

## ✠ The Candlelight Ceremony ✠

[As the light for the candles is distributed,  
please dip only the unlit candles.]

Special Music "O Holy Night" Brian and Julia Bell

### Christmas Dawn Introit

For unto us a child is born, to us a Son is given;  
**and the government shall be upon His shoulder,**  
and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,  
**Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**  
O sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done  
marvelous things!

**His right hand and His holy arm have worked  
salvation for him.**

The LORD has made known His salvation;  
**He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of  
the nations**

He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to  
the house of Israel.

**All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of  
our God.**

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
**break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**  
(Ps. 98:1-4; antiphon: Is. 9:6)

Carol "Silent Night, Holy Night" #363

**The Collect for the Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord** - O  
God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the  
birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that  
as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with  
sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our  
Judge; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns  
with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.  
**Amen!**

### **The Benediction**

[Extinguish candles]

Carol "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" #366

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Rev. Jeff Patterson, Pastor  
pastor@sslc-cos.org (719) 396-4710

Dr. Steven Hein, Deacon  
heinsteven@ix.netcom.com (719) 338-7891

www.sslc-cos.org

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## *Candlelight Vespers* **Readings and Carols for the Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord**

7:00 p.m.

December 24, 2025



*"Populus qui in tenebris ambulabat  
vidit lucem magnam"*

**"The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light"**

**Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church**  
6755 Earl Drive, Suite #100  
Colorado Springs CO 80918

*A Confessional, Evangelical, Sacramental, and Liturgical  
Congregation of the Lutheran Confessions --  
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**Carol      “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”      #359**

When all was still and it was midnight,  
**Your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the royal throne.**

Why do the nations rage  
**and the people plot in vain?**

The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together,  
**against the LORD and against His anointed.**

He who sits in the heavens laughs;  
**the LORD hold them in derision.**

Then He will speak to them in His wrath,  
**and terrify them in His fury, saying,**

“As for Me, I have set My King  
**on Zion, my holy hill.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son**  
**and to the Holy Spirit;**  
**as it was in the beginning,**  
**is now, and will be forever. Amen**

[We are seated]

*God's Salvation History Points from the Fall in Sin to Christ*

### The 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Genesis 22:15-18

### The 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7

**Carol “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come” #358**  
[stanzas 8-15]

*The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem*

### The 4<sup>th</sup> Reading: St. Luke 2:1-7

### The 5<sup>th</sup> Reading: St. Luke 2:8-14

### The 6<sup>th</sup> Reading: St. Luke 2:15-20

**“O Come, All Ye Faithful” #379**

**The 7<sup>th</sup> Reading: St. Matthew 1:18b-21**

*The Nativity of our Lord according to St. Matthew*

[We are seated]

**Carol      “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”      #384**  
[Rise stanza 5]

## Sermon

**Carol                      “Away in a Manger”                      #364**

## The Offering is received

*God richly bless you for your support of His work among us!*

[We rise]

## The Canticale

## “Angels from the Realms of Glory” #367

The Prayers p. 233  
Kyrie, Our Father,  
Collect for Peace, *Benedicamus*

[We remain standing for the  
Candlelight Ceremony  
continued on the back]