



**Christmas Eve
Dec. 24, 2022
3:00pm
5:00pm**

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

324 S. Sanborn Ave.

Jefferson, WI 53549

920-674-2370

st.marks.jefferson@sbcglobal.net

Our Vision for St. Mark's:

CHRISTMAS EVE

PIANO PRELUDE “CHRISTMAS CAROLS” – MADDIE WELTER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Please welcome Guest Pastor Sue Gunderson

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

PASTOR : Advent is past, Christmas has come. We light the Christ Candle to remind us that Jesus said,

PEOPLE : **“I am the light of the world; whoever follows ME will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” *John 8:12***

PASTOR : We also remember that Simeon called the Christ Child” a light to lighten the Gentiles. *Luke 2:32*, adapted

People : **With candles burning to symbolize the Lord’s presence, we worship Him, who is our new born King**

PASTOR : Jesus is born!

PEOPLE : **Let us rejoice**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor : We come together tonight. We sing and speak about “ Peace on Earth.” Yet because of our brokenness and sin, we don’t experience peace. As we prepare to celebrate the gift of our Prince of Peace wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger, let’s go to our Lord and confess our brokenness and sin.

(time for private confession)

People : **Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly in iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, you only have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgement . Give thanks to the Lord of hosts, for the Lord is good for His steadfast love endures forever!**

Pastor : At the command of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People : **Amen!**

Pastor : Peace be with you

People : **Amen!**

OPENING HYMN : “O Come all Ye Faithful” (Red #283)

Please open the RED hymnal to sing verses 1 and 3

APOSTOLIC GREETING

PASTOR : Let us pray :

PEOPLE : O God, You made 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 now and forever. Amen

SPECIAL MUSIC: “*Emmanuel Is Coming*” - Choir (3:00)

“*Do You Hear What I Hear?*” - Allison Fisher (5:00)

HYMN OF PRAISE: “The First Noel” (Red #300)

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
In fields where they lay
In fields where they
Keeping their sheep
On a cold winter’s night
That was so deep
Noel, Noel, Noel, 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, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel

PRAYER OF THE DAY

SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-16

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC: *“Mary Did You Know?”* Choir - (3:00)
“Gesù Bambino” Patty Heckart - (5:00)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: “Sing We Now Of Christmas”

**Sing we now of Christmas
Noel sing we here
Hear our grateful praises
To the Babe so dear
Sing we Noel
The King is born Noel
Sing we now of Christmas
Sing we now Noel**

**In Bethlehem they found them
Joseph and Mary mild
Bearing gifts to Bethl’hem
Guided by a star
Sing we Noel
The King is born Noel
Sing we now of Christmas
Sing we now Noel**

GOSPEL : Matthew 1:18-25

**Pastor : The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew
People : Glory to You O God.**

¹⁸The birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

**Pastor : The Gospel of the Lord.
People : Praise to you, O Christ!**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: : *Hallelujah*" (Leonard Cohen)

I've heard about this baby boy
Who's come to earth to bring us joy
And I just want to sing this song for you
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth
The minor fall, the major lift
With every breath I'm singing Hallelujah!
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

A couple came to Bethlehem
Expecting child, they searched the inn
To find a place for You were coming soon
There was no room for them to stay
So in a manger filled with hay
God's only Son was born oh Hallelujah!
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

A star shown bright up in the east
To Bethlehem, the wise men three
Came many miles and journeyed long for You
And to the place at which You were
Their frankincense and gold and myrrh
They gave to You and cried out Hallelujah!
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth..
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died,
and was buried. He descended into hell.
On the third day He rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen

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.

OFFERTORY HYMN : “Angels We Have Heard On High” (Red #289)

**Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o’er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains
Glo...ria, in excelsis Deo
Glo...ria, in excelsis Deo**

**Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King
Glo...ria, in excelsis Deo
Glo...ria, in excelsis Deo**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Pastor : The Lord be with you.

People : **And also with you**

Pastor : Lift up your hearts

People : **We lift them to the Lord**

Pastor : Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

People : **It is right to give Him thanks and praise**

Pastor: It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father almighty and everlasting God for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns for all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life.

People : **Amen**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation

SPECIAL MUSIC: "O Holy Night" - Allison Fisher (5:00)

**COMMUNION HYMN: "What Feast Of Love" (Red #487)
(melody "What Child is This")**

**What feast of love is offered here
What banquet come from heaven
What food of everlasting life
What gracious gift is given
This, this is Christ the King
The bread come down from heaven
Oh taste and see and sing
How sweet the manna given**

SPECIAL MUSIC: "O Holy Night" - Allison Fisher (5:00)

Pastor: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

People : **Amen**

BENEDICTION

Pastor : The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People : Amen

CLOSING HYMN: : “*Silent Night*” (Red #281)

**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**

**Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia
Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born**

**Silent night, holy night
Son of God love's pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord at your birth
Jesus, Lord at your birth**

Pastor : Go in peace and serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

In Our Prayers This Week

Please continue to keep Bob DeWolfe, Sandy Eckhardt, Kathy Wiegand, Sue & Dennis Van Den Einde, Pat Dobbs, Bob Lord, Sarah Ley, Leo Koebler, Don Parlow, Brenda Moura, Reggie Threat, Kris Curtis, Kathy Lehman, Ron & Elaine Kreklow, Beverly Kraus, in your prayers for healing and comfort.

Ellen DeWolfe went to her eternal home with the Lord on Dec. 20. Please keep Bob DeWolfe and his family in your prayers.

Welcome Visitors

Please sign the red attendance pads in the pew with your contact information! Thank you

Call Committee

The call committee is happy to announce that we have a candidate for our pastor coming for the weekend services of January 21 & 22. This candidate is from out of state but has close Wisconsin ties. A meet & greet in the fellowship hall will follow the Sunday morning service. Please make a point to attend one of the services. Thank you

Wish List

Boiler	\$45,000	
Bubblers	\$2,400	
New Pastor Moving expenses	\$8,000	

Staff/Administrative Team

Office Administrator	Erin Henry	920-674-2370
Council President	Dick Kassner	920-674-2577
Small World Director	Bonnie Scholl– Rhode	920-542-0841
Music Director/Organist	Carroll Stevens	920-674-5263
Custodian	Cindy Howard	920-650-6045

This Week’s Worship Helpers

	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day
Readers	Vicki Schicker 3pm Patty Heckart 5pm	Janette Pratt
Usher	Kevin & Wayne Sheil – 3pm Tim & Dale Gaugert pm	Marv Kuntz
Communion Helpers	Dale Gaugert-3pm Karen Jeske– 3pm Scott & Cindy Howard-5 pm	Rita Bussian Sandy Eckhardt

Upcoming events

Mon. Dec.26	
Tues. Dec. 27	Quilters -9am Men’s Bible Study 8am
Wed. Dec. 28	Choir Practice -7pm
Thurs. Dec. 29	
Fri. Dec.30	
Sat. Dec. 31	Worship –5pm
Sun. Jan 1	Worship Service –9am

Last Weeks Offering

To meet budget, weekly collections must be \$5,516.00

Advent	\$815.00
Christmas	\$430.00
Saturday	\$1557.00
Sunday	\$1430.00
Arnie Waldmann	\$215.00
Total	\$3017.00

Worship Service Attendance

Saturday Dec. 17	107
Sunday Dec. 18	34

