

# WELCOME

PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH – DECEMBER 24, 2021 – 4:00 PM

## MEET US

Our family is loved by Christ and we love each other. We hold firmly to God's Word of truth, which convicts us of our sin and comforts us with God's forgiveness in Christ. We embrace the rich heritage of hymns and liturgy that has guided the worship of the Church for generations. We are passionate about Christian education, wanting young and old to grow in their knowledge of God's Word. As a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), we enjoy fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).

## TODAY'S WORSHIP

The angel declared to the shepherds: "A Savior has been born to you." It is a stunning statement, for two reasons. First, this child looks nothing like what we would expect in a hero-savior. He is weak, helpless, and mired in poverty. Second, this child has come to bring salvation "to you." These words were for lowly shepherds, and also for you. Jesus is your Savior from sin.

## VISITOR INFORMATION

**Restrooms** are located to the right as you leave the sanctuary and are equipped with child changing tables.

**Parent Room** is located on the left as you exit the sanctuary doors. This room is equipped with a livestream of the service.

**For the hearing impaired**, an induction loop is provided. Just switch your hearing aid to "T".

**For other special needs or questions**, our ushers are here to assist you. Don't hesitate to ask.





# DIVINE SERVICE

## WE COME BEFORE THE LORD

### INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, who sent His Son into the world out of love,  
In the name of the Son, born in Bethlehem to save us from our sin,  
In the name of the Holy Spirit, who leads us to embrace the Christ Child in sincere faith.

**Amen.**

### HYMN

Away in a Manger | ELH 119

### CONFESSION OF SIN

Children of God, we have gathered together on this special evening to worship our King born long ago in Bethlehem. However, we have sinned and are not worthy to come into His presence. Therefore let us acknowledge our sin and ask for forgiveness.

**Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.**

**For faithless worrying and selfish pride,**

**For sins of habit and sins of choice,**

**For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,**

**You should cast me away from Your presence forever.**

**O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus 'sake.**

When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. As sons of God and those receiving an inheritance, hear God's forgiveness spoken through his servant: I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

HYMN

All My Heart Sings and Rejoices | Arr. David M. Chervein

All my heart sings and re - joi - ces as I  
Hark! a voice from yon - der mang - er, soft and  
Come, then, ban - ish all your sad - ness! One and  
Let me in my arms re - ceive Thee; on Thy  
Dear - est Lord, The will I cher - ish, though my  
hear far and near sweet - est an - gel voic - es.  
sweet, doth en - treat: "Flee from woe and dang - er.  
all, great and small, come with songs of glad - ness.  
breast let me rest, Sav - ior, ne'er to leave Thee.  
breath fail in death, yet I shall not per - ish,  
"Christ is born!" their choirs are sing - ing, till the  
Breth - ren, from all ills that grieve you, you are  
Love Him who with love is glow - ing; hail the  
Since Thou hast Thy - self pres - en - ted now to  
but with Thee ab - ide for - ev - er, there on  
air ev - 'ry - where now with joy is ring - ing.  
freed; all you need I will sure - ly give you.  
star, near and far, light and joy be - stow - ing."  
me, I shall be ev - er - more con - tent - ed.  
high, in that joy which can van - ish nev - er.

Words by Paul Gerhardt from ELH #115: 1, 7, 8, 12, 15

Organ and violin concertato ©2015 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc. Used by permission.

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Evangelical Heritage Version © 2019

**PROPHESIES OF THE COMING MESSIAH**

I will put hostility between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed.

**He will crush your head, and you will crush his heel.**

*Genesis 3:15*

I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse anyone who dishonors you.

**All of the families of the earth will be blessed in you.**

*Genesis 12:3*

I will raise up a prophet for them from among their brothers, like you, and I will put my words in his mouth,  
**and he will speak to them everything that I command him.** *Deuteronomy 18:18*

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son  
**and name him Immanuel.** *Isaiah 7:14b*

For to us a child is born. To us a son is given. The authority to rule will rest on his shoulders. He will be named: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
**There will be no limit to his authority and no end to the peace he brings. He will rule on David's throne and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from now on, into eternity. The zeal of the LORD of Armies will accomplish this.** *Isaiah 9:6-7*

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, from you, will go out the one who will be the ruler for me in Israel. His goings forth are from the beginning, from the days of eternity.  
**Therefore the LORD will give them up, until the time when the woman who is in labor bears a child. Then the remaining survivors from his brothers will return to the people of Israel.** *Micah 5:2-3*

He will stand and shepherd with the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
**They will dwell securely, for at that time he will be great to the ends of the earth. This one will be their peace.** *Micah 5:4-5a*

**HYMN** *As Each Happy Christmas | ELH 117*

**THE CHRISTMAS STORY** *Luke 2:1-5*

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governing Syria. <sup>3</sup>And everyone went to register, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the town of Nazareth, into Judea, to the town of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was from the house and family line of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, his wife, who was pledged to him in marriage and was expecting a child.

**HYMN** *O Little Town of Bethlehem | ELH 137:1*

**THE CHRISTMAS STORY** *Luke 2:6-7*

<sup>6</sup>And so it was that while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son, wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

**HYMN**

O Little Town of Bethlehem | ELH 137:2

**THE CHRISTMAS STORY**

Luke 2:8-12

<sup>8</sup>There were in the same country shepherds staying out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock at night. <sup>9</sup>An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified! <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. For behold, I bring you good news of great joy, which will be for all people: <sup>11</sup>Today in the town of David, a Savior was born for you. He is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

**HYMN**

O Little Town of Bethlehem | ELH 137:3-4

**THE CHRISTMAS STORY**

Luke 2:13-14

<sup>13</sup>Suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude from the heavenly army, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward mankind."

**HYMN**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing | ELH 125:1-4

**THE CHRISTMAS STORY**

Luke 2:15-18

<sup>15</sup>When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Now let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they had seen him, they told others the message they had been told about this child. <sup>18</sup>And all who heard it were amazed by what the shepherds said to them.

**ADULT CHOIR**

God Rest You Merry, Gentleman | Willcocks

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,  
For Jesus Christ our Saviour was born upon this day,  
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray:  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heav'nly Father a blessed angel came,  
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same,  
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name:  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Traditional English Carol; arr. David Willcocks ©1961 Oxford University Press

## THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2:19-20

<sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

## ADULT CHOIR

The First Noel | Larson

The first Noel, the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the East, beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.  
Noel, born is the King of Israel.

Traditional English Carol; arr. Lloyd Larson ©2005 Hope Publishing Company

## SERMON

A Savior Was Born For You! | Luke 2:8-20

## WE GIVE THANKS

**CONFESSION OF FAITH – APOSTLE’S CREED – LUTHER’S EXPLANATION OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> ARTICLE**  
I believe that Jesus Christ is true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary; and that He is my Lord, Who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood, and with His innocent sufferings and death; in order that I might be His own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, even as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

## OFFERING & FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

### CHRISTMAS EVE PRAYER

Oh gracious and almighty Father, we praise You that You kept Your ancient promises by sending Your everlasting Son in human flesh.

**On this holy night, receive our thanks and devotion, our songs and prayers.**

You sent Jesus as a lowly child to demonstrate Your concern for all, the weak and lonely, the troubled and frightened, the timid and helpless. No one is overlooked by Your ever-seeking eyes. No one is excluded from Your upholding arms. No one is denied the comfort and help of Your outstretched hand.

**Bless us with a childlike faith in the divine assurance that You love and care for us always.**

You sent Jesus as the Savior of the world to deliver all from the curse of sin, the power of death, and the torment of hell. He took our place. He was born under the law to set us free. He became the innocent lamb of sacrifice. He came to die and rise again in order that we might live eternally. Firmly implant this good news in our hearts, and fill us with an eager desire to spread the Word concerning what we have heard tonight.

**May all who hear the message, in every nation under heaven, be amazed and believe what is told them about the child.**

You sent Jesus as the Light of the world to drive out all darkness that would rob us of the full life that You intend for us. May the “joy that will be for all people” be our joy. May the “peace on earth to all on whom his favor rests” be our peace. May the treasure that Mary pondered in her heart be our treasure.

**For today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to us. He is Christ, the Lord. Amen.**

### LORD’S PRAYER (UNISON)

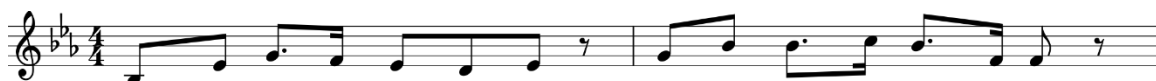
Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the pow’r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### ENSEMBLE HYMN

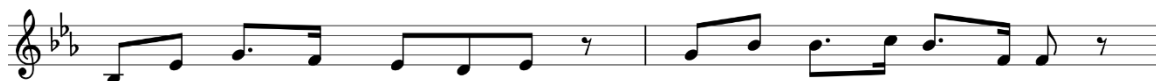
Come Adore the Humble King | Boswell and Papa

Verse 1: Soloist

Verses 2-3: Congregation



1. Come a-dore the hum - ble King,	low - ly in the man - ger.
2. Come a-dore in hum - ble state	He, the song of an - gels.
3. Come a-dore the King who came	to our world to save us.



Fall be - fore His maj - es - ty.	Hail the lit - tle Sav - ior.
Join the wise who call His name	and with all cre - a - tion.
Born to heal our pride - ful race,	crown us with for - give - ness.



Hope, what hope no tongue can tell.	God has come with us to dwell.
Who, oh, who would con - de - scend	God un - known now calls us friend.
Fall, oh, fall be - fore the one	who in mer - cy left His throne.





His name is Em - man - u - el. O praise the hum-ble King.  
Love that none could com - pre - hend. O praise the hum-ble King.  
Christ, the Lord, God's on - ly Son, His glo - ries now we sing.

After third verse:



Come a-dore, come a-dore, Come a - dore the King.



Bow be-fore, come a-dore the Name a - bove all names.

Matt Boswell and Matt Papa, arr. Ed Kerr; orchestration by Dan Galbraith

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## BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**Amen.**

## LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*(Pastor will light his candle from the Christ Candle, for we only have light and life from Christ. The ushers will then light their candles from his candle and proceed to light the candles of the congregation, row by row. **Remember: Be sure to dip your unlit candle into the lit candle to avoid spilling hot wax!** After all the candles are lit, the sanctuary lights will be turned off.)*

- 1. Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon Virgin mother and Child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.**
- 2. Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar;  
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia;  
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!**
- 3. Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**
- 4. Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.**

## WE THANK THOSE WHO SERVE

Adult Choir

Katie Hartwig | Director

Lexi Fosburgh | Accompanist

Ensemble

August Jeske | Vocalist

Adie Harstad | Guitar

Sophia Kerkow | Violin

Organist

Katie Hartwig

Ushers

Brandon Evers & Dave Kammerer

*For information concerning our news & notes, visit [peacemankato.com/news](http://peacemankato.com/news)*

## **Christmas Season Worship Schedule**

Friday - Christmas Eve

Divine Service with Candlelight      4:00pm  
6:00pm

Saturday - Christmas Day

Divine Service      9:00am

Sunday

Divine Service with Holy Communion    8:15am  
10:30am

Friday - New Year's Eve

Divine Service with Holy Communion    6:00pm

Sunday

Divine Service      8:15am  
10:30am

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Pastors Tim Hartwig & Matt Moldstad