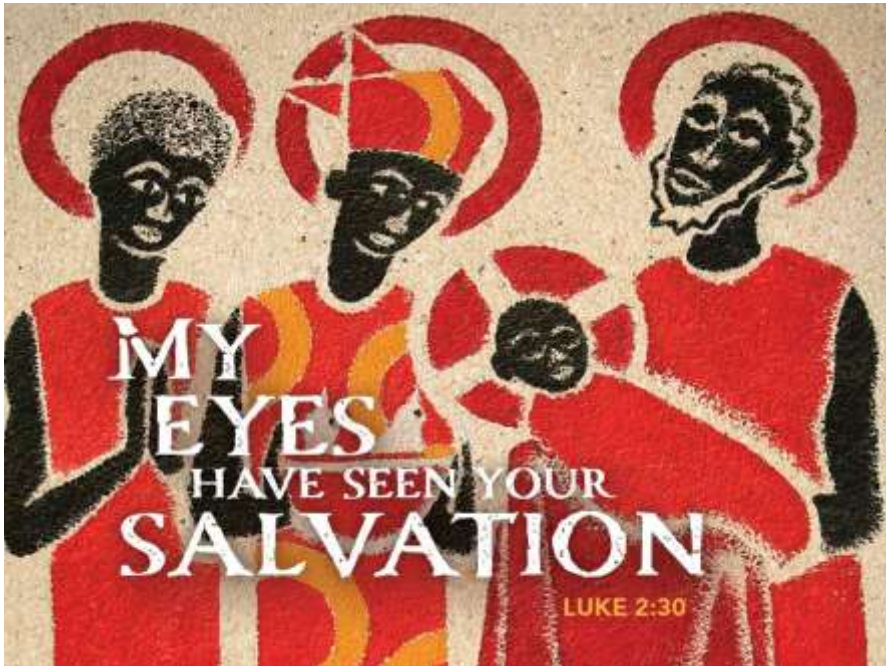


First Sunday of Christmas



December 31, 2023 | 10:30 a.m.

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church
308 North Third Street
Milan, Minnesota*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to Kviteseid Lutheran Church... We gather today, only halfway through the season of Christmas, and trusting God's guidance for the new year. Welcome to worship, one and all.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" ELW #270

CALL TO WORSHIP

P In this was manifested the love of God toward us,
because of that God sent His only begotten Son into the world,
that we might live through Him.

C **For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness,
hath shined in our hearts to give light of the knowledge
of the glory of God in the face of Christ Jesus.**

GREETING

P God who sent the Light into our world,
who shone in the Bethlehem manger,
and who spreads the Spirit's rays,
be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C **Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and
yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life
of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our
Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever. Amen.**

BAPTISMAL HYMN "Borning Cry" ELW #732

HOLY BAPTISM OF IVY MARIE TOSTENSON page 227

WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED "Jesus Loves Me" ELW #595

HYMN "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ELW #283

LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

DIALOGUE

- P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
- C The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**
- P Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.
- C We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**
- P To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.
- C In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

PRAYER

- P Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.**

READING: Isaiah 9:2-4, 6-7 *God Promises a King*

READING: Micah 5:2, 4-5a *The King will come from Bethlehem*

HYMN "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (vs. 1-2) ELW #279

READING: Luke 1:26-35, 38 *The Annunciation to Mary*

- P The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:
- C "All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favored lady." Gloria!**
- P Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.
- C "My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!**

READING: Luke 2:4-7	<i>The Birth of Jesus</i>	
HYMN	“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”	ELW #276
READING: Luke 2:8-16	<i>The Shepherds go to see the Savior</i>	
HYMN	“Angels, from the Realms of Glory” (vs. 1-2)	ELW #275
READING: Luke 2:21	<i>Jesus Receives his Name</i>	
READING: Luke 2:22-38	<i>Jesus is Presented in the Temple</i>	
HYMN	“What Child Is This” (vs. 1-2)	ELW #296
READING: Matthew 2:1-11	<i>The Magi follow the Star</i>	
HYMN	“Angels, from the Realms of Glory” (vs. 3-4)	ELW #275
READING: Matthew 2:13-23	<i>The Slaughter of the Holy Innocents</i>	
HYMN	“Your Little Ones, Dear Lord”	ELW #286
READING: John 1:1-5, 14	<i>The Mystery of the Incarnation</i>	
HYMN	“Silent Night, Holy Night”	ELW #281

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY	“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”	ELW #288
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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

P Good and loving God,

C we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With all of creation, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

page 154

C 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.

BENEDICTION

P Let us look for Christ wherever we go
Let us never stop seeking
Believing that there is a light that shines in the darkness
Which the darkness shall not overcome
And may the love of the Creator
The joy of the Spirit
And the peace of the Christ-child
Be with you in this New Year, and evermore.

C Amen.

HYMN

“The Bells of Christmas”

(vs. 1, 2, & 4) ELW #298

DISMISSAL

P Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C Thanks be to God.

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