

# BLESSED SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Christmas Eve Candlelight Services  
December 24, 2011 - 7:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**—*The flames of the Advent candles remind us of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. The first candle reminds us of the prophets, the second of His humble birth in Bethlehem. The third candle points us to the shepherds who, once they heard the Good News, rushed to see the Babe of Bethlehem. The fourth candle, called the Angel candle, reminds us that the Babe born in a manger is waiting for all to acknowledge Him as God's Son. The center candle is the Christ candle. The glowing beauty of this white candle displays for us the glorious beauty and the saving power of the Light of the world born to mankind on the first Christmas.*

## THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Choral Anthem

The Opening Hymn            "Of the Father's Love Begotten"            Hymn #384

### The Invocation

P *In the name of the Father and of the  $\tau$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

C **Amen.**

P *The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us, and we have seen His glory.*

C **Oh, come, let us worship Him.**

P *The people who walked in the darkness have seen a great Light.*

C **The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.**

P *On those who lived in a land of deep darkness the true Light has shined.*

C **We have seen Christ's glory, the glory as of a Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.**

P *For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given.*

C **What has come into being in Him was Life, and the Life was the Light of all people.**

P *Today Christ is born; today salvation has appeared.*

C **Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!**

## Choral Anthem

### Collect

**C** Almighty God, You made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the Light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of His heavenly glory; through Your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn

"Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful"

Hymn #379

Sermon

### Offering

*Stand*

Our Gifts to the Babe of Bethlehem

Hymn #370 verse 3

Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution

Communion Hymns

#361, #359, #366

### Sharing the Light of the World

(The Pastor, taking a large candle, lights it from the white candle in the middle of the Advent wreath, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world of whom John's Gospel speaks. The ushers light their candles from the Pastor's candle, then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving the light to another.)

Candlelight Carol

*"From Heaven Above..."*

Hymn #358 (1-2)

Reading

"The Prophecy"

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Candlelight Carol

*"From Heaven Above..."*

Hymn #358 (3-4)

Reading

"The Pronouncement"

Luke 2:1-5

Candlelight Carol

*"From Heaven Above..."*

Hymn #358 (5-6)

Reading

"The Nativity"

Luke 2:6-7

Candlelight Carol

*"From Heaven Above..."*

Hymn #358 (7-8)

Reading

"The Glad Tidings"

Luke 2:8-12

Candlelight Carol

*"From Heaven Above..."*

Hymn 358 (9-10)

Reading

"The Discovery"

Luke 2:13-16

Candlelight Carol

*"From Heaven Above..."*

Hymn 358 (11-13)

Reading

"The Proclamation"

Luke 2:17-20

**Candlelight Carol**

*“From Heaven Above...”*

**Hymn 358 (14-15)**

☞ *When the night was still and silent, Your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from His royal throne.*

**Candlelight Carol**

**“Silent Night, Holy Night”**

**Hymn 363**

**Benediction**

☞ *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, born the King of kings, and the love of God the Father who sent His only begotten Son that first Christmas, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit who called you and empowered you to be God’s child, be with you throughout this joyous season and forever. Depart in Christmas joy and Easter peace!*

**c Amen!**

(The candles are extinguished. Please return them to an usher as you leave.)

**Closing Hymn**

**“Away in a Manger”**

**Hymn 365**

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Preacher- Vicar Ekong (7 p.m.)	Pastor Roeglin (11 p.m.)
Liturgist- Pastor Roeglin(7 p.m.)	Vicar Ekong (11 p.m.)
Organist & Choir Director:	Kenneth Butherus

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<b>Christmas Day Worship w/ Holy Communion</b>	<b>9:00am</b>
<b>New Year’s Eve Worship w/Holy Communion</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>
<b>New Year’s Day Worship Services</b>	<b>8:00 am &amp; 10:30 am</b>
<b>With Holy Communion</b>	