



GLORY to the NEWBORN KING!

Peace Thru Christ
Lutheran Church & School
Children's Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 2016 – 6:30 pm



We welcome you to this evening's
Christmas Eve Children's Worship Service

Glory to the New Born King

This is not a production or performance by our children,
but a celebration of praise and worship to our Heavenly Father
for His great gift of His Son for all of us. The congregation
and choir will also be taking part in tonight's service.





Hymn 94: Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Responsive Reading:

- P: Arise, sons of the Kingdom! Your King is coming near.
Arise and hail with gladness, your Savior is now here.
- C: Arise with praise you children! And sing His songs anew.
Give honor, praise and glory! The King has come for you.
- P: Prepare your hearts this Christmas! The King is at the door.
With scarlet banner waving, to reign forevermore.
- C: No glorious throne He needeth, rather a manger small. Yet here is found the Ruler, who is the King of all.
- ALL: Arise, and be glad-hearted! The King is not afar. Rejoice with glad hosannas, behold, the Morning Star!



Prayer:

O Lord, our Lord as we once again look inside the Bethlehem stable, our eyes become fixed on a newborn baby who was and is and always will be the King of all the earth. We are truly humbled as we consider Your omnipotent greatness. Be with us this evening and fill our hearts with love and praise and thankfulness for Your birth, life, death and resurrection. May we always see You as a humble baby in Bethlehem, as the sacrificed Savior on the Cross and as the everliving great King above all kings and Lord above all lords. Here our prayer in Your holy name newborn King. Amen.



Hymn 73: Lift Up Your Heads Ye Mighty Gates

Verses: 1-2, 4-5



Part 1: The Crown of Prophecy

Narrator 1: Crowns! The dictionary calls them “ornamental circlets or head coverings often made of precious metal and set with jewels, and worn as symbols of sovereignty.” They are also called “decorative garlands or wreaths worn on heads as symbols of victory, honor or distinction.” By now you’ve noticed the five banners hanging here in the front of the church. Tonight through the recitation and songs, we will take a close look at these five crowns and see how each one tells about Jesus, our newborn King!

Narrator 2: The first and oldest crown represents the Crown of Prophecy. Prophecy was very important in the life of Jesus. Throughout the Old Testament, writers foretold the coming of Jesus. As we read about Jesus in the New Testament, we find that He faithfully and perfectly fulfilled each prophecy. One of those who prophesied about the coming King was David, who was also a king. If King David would speak to us today, perhaps this is what he would say:

King David: The Crown of Prophecy looked forward to the King who was about to come. All of the followers of the Lord looked to the day when the Messiah would come to reign over God’s Kingdom. I, too, looked for this coming King. Although I was a man of great power and wealth, one mightier and far more important than I was yet to come. This is what I wrote about the coming King.

Jonathan: Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory?

Congregation: The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle.

Jonathan: Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory?

Congregation: The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory.

Narrator 1: Yet David was not the only one who wrote about the coming newborn King. Isaiah wrote:

Men: Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end,
Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and
establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward,
even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.
(Isaiah 9:7)

Narrator 2: Jeremiah said:

Women: Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to
David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper,
And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth.
(Jeremiah 23:5)

Narrator 2: Daniel also wrote:

Jonah: Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom...
His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass
away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.
(Daniel 7:14)

Choir/Men: Of the Father's Love Begotten



Part 2: The Crown of Incarnation

Narrator 1: Our second banner represents the birth of the newborn King. It shows the Crown of Incarnation. Incarnation means that God became a man. In the manger of Bethlehem we find not just a little baby, but a baby who was and is true God. Just think, the King of all the universe is lying there in a manger. Sometime after Jesus was born, the Wise Men or Magi came searching for a king. They found Jesus, and saw with their own eyes a very special newborn King. What do you think they might want to tell us today?

Magi: Unlike many manger scenes you see today, my fellow travelers and I did not see Jesus and his parents in the stable. We found them living in a house sometime later. We did however, know what we were looking for. We traveled many, many miles and brought precious gifts for one reason only: We wanted to see the Baby King! That is why the first question we asked Herod was, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." We were looking for a king who turned out to be the King of kings. Do you know who that King of kings is? Here is your answer:

Jonathan, Jonah, Seth: Luke 2:1-7: "And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn."

Choir: Angel's Lullaby

Congregation: Luke 8-20 "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even

unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them."

Choir: Christmas Peace



3. The Crown of Thorns

Narrator 2: Christmas is a happy time! It's a season of lights and colors and songs and gifts. But we would never have this Christmas joy had it not been for the third crown. This crown is not a happy crown. It is called the Crown of Thorns. Its purpose was to hurt people. Jesus, our King, had to wear this crown when He hung on the cross to suffer and die for our sins. We know that Jesus' mother Mary was also at Calvary that horrible day.

Narrator 1: Mary saw her Son being mocked as a king. She saw Him wear a terrible crown while hanging on the cross with a sign above His head that read: "This is the King of the Jews." But most of the people did not know that Jesus was their spiritual King who came to set them free from their slavery to sin, death, Satan and hell. Mary was told that years earlier by the angel Gabriel:

Seth: "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!"

Congregation: But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her,

Jonathan: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS.

Jonah: "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.

Samuel: "And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." (Luke 1:28-33)

Hymn 95: Savior of the Nations, Come



4. The Crown of Victory

Narrator 2: The final two crowns are not crowns of Jesus but crowns which we wear. The fourth crown is the Crown of Victory. It really doesn't look much like a crown but rather just some leafy branches. People were proud to wear this crown because you had to be very special to get one. The Bible says we can wear one too. Listen to what the Apostle Paul would tell us about this crown.

Apostle Paul: In my days people loved watching athletic contests, especially track meets. The winning athletes were not given medals, but were presented with a crown made from the branches of the laurel tree. When I consider the wonderful things my newborn King has done for me, I know He gives me a crown of victory too. But my crown of victory won't wilt like those given at the ancient games made of laurel leaves. My victory crown will last forever. This is what I wrote about in my letter to the believers in Corinth:

Congregation: Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown.

Apostle Paul: And again I wrote to the believers in Philippi:

Jonah: I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Hymn 451: Stand Up! Stand Up for Jesus!



5. The Crown of Glory

Narrator 1: The last crown we see is the Crown of Glory. Although it looks like a regular crown that any king might wear, for the Christian it is very important. The precious glory we will see in heaven cannot be compared to anything we have yet experienced. We can get a glimpse of this glory when we listen to the angels' song over the fields of Bethlehem on the night that Jesus was born.

Seth: "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

Hymn 136: Angels From the Realms of Glory

Narrator 2: Glory to God! We now see our newborn King surrounded in glory! And we too will experience His glory when we spend eternity in heaven. The Apostle John might tell us this about the Crown of Glory:

Apostle John: It all started in the Garden of Eden where my Savior was first promised. Finally we saw it fulfilled in a stable in Bethlehem. What a joy it was to live for a few years with my Lord and Savior. I know that because of His birth, life, death and resurrection, I too will wear a crown someday. It will be a Crown of Glory. This is what my fellow disciple Peter wrote about this crown:

Jonathan: And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. (1 Peter 5:4)

Apostle John: This is what I wrote about this crown:

Jonah: Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. (Rev. 2:10)

Samuel: Behold, I am coming quickly!

Seth: Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. (Rev. 3:11)

Narrator 1: Did you hear that? Our King will give a crown of glory to each of us. That is why we repeat: Glory to our newborn King! What a sight we see when we bend down to look into Bethlehem's manger bed. Here lies our Lord! Here lies our Savior! Here lies our King! That is what Christmas is all about!

Children Song:

Glory to the newborn King!
Let the bells this Christmas ring.
Peal them loud to God above
For His precious gift of love.
With our eyes a baby see
Very much like you and me,
Yet in Him true God appears
Who will reign for endless years
Now upon His throne on high,
Ruling o'er His kingdom nigh,
We with bended knee adore
Jesus Christ forevermore.

Congregation:

Thank you Lord for mercy free,
Thank you for eternity.
May our hearts forever sing:
Glory to the newborn King!



Offering



HYMN 341: Crown Him with Many Crowns



Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Benediction



HYMN 646: Silent Night! Holy Night!



A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL

who are present this evening. May the joy of the Good News of our Savior's birth remain in your hearts and lives throughout the coming New Year.

THANK YOU

to our children this evening for telling us the Good News of God the Father's great gift of His Son to all of mankind. Jesus is the only Savior for all people.

THANK YOU

to our narrators, to our choir;
to our organist Ms. Pam Schulz;
and to Mr. Matt Schaser for formatting/designing
this evening's Christmas Program Booklet.

YOU ARE INVITED

to continue your Christmas worship with us tomorrow morning
in our Christmas Day Song Service at 9:00 a.m.

PARTICIPANTS:

Pastor: Mark Bernthal
Teacher: Miss Claire Abbas
Organist: Ms. Pam Schulz
Choir Director: Mrs. Chris Gerbitz
Narrators: Caleb Meyer, Joshua Gerbitz
King David: Matt Schaser
Magi: Chris Ude
Apostle Paul: Mike Brandle
Apostle John: John Gerbitz
Sixth Grade: Jonathan Brandle
Third Grade: Jonah Greve
Second Grade: Seth Greve
Pre-school: Samuel Greve



Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church and School is a confessional Lutheran Church.

We proclaim to a world dead in sin that salvation is a gift of God's grace; that Jesus Christ paid the full sacrificial price—His very life—so that gift of salvation could be ours. If you are interested in learning more, please call Pastor Bernthal at **608-233-2244** or e-mail him at mbern@juno.com More Information and Audio Sermons at mittletonlutheran.org