



Summerlin Evangelical Lutheran Church
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 www.Summerlinlutheran.org

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 December 24, 2017



Service of Word and Sacrament



Pastor's Welcome and Prayer

Good Morning: We hope your worship this morning will be a good experience for you. Many of those sitting around you were in your position once. They walked through the doors of the church and didn't know anyone. They felt a little awkward to be in a new place. Yet, they found a home here and we hope that you will too. If you would like information on how to become a member, if you have questions about worship, or if you are just curious, make sure to speak with Pastor Buch as you leave. If you have any questions please ask a member, or one of the ushers that handed you your worship folder. God's blessings on your week and we hope to see you again soon!!

*Restrooms are to the left and down the hallway, as you exit the sanctuary.
 A fully equipped Cry Room located to the right as you exit the sanctuary.*

Little children are welcome in worship. Children are future pastors, teachers and members of God's church. They need to meet Jesus and hear his Word too. **We have reserved the back row of chairs on the organ side of the church for families with small children.** We have a quiet room, located off the narthex, for infants, toddlers and their parents if the children get too active during worship.

If you need a large print copy of the bulletin please ask an usher for assistance.

Organist: Carol Johnson Altar Care: Kelley Buch
 Ushers: Tom Johnson, Loren Schlotfeldt Tellers: Dick and Cathy Yeakel
 Kitchen Helpers: None

Suggestions Before Worship: Today we have the opportunity to hear our children share the wonderful news that a Savior has been born to each one of us. This is much more than a nice or cute program, this Christmas program allows our children to proclaim their faith to us with the Word and through song. May we all view the true meaning of Christmas, Jesus, with the same enthusiasm and joy of a child on Christmas morning.

Opening Hymn: 4 V 1-4

Lift Up Your Heads you Mighty Gates

Psalm 24 is the traditional Psalm for this Sunday. Hymn 4 uses the words of Psalm 24 in a wonderful song of praise.

Please stand

P: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

Confession Of Sins

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me, a sinner.**

P: God our heavenly Father has been merciful to us and has given us his only son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Lord, Have Mercy

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: **Christ, have mercy.**

P: For the well being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

C: **Amen.**

P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

Hymn 4 verse 5.

**Redeemer, Come! Be opened wide,
My heart to you; here Lord, abide!
Oh, enter with your saving grace;
Show me your kind and friendly face.
Your Holy Spirit guide us on
Until our glorious goal is won.
Eternal praise and fame
We offer to your name.**

Prayer Of The Day

P: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



We confess our faith with the Words of the Apostles Creed.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Tree Helps Point us to Jesus

Congregation sings verse one of Little Children Can you Tell.

Congregation:

Little Children can you tell? Do you know the story well?

Every girl and every boy, why the angels sing for joy, on this Christmas morning.

Children Reply:

Yes, we know the story well; Listen now, and hear us tell,

Ev'ry girl and ev'ry boy, Why the angels sing for joy On the Christmas morning

For a little babe that day, Cradled in a manger lay,

Born on earth our Lord to be; This the wond'ring angels see On this Christmas morning.

? **Question 1: How does the tree point to Jesus?**

✦ Hebrews 12:2. Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, who is the author of our faith and the one who brings it to its goal.

Congregation sings the printed verses of Hymn 38.

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come.

**“From heav’n above to earth I come To bear good news to ev’ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring, Whereof I now will say and sing.**

**Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes, And see what in the manger lies.
Who is this child, so young and fair? It is the Christchild lying there.**

? **Question 2: How do the lights point to Jesus?**

✦ John 12:8. ¹² When Jesus spoke to them again, he said, “I am the Light of the World. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

*Congregation sings the printed verses of Hymn 38.
From Heaven Above to Earth I Come.*

**“To you this night is born a child Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.**

**“This is the Christ, our God most high, Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will himself your Savior be From all your sins to set you free.**

? **Question 3: How does what we put on our tree point us to Jesus?**

✦ **Romans 8:32** He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?

*Congregation sings the printed verses of Hymn 38.
From Heaven Above to Earth I Come.*

**Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, Through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery That you might share your joy with me.**

Question 4: How does what we put under our tree point to Jesus?

1 John 4:10. This is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

*Congregation sings the printed verses of Hymn 38.
From Heaven Above to Earth I Come.*

**And so it pleases you to see This simple truth revealed to me:
That all the world’s wealth, honor, might Are weak and worthless in your sight.**

**“He will on you the gifts bestow Prepared by God for all below,
That in his kingdom, bright and fair, You may with us his glory share.**

**How glad I’ll be to find it so! Then with the shepherds I will go
To see what God for me has done In sending me his own dear Son.**

No Christmas is complete without Jesus. Many people many complete their Christmas trees with a nativity set. This set can and should remind us of the great news in Luke 2 that God sent his gift to us on that first Christmas: his Son, our Savior Jesus.

Christmas is all about Jesus

Children sing *In a Little Stable*

1. In a little stable Far across the sea
Was a little baby Just like you and me

2. Shepherds knelt before him angels watched with care
Cause this babe was Jesus, Lying smiling there.

Luke 2:1-7 is read.

Part 1: The Manger and Jesus

This is the manger where Jesus lay.

These are the bundles of sweet-smelling hay that filled the manger where Jesus lay.

Part 2: The Animals

These are the animals all gathered ‘round

Who ate the bundles of sweet smelling-hay

That filled the manger where Jesus lay.

Part 3: The Stable

This is the stable safe and sound

Home for the animals all gathered ‘round,

Who ate the bundles of sweet-smelling hay

That filled the manger where Jesus lay.

Luke 2: 8-15 is read.

Part 4: The Star in The Night

This is the night so dark and cold

Up high is the star so bright and bold,

That shone in the night so dark and cold

Around the stable safe and sound,

Home for the animals all gathered ‘round,

Who ate the bundles of sweet-smelling hay

That filled the manger where Jesus lay.

Part 5: The Angels

*These are the angels from heaven above
Up high is the star so bright and bold,
That shone in the night so dark and cold
Around the stable safe and sound,
Home for the animals all gathered 'round,
Who ate the bundles of sweet-smelling hay
That filled the manger where Jesus lay.*

Part 6: The Shepherds

*These are the shepherds who heard of God's love,
Sung by the angels from heaven above,
Up high is the star so bright and bold
That shone in the night so dark and cold,
Around the stable safe and sound,
Home for the animals all gathered 'round,
Who ate the bundles of sweet-smelling hay
That filled the manger where Jesus lay.*

Congregation and Children Sing: Go Tell It On The Mountain

Children Sing: Go tell it on the mountain Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.

**Congregation sings: While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens There shone a holy light.**

Children Sing the Refrain:

**Congregation sings: The shepherds feared and trembled When lo above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior's birth.**

Children Sing the Refrain

Luke 2:16-20 is read.

Part 7: Mary and Joseph

*Then Mary and Joseph , rejoicing and glad
Greeted the shepherds who heard of God's love,
Sung by the angels from heaven above
Up high is the star so bright and bold
That shone in the night so dark and cold
Around the stable safe and sound,
Home for the animals all gathered 'round,
Who ate the bundles of sweet-smelling hay ...and
KNELT BY THE MANGER WHERE JESUS LAY!*

Children Sing: Away in the Manger

*Congregation sings the printed verses of Hymn 38.
From Heaven Above to Earth I Come.*

**Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled
Within my heart, made clean and new, A quiet chamber kept for you.**

**My heart for very joy must leap; My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue That sweetest ancient cradle song:**

**Glory to God in highest heaven, Who unto us his Son has given!
While angels sing with pious mirth A glad new year to all the earth.**

We Bring our Offering of Thanks to the Lord

If you haven't already, please take a moment to sign the friendship registers. If you notice someone hasn't had a chance to sign, please hand them the register. Thank you.

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

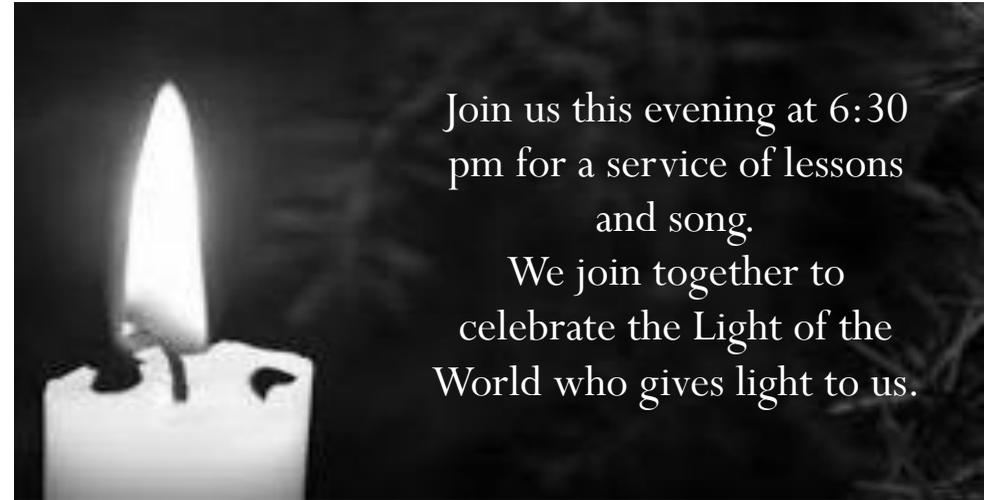
Lord's Prayer

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.

- 1 Your little ones, dear Lord, are we
And come your lowly bed to see;
Enlighten ev'ry soul and mind
That we the way to you may find.
- 2 With songs we hasten you to greet
And humbly fall before your feet.
Oh, blessed hour, oh, sweetest night
That gave you birth, our souls' delight.
- 3 Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord,
And to us all your grace accord;
True faith and love to us impart
That we may hold you in our heart,



We pray your worship has been blessed!
Please come again!





Today 9:00am Children's Service : No Bible Study or Sunday School
 Tonight 6:30pm Candlelight Service: The Light of the World has Come
 Tomorrow 10:00am Christmas Day Service: The Shepherd Tells His Story

Next Sunday 12/31 9:00 am Worship
 10:15 am Bible Study
 Guest Pastor: Myrl Wagenknecht (Water of Life Lutheran Church)



1/14 10:15 am Open Forum During Bible Study Hour after Church.
 1/27 10:00am Church Clean-up Day

Thank You

Thank you to the children for bringing the Word of God to us this morning. We also thank the parents and families for helping them to learn the parts and practicing those parts.

Thank you to the congregation for all of their cards, gifts and prayers throughout this special time of year. We truly appreciate the special notes and the faith that is expressed through them. The Lord has blessed this congregation richly. Thank you again for your expressions of kindness.

In Christ,

Pastor, Kelley and the Kids

SUMMERLIN EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Christmas
IS ALL ABOUT
Jesus

DECEMBER 24, 2017
CHILDREN'S SERVICE