

St. Luke Lutheran Church ELCA
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CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
December 24, 2020 4:00pm and 5:30pm

Congregational Concerns

Special Music~ “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Call to Worship

P: We gather this night to celebrate the Savior’s birth.

C: O come, all ye faithful!

P: We gather as the holy family gathered in Bethlehem.

C: O come, all ye faithful!

P: We gather as the shepherds came from the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

C: O come, all ye faithful!

P: We gather to celebrate as faithful Christian saints have done for centuries.

C: O come, all ye faithful!

P: We gather with people, with people around the world to worship the new-born Messiah.

C: O come, all ye faithful!

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: AMEN.

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

C: Jesus Christ is the light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome.

P: In His name let us make confession of our sins. For his sake let us seek forgiveness.

(Silence for meditation and self-examination)

P: Loving God, on this holy night we have gathered to express once again our wonder and our joy at the birth of your Son, Jesus

Christ. You have sent him to bring healing and peace into our midst. That healing and that peace are available to us again on this Christmas Eve.

C: Forgive us, then for those things both large and small in life that keep us from sharing in the grace of Christ. On this holy night we bring open hearts and open minds to receive the grace and forgiveness that you give us through Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, help us to amend our lives and turn once again to Christ whose birth and reign we celebrate this glad night. AMEN.

P: Good news! Great joy! A child is born to us, a Son to us is given, a Savior, Christ the Lord!

C: He shall save his people from their sins.

P: All who receive him, who believe in His name, are given power to become the children of God.

C: Glory to God in the highest!

P: And peace to God’s people on earth.

C: AMEN.

Greeting

P: O may the good Lord be with you and grant you grace and mercy.

C: And may God also be with you and pour out His Spirit Holy.

P: This is Christmas time, we greet the Son of God divine.

C: Praise the word made flesh, God’s love is born among us.

Special Music~ “Away in A Manger”

Kyrie

P: In peace to God now let us pray.

C: Lord have mercy on us this day.

P: For salvation and God’s peace.

C: Lord your mercy please increase.

P: For peace on earth, good will to all.

C: Lord have mercy is our call.

P: For all who offer thanks and praise.

C: Lord, have mercy always.

P: Help, save, comfort and defend.

C: Lord, have mercy. Amen.

Prayer 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.

First Lesson Isaiah 9:2-7
Second Lesson Titus 2:11-14

Gospel Luke 2:1-20

Response after the announcement: Glory to you, O Lord.

Response after the conclusion: Praise to you O Christ

**SERMON “Born In Us Tonight”
Pastor Chuck Turbin**

Humming 2 verses~ “O, Little Town of Bethlehem”

NICENE CREED

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. 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,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

Candle lighting

P: In a world of where so many despair, God lights a candle of HOPE in our hearts.

C: We wait together for a Savior, who will be Immanuel, Christ the Lord.

P: In a world where so many experience violence, God lights a candle of PEACE in our hearts.

C: We wait together for a Savior, who will be Immanuel, Christ the Lord.

P: In a world where so many experience hatred, God lights a candle of LOVE in our hearts.

C: We wait together for a Savior, who will be Immanuel, Christ the Lord.

P: In a world where so many are sorrowful, God lights a candle of JOY in our hearts.

C: We wait together for a Savior, who will be Immanuel, Christ the Lord.

P: In a world where so many wait in darkness, LIGHT comes into our hearts through a baby born in a manger!

C: He is Immanuel, Christ the Lord!

(Please bend/snap your glow stick candles to activate the liquids for making light. Raise your candle to share the light.)

Candle Video

(Candles may be lowered for the rest of the service, these are yours to take with you and be reminded of God's light shining in your heart.)

Prayers

Offering

Offertory Prayer

P: Generous God,

C: you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P. The Lord be with you

C. And also with you

P. Lift up your hearts

C. We lift them to the Lord

P. Let us give thanks to the lord our God

C. It is right to give our thanks and praise

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Anyone who believes Jesus is truly present to forgive your sins, is welcome to commune at St. Luke.

Ushers will come forward to receive the trays of communion cups and will hand elements to you. They will return to collect the containers.

Communion Distribution

Please do not consume the communion elements until instructed by the pastor.

Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

P: With angel hosts we sing your praise, O Christ.

C: Glory to God in the highest heaven!

P: For you have deigned to be with us, in this place, in this meal.

C: Glory to God in the highest heaven!

P: Come with us now, O Christ our Lord, that we may be arbiters of your peace.

C: On earth peace among those whom God favors!

P: You are the Lord forevermore. AMEN.

Hum 2 verses~ "Silent Night"

Benediction

P: May the good Lord bless and keep, Cause His face on you to shine,
Look on you with favor deep, Granting you His peace divine. AMEN.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Special Music~ "Joy to the World"

Please wait to be ushered out- back to front.

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**

ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA



December 24, 2020 4:00pm & 5:30pm

Karen Bruinooge, organist 920-457-4285 Sandy Fenner, custodian 876-2924

In the name of Jesus, the newborn Babe of Bethlehem, **WELCOME** to Christmas Eve worship.

Those serving the Lord:

<u>TONIGHT</u>	<u>4:00pm</u>	<u>5:30pm</u>
<u>Reader:</u>	Andrea Meyer	Andrea Meyer
<u>Ushers:</u>	Paul Schroeder Jeff Parrish	Jeremy Raml Jack Parrish
<u>AV Tech:</u>	Laura Meyer	N/A

<u>December 27</u>	<u>9:30am</u>
<u>Reader:</u>	Pam Bogenschuetz
<u>Ushers:</u>	Tom Hass
<u>AV Tech:</u>	Lavonne Schroeder

In case of inclement weather, check Milwaukee TV WISN, radio WHBL, our website, www.stlukeshebfalls.org or Facebook for cancellations.

Announcements



FLOWERS on the altar (basket) are given by the Randy Meyer family in memory of all the loved ones we are missing at Christmas time and in memory Eli Meyer's birthday (December 23).

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS - DECEMBER's special donation is items for Bridgeway House (SCIO). They are in need of the following items: Box noodles, baking soda, vinegar, corn syrup, cornstarch, bottles water, paper towel and condiments. A full wish list is available by the collection tub, take one along if you wish. **JANUARY'S special collection** will be personal hygiene products (toothpaste, shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, razors, etc.) for the Sheboygan Falls Food Pantry. Items can be put in the marked barrels in the narthex.

BULLETIN BOARD- There are announcements and thank you notes on the board in the narthex. These are not in the bulletin.



MANY THANKS to Superior Lawn & Garden for the donation of our beautiful sanctuary tree. Also we are grateful for our Arts & Environment committee for all the decorations and the assembly of the Love Light Cross Tree in the narthex. All are a blessing to St. Luke.

2020 Helping Kids Christmas Thank You- Thank you is one of those wonderful phrases people use to express a deep admiration, and gratitude, but there is often a lot more to it. When it comes from the heart it means you have done something special that one will never forget. I thank you for all the generous food donations to Helping Kids. Your kindness is greatly appreciated, and you all have made a difference in the lives of many kids and their families during the holidays. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you.

God's Richest Blessings, Kathy Rowe Helping Kids

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to our Nursing Home project, purchased hats and/or donated socks. This was one of the best turnouts we have had in many years for Rocky Knoll, Pine Haven and Sunny Ridge! **534 hats** were made by Betty Neeb, Bernette DeZwarte (Debbie Meyer's mother) and Andrea Meyer; **230 pairs of socks**, most purchased with the hat monetary donations; and **49 pairs of gloves**, donated in memory of Jean Kroeplien were given to Salvation Army, the SF Chamber of Commerce Big Bundle Up Campaign and Shop with a Cop in Sheboygan.



SHOEBOXES- We were notified that some of our shoeboxes packed this year by some of our confirmation students were delivered to children in Colombia and "hard to reach areas". Those areas are places where ethnic groups have never heard of Jesus!

To allow for adequate processing time, any **CONTRIBUTIONS** that you want applied to 2020 will need to be in to the church office by Dec. 30 at NOON.

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES are in the narthex for you to take. If you would like to sign up for Simply Giving (online donating), signup sheets are with the envelopes or contact Andrea in the office.



LIVING LUTHERAN December edition, **WORD OF SEASON** January-March and **THE LUTHERAN DIGEST** booklets are now available in the narthex. Please take one for yourself (or to share) compliments of St. Luke.



SPARE CHANGE- There is a collection bottle in the narthex for "spare change" that will help with Lutheran World Relief kit supplies, quilts and shipping of these kits.