

Into this shadowed world light shines and joyous voices sing. Glad tidings cheer the heart and liberate hope. "A child has been born for us, a son given to us" (Isaiah 9:6). God our Savior has appeared!

God's saving goodness and loving kindness have arrived in Jesus, the Word made flesh. Though hidden in the humility of a manger, and later in the scandal of the cross, God's promise is being made good in plain sight for all to see, in a life of generous mercy, richly poured out for all.

"See, your salvation comes," the prophet wrote (Isaiah 62:11). God's faithfulness to God's promises calls us to a new hope, for the hope of eternal life is an inheritance that we can enjoy today in lives of generosity and compassion, joy and peace.

God's blessings to you this Christmas,

The Rev. Mark S. Hanson  
Presiding Bishop

*"But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us..." (Titus 3:4-5a).*



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.