

St. John Lutheran Church + Christmas Eve Candlelight

December 24, 2018 + 11 p.m.

Welcome to the Candlelight Service at St. John Lutheran Church, Bingen! What a blessing it is to gather together late on this holy night to receive the gifts of the Savior who was born to die for us. Guests, we extend a special welcome to you this night, and we pray that your worship with us will be a blessing to you. At this Service, we will be receiving Holy Communion. We invite and encourage all communicant members in good standing of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod to commune with us this evening. If you have any questions about our Communion teaching or practice, please speak with one of our pastors.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Stand and turn to face the Processional Cross.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Angels from the Realms of Glory LSB 367



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
Ye have seen His na - tal star.
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;



Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

THE INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

THE SENTENCES

Liturgical Text; Isaiah 9:2

P When all was still, and it was midnight,

C **Your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the royal throne.**

P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

C **those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

P O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

Having omitted the Hymn of Praise during Advent, we now join with the angels in their Hymn of Praise to the newborn Savior. (tune: "Hark the Herald, Angels Sing")

"Glory be to God on high!"

This is now our joyful cry.

Peace to all who live on earth,

Grace and favor for new birth.

You we praise and glorify;

Worship You, O Lord most high.

Gracious Father, heav'nly King,

To Your name alone we sing:

Praise the glory of Your name,

Now and evermore the same!

Jesus Christ, the Father's Son,

Sole-begotten, holy One,

Born on earth from realms on high,

Born true man for us to die.

Lamb of God, You take away

This world's sin. Grant peace, we pray.

With the Spirit, You alone,

Are most high, O God the Son,

And the Father, God above;

Praise we now Your glorious love.

Sit

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For every boot of the trampling warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. For to 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. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE READING

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand and turn to face the Processional Cross.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

THE CHRISTMAS GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

The Christmas Gospel is read from the midst of the congregation as a visible reminder that "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds

THE HYMN OF THE DAY *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* LSB 366



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 All you, be-neath your heav-y load, By care and guilt bent low,
4 For lo, the days have come to pass 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 a drea-ry way With pain-ful steps and slow:
When down in-to the cir-cling years Came Christ as was 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 up, for gold-en is the hour, Come swift-ly on the wing,
His word of peace shall to the earth God's an-cient prom-ise bring,



The world in sol-ern still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.
And ev-er o'er its ba-bel sounds The bless-ed an-gels sing.
The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an-gels sing.
And all who take this gift will hear The song the an-gels sing.

THE SERMON

Stand

THE CHRISTMAS PRAYERS

P For the Church throughout the world on this most holy night, that the tidings of our Savior's birth would bring hope and comfort to hearts oppressed, and for our congregation, that beholding in the Bethlehem Babe the love of God for us, we may love Him more and more, let us pray to the Lord:

C **hear us, Wonderful Counselor.**

P For the suffering, afflicted, lonely, and all who are in need, that in the Son of Mary they would find healing and compassion, and remembering the saints who have gone before us, giving thanks for their life and love in this world as we join with the angels, archangels, and all the company of heaven, that we also may worship the Incarnate God in spirit and in truth, let us pray to the Lord:

C **hear us, Mighty God.**

P For all families, that the same God who chose in love to dwell with a family here on earth might keep from them all harm and danger, and, by His almighty power, grant that they may dwell together in harmony under the protection of His holy angels, let us pray to the Lord:

C hear us, Everlasting Father.

P For our nation and every land, that the Prince of Peace would order the affairs of this world so that all may live together in safety and dignity, and for those for whom this time brings depression, sadness, and grief, that in the midst of their deep darkness the light of Christ may renew their joy, let us pray to the Lord:

C hear us, Prince of Peace.

P Rejoicing in the birth of our Savior, confessing our salvation in the Word become flesh, and joyfully awaiting Christ's Final Advent, we commend all for whom we pray to You, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

C Amen.

Sit

THE OFFERING Choir – *For Unto Us* with *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

Stand



+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

THE PREFACE



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

THE PROPER PREFACE FOR CHRISTMAS

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
 bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
 Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD (Words of Institution)

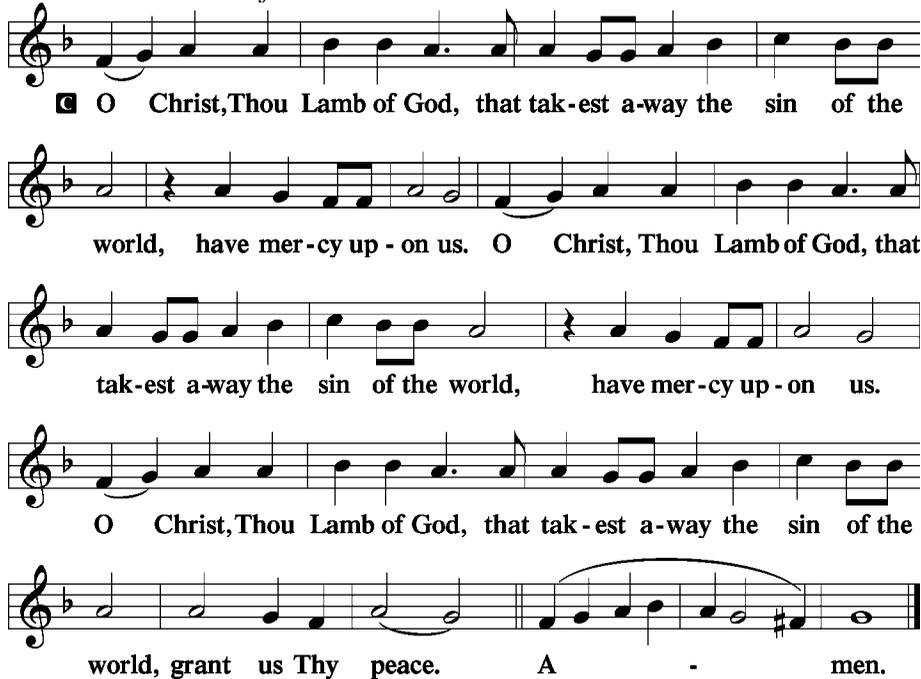
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.
A - men.

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*



C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

THE DISTRIBUTION

Communicants are to be in full confessional fellowship with The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod.

Hymns for Holy Communion

<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	LSB 379
<i>Choir – And the Glory with The First Noel</i>	
<i>O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is</i>	LSB 372
<i>Choir – O Come All Ye Faithful with Sleepers Awake</i>	
<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	LSB 368
<i>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</i>	LSB 359
<i>Once in Royal David's City</i>	LSB 376
<i>From Heaven Above to Earth I Come</i>	LSB 358

Stand

DISMISSAL BLESSING

P The true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul unto life everlasting. Depart + in peace.

C Amen.

+ THE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE +

The lights in the church are turned off. The pastor lights his candle from the Christ candle and brings the light to the deacons and choir who then pass the light to worshippers in the pews. When lighting your candle, please tip the candle that is NOT lit. Please do not extinguish your candle until the lights are raised after the Benediction.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Handbell Choir - "Silent Night"

CANDLELIGHT HYMN

Silent Night

LSB 363

Choir sings:

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. **Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!**

Alles schläft, einsam wacht

Nur das heilige Elternpaar,

Das im Stalle zu Bethlehem war,

Bei dem himmlischen Kind,

Bei dem himmlischen Kind.

3. **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!

4. **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.

BENEDICTION

P 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.

C Amen.

THE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

The pealing of the bells marks the arrival of Christmas Day. When the music begins, the lights are raised and the congregation sings **Hymn 387 "Joy to the World."** Please remain standing.



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
play, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
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



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.

+ Serving You Today +

Celebrant	Rev. Christopher A. Maronde, Pastor
Preacher	Rev. Peter J. Brock, Pastor
Crucifer	Kyle Kukelhan
Organist and Choir	Mrs. Jessica Gavrun, Music Director
Handbell Choir	Principal Andrew Gavrun, Kantor
Instrumentalists	Jennifer Dressler, Isabel Hammond, Theresa Hammond
Deacons	Luke Lepper, Casey Holt Royce Bradbury, Dean Hoffman
Altar Guild	Barb Comer, Jeannette Peters