

Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24, 2022

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

215 N. Warren St.

Orwigsburg, PA

570-366-2316

www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF THE CRECHE (5:00 PM)

O Lord our God, with Mary and Joseph, angels and shepherds, and the animals in the stable, we gather around your Son, born for us. Bless us with your holy presence and inspire us to help those who have no place to dwell. Be with us that we might share Christ's love with all the world, for he is our light and salvation. Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever. **Amen**

CAROL

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

[See back of bulletin]

PRAAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth, we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

A READING FROM ISAIAH

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.

CAROL

“Angels We Have Heard on High” (vs. 1)
[See back of bulletin]

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

(Luke 2:1-20)

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CAROL

“Angels We Have Heard on High” (vs. 2 & 3)
[See back of bulletin]

SERMON

THE NICENE CREED (Read in unison)

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified,
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

A brief silence.

Your infinite love is born to us this night. With choirs of angels, the church proclaims the good news. Send us out as the messengers of hope that has come to all people. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

In your midst, all creation sings for joy. Renew and restore all that you have made. Guide us to be wise stewards of your gifts for the sake of generations to come. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your authority is over the nations. Break the rod of oppression in every land and free all people from fear. Bring peace where there is war, compassion where there is suffering, and healing where there is disease. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You cherish those who are most vulnerable. Protect infants and children and bless those who care for them. Watch over women giving birth, shelter those who have no home, and comfort the dying. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your lovingkindness embraces everyone in need. Help all for whom this season is lonely or joyless. Comfort those among us, or known to us, who are experiencing distress of body or mind, missing loved ones, or grieving. We especially pray for everyone on our prayer list. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You welcome those who have died into the joyous light of glory. We give thanks for the saints of every time and place who have praised you with lives of faith and humility. Inspire us by their example to love you by serving others. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

(The Pastor concludes): Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God. **Amen.**

PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (5 PM)

“O, Holy Night”
Maddie Swick, soloist

A. Adams

ANTHEM (10 PM)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“What Child Is This?”

vs. 1

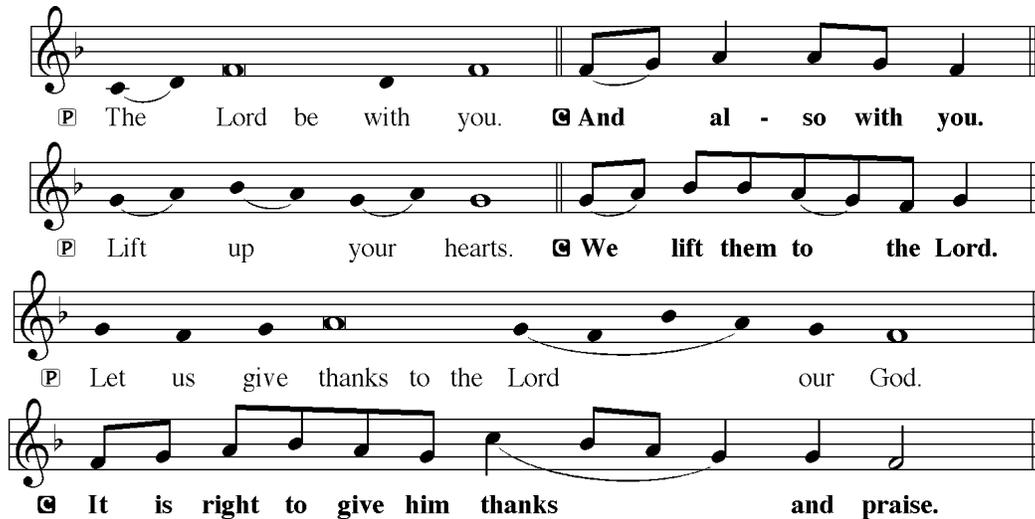
What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Good and loving God, 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 a blessing to others. With all your good creation, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING



Ⓟ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

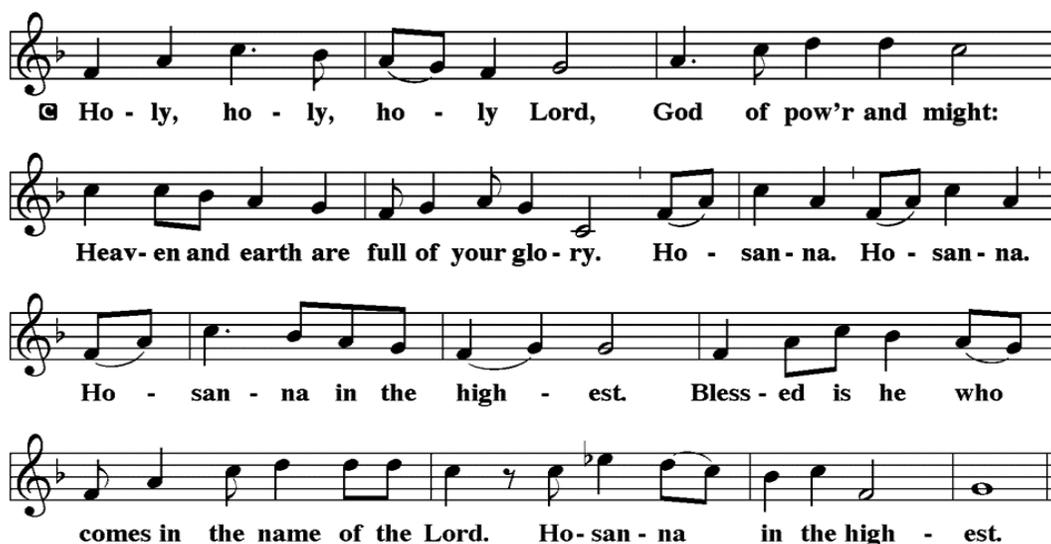
Ⓟ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.

Ⓟ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and the mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that beholding the God made visible, we might be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, Creator of all that is good, in the beginning,
your Word brought life into the whole world.

In the fullness of time, you send your living Word, born of Mary,
to shine in the darkness so that we might become your children.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)

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.

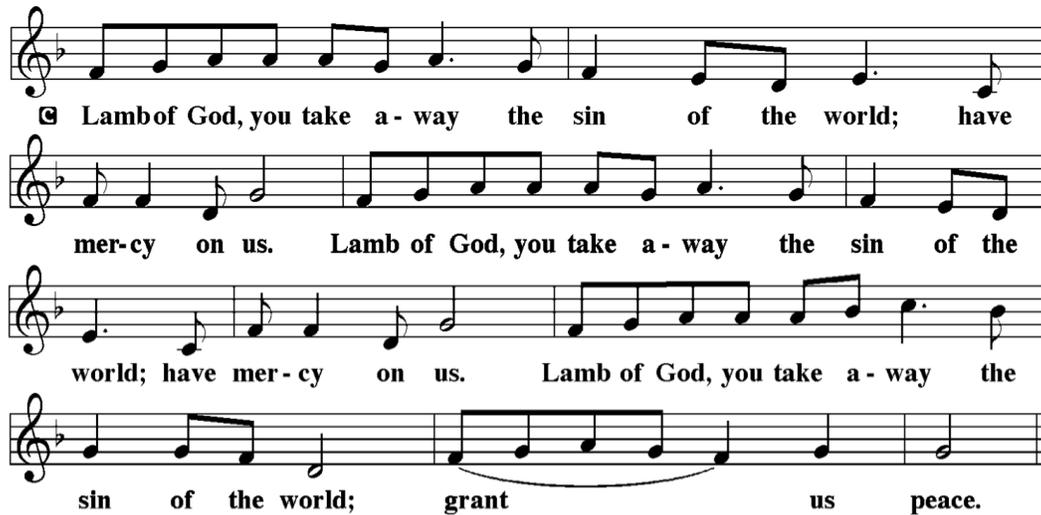
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come, let us gather at God's table of peace. **Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!**

INSTRUCTIONS

All who are baptized and seek forgiveness of their sins and the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ are welcomed to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion by intinction. Communicants may dip a wafer of bread (the Body of Christ) into a chalice of wine (the Blood of Christ) before consuming it. If you or your child would like to receive a blessing rather than the Sacrament, please come forward and say, "A blessing," or cross your arms over your chest. Those who are unable to come forward may receive the Sacrament as they sit in their pew.

AGNUS DEI



♩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS “It Came upon the Midnight Clear” “O Little Town of Bethlehem” [See back of bulletin]

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Radiant God, with our own eyes, we have seen your salvation, and in this meal, we have feasted upon your grace. May your Word take flesh in us so that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CANDLELIGHTING CAROL “Silent Night, Holy Night” [See back of bulletin]

SENDING

BLESSING

May the Word that Mary brought to birth
carry you into new and abundant life.
May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms
enfold you with love and strength.
May the Word that angels proclaimed in song
bring harmony to our world.

And the blessing of Almighty God,
the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim the good news. **Thanks be to God!**

CAROL

“Joy to the World”
[See back of bulletin]

Merry Christmas to all!

POSTLUDE

Our Liturgy and Music are used by permission through Augsburg Fortress License #20611.

SERVING TODAY – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 – CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 PM

GREETER: Deb Bolinsky; USHER: Hadley and Kate Bolinsky

LECTOR: Deb Bolinsky;

COMMUNION ASST.: Ruth Ann Withers, and Kay Weidensaul

10:00 PM

GREETER: Doug Travor and Wayne Lutsey

USHER: Tina Butler and Victoria Spitler; LECTOR: Tina Butler

COMMUNION ASST.: Greg Sklar

SERVING TOMORROW – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 – CHRISTMAS DAY

9:30 AM ONLY

GREETER: TBA; USHER: Chris Long; LECTOR: Rob Reier

COMMUNION ASSISTANT: Chris Long

ALTAR GUILD: Tina Butler and Chris Long

COUNTERS: Connie Teter, Joanne Emerich, and Barb Sterner

Introduction to the Day: In winter’s deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus’ birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Saturday, December 24		CHRISTMAS EVE
	5:00 PM	Worship with Holy Communion
	10:00 PM	Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday, December 25	9:30 AM	CHRISTMAS DAY
		Carols and Holy Communion
Saturday, December 31		No worship scheduled
Sunday, January 1	9:30 AM	EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD
		Worship with Holy Communion

POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS

You may take your plant(s) with you after 10:00 PM worship.

Presented in honor of:

Kurt and Julianne Schenck by Sue Schenck (delivery fee)
Our Daughters and our Grandchildren by Steve and Robin Zimmerman (2 white)
Our Children and Grandchildren by Jeff and Cindy Ritschel (2 white)
James P. Withers by Ruth Ann and Wayne Withers (1 white)
Pastor Diefenderfer by Danielle Richards (1 red)
My Family by Kay Weidensaul (1 white)
Our Daughter, Heather Lynn, by Dr. Barry and Dana Jenkins (1 white)
Debbie Moyer by her mother, Fern, and Family (1 red)
Dr. Kevin Long and Rachel Keller by Christine Long (1 red)
Barbara and David Nause by Bill and Becky Smoot (2 red)
Our 5 Grandchildren by Darin and Crystal Brensinger (1 red)
Elizabeth Riegel, and Laura, Nolan, and Nick Ingraham by the Post Family (1 red)
Ashley, Tyler, and Jordan Post, and Carl and Barb Post by Beth Post (1 red)
Jack, Abby, Mady, and Sydney Riegel by the Post family (1 red)
Carla, Zach, Hannah Fisher, and Keith Van Nosedall by the Post family (1 red)
Lori, Jenny, Jeff, Nikki Roshannan, and Scarlett and Anna Herring by the Post family (1 red)
Sandy, Bill, Kade, Tess, and Ann Spitler by the Post family (1 red)
Joe and Deb Post and their families by the Post family (1 red)

Continued

Presented in memory of:

Jeff Post by the Post Family (1 white)

Mike Riegel by the Post Family (1 white)

Clark “Duke” Schenck by Sue, Kurt, and Julianne Schenck (delivery fee)

Loved ones by Robin and Steve Zimmerman (1 white)

Parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Rohrer, and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Emerich (1 red)

All our loved ones by Tom and Gwen Wehr (1 red)

Daughter, Michelle Kunkle, by Pat Kunkle (1 red)

Charles W. Weidensaul, and Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Callaghan by Al and Krista Callaghan (1 white, 1 red)

Grandparents, George and Freida Somers and William and Lottie Lengel, Parents, Guy and Frances Lengel, and Brothers, G. Roger Lengel and John (Jack) Lengel, by James Lengel and the Lengel Family (5 red)

Bill and Gloria Biever and Billy Biever by Ed and Cheryle Foulk (1 red, 1 white)

My parents, John and Helen Dreher, and my Husband, Dave, by Barb Sterner (1 red, 1 white)

Parents by Jeff and Cindy Ritschel (1 red)

Our Parents by Sonny and Connie Teter (1 red)

Gladys Hossler and Rose Rarick by Scott and Melanie Rarick (2 white)

Reta Antalosky, and Russell, Carl, and Ethel Rarick by Sister, Fern Moyer (1red)

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pitts, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Withers by Ruth Ann and Wayne Withers (2 red)

Parents, Francis and Margaret Piacine by Danielle Richards (1 white)

My Parents and Grandparents by Kay Weidensaul (1 white)

Edgar and Edith Kriner by Kathie Frantz (1 red)

Dr. Michael Lado, and Robert and Mary Ebinger by Mike and Elinda Lado (2 red)

Loved ones by Dr. Barry and Dana Jenkins (1 red)

Carl Long, and Herbert and Mary Steinert, by Christine and Dr. Kevin Long (2 red)

Bonnie Schrader by Dutch, Tanya, Creole, and Kilmer Brensinger (1 white)

Loved ones by Darin and Crystal Brensinger (1 white)

WE WELCOME ALL VISITORS AND GUESTS

Our restrooms are in the back of our gathering room. Please look for the sign. If you have other questions, please ask our Greeter or Usher.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM OUR BISHOP

“The baby is born!” Few words bring more joy and hope into our lives than these. We can’t wait to see the baby, hold the baby, hear the coos and cries, and even smell the smells! As a new Dad (30+ years ago!), I changed my share of stinky diapers. But my favorite smell was the top of their little heads, as you snuggle in, all warm and close.

Babies also make you think about the future. What will they grow up to be? Will they be strong and healthy, make good choices, and have good relationships? What will their world be like? Such questions can lead to some fervent praying: “Lord, keep my child safe in this scary world.”

When I was little, I was taught to pray: “Now I lay me down to sleep; I pray the Lord my soul to keep; if I should die before I wake, I pray the Lord my soul to take.” Many have found this old prayer to be problematic and have composed less morbid versions. But the stories we are given in the scriptures concerning the birth of Jesus do not ignore that he was born into a difficult, dangerous time and place.

Even the wise men, in their joy at the birth of Jesus, bring him gifts of “gold, frankincense, and myrrh” (*Matthew 2:11*). Many scholars interpret these gifts as acknowledging the full extent of who Jesus is: gold, for a king; frankincense, used for worshipping God, thus recognizing Christ’s divine nature; and myrrh, which is a spice used to anoint a body after death. Even in their thrill and awe at his birth, the wise men understand that this baby will grow up to be strong in the Spirit, in order to face death itself, to bring us all into new life in him. Christ is Born!

As Christians today, and especially as Lutherans here in the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod, we seek to follow this same Christ, whose birth, death, and resurrection give us life, hope, purpose, and good news to share. We talk about God’s three VITAL SIGN GOALS for us: GROWING YOUNG; GAINING STRENGTH and GOING BEYOND DEATH TO LIFE. In this new year, 2023, we will focus especially on the last of these three.

As we look at our congregations and at ourselves, the crucified and risen Christ gives us wisdom and strength to face our fears, and to trust that God will bring us through every trial and challenge, even unto death itself, so that we may be raised from the dead to new life. Or as Jesus says, to the old man Nicodemus who visits him in the dark of night: “You must be born anew” (*John 3:7*).

Could it be, that the newborn baby Jesus is inviting us to become newborns ourselves? If so, with the new eyes of the freshly reborn – how can we see our communities and congregations, our buildings, and even our own bodies, not just growing old but growing young, alive with new possibilities? How can we see that, just like newborns, we cannot live without depending on others, to share our strengths and gain the stamina not only to survive but to thrive in this new world being birthed all around us?

Most of all, how can we see that Jesus the newborn babe is also the one “born anew,” having borne the cross, having gone beyond death to life for our sake – that because of him, not even death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus (*Romans 8:38*)?

Jesus is beckoning you and me to be born anew this Christmas into the new year. Let us go beyond all that scares and scars us, all the fear that holds us back, all the doubt that leads us to despair – and let’s follow Jesus into new days, new ways, together reborn, as he says and shows us: “See, I am making all things new!” (*Revelation 21:5*)

Blessed Christmas to you all!

Bishop Christopher deForest

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our annual congregational meeting will be on Sunday, February 12, 2023, immediately after the 10:30 a.m. worship service concludes. In case of inclement weather, our annual meeting will be held on the following Sunday, February 19. Members should mark their new calendars for this important meeting!

PASTOR ON VACATION

Pastor Mike will be on vacation Saturday, December 31, 2022 (New Year’s Eve) and Sunday, January 1, 2023 (New Year’s Day).

While no worship is scheduled for Saturday, December 31, we are again pleased to welcome Pastor Rob Reier, who will lead a single worship service with Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m. on “Epiphany” Sunday, January 1, 2023.

Gathering Hymn

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!

come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

Refrain

Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Hymn of the Day “Angels We Have Heard on High”
 (Verse #1 Before the Gospel; Verses 2 & 3 After the Gospel)

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Communion Hymn "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
 who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
 look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
 oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
 and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.



LET'S BE CAREFUL!

If you have not been vaccinated, you are encouraged to wear a mask in church and observe social distancing while in the church. Face masks and hand sanitizers are in the narthex as you enter the church. Be well and stay well during the holidays!

Communion Hymn

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

HOLY COMMUNION TO SHARE

Individual “packages” of Holy Communion (a bread wafer and a small amount of wine which are the Body and Blood of Christ) are available in the back of the church following this service. Please share them “with prayer” among family members and/or friends who are unable to worship at Christmas time.

Candle lighting Hymn

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,

ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,

Hol - der Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your

Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

“SECOND SUNDAY” SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for children ages 1 to 10 years old will continue every second Sunday of the month during the 10:30 a.m. service. Please join us on Sunday, January 8, 2023, for Bible stories, crafts, a snack, fun, and fellowship. You can also call/text/email me with questions or to volunteer.

Sarah Eger: (570) 394-3522 (cell); swoodring86@hotmail.com.

Sending Hymn

“Joy to the World”

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME?

Please consider worshipping with us after the holidays. Take a copy of our December newsletter. Check out our webpage. Visit us on Facebook. Watch our weekly video on YouTube. And get to know us better!

We are a Lutheran congregation with a rich tradition, but we are not old-fashioned. Everyone is invited to worship and work together here -- to the glory of God!