be served in your pew.

Please be seated

Distribution Music

Lamb of God

page 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

#279

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light. The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
3. How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n. No ear may hear his coming; but, in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Away In a Manger

#278

1. 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 hay.
2. The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
3. 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.

Please Rise

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray. God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Christmas in July Skit

Benediction

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Joy to the World

267

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King; Let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing. and heav'n and nature sing.
2. 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 the sounding joy
3. No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove. The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love and wonders of his love.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Worship Leaders

Ministers	The People of Hope Lutheran Church
Pastor	Rev Dr Judy Kincaid
Assistant Liturgist	Erica Kajer
Reader	John Hosmann
Communion Assistants	Bob and Sue Everson, Carol Mohr
Greeter	James Anderson, Ron Kaeding
Cantor	Grace Lenhart
Organist/Pianist	Donna Benrud

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Thank you for Worshiping at Hope Lutheran Church
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