

Glory to God
IN THE HIGHEST,
AND ON EARTH
peace,
GOOD WILL
TOWARD MEN.

LUKE 2:14, KJV

Zion Lutheran Church

210 North Wayne Street
Saint Marys, OH 45885

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24, 2023
7:00 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.

Prelude

Hark the Herald Angels Sing	Thygeron
Wintertime Pastorale	Rowland-Raybold
Still, Still, Still	Helman
There's A Song in The Air	Powell
Meditation "See Amid The Winter Snow"	Barr
Rise Up Shepherds and Follow	Leatherman
God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen	Bish
The Sussex Carol	Lau
Once In David's Royal City	Whipple
Silent Night	Pool

Welcome & Announcements

Scripture Reading Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of
happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

⁸ The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹ Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰ The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Processional Hymn & Lighting of the Advent Wreath

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

#283

Christmas Litany (*Remain Standing*)

P: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of
Jesse,

C: and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

P: And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,

C: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding

P: the Spirit of counsel and might,

C: the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

P: And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

**C: In that day the Lord will extend his hand yet a
second time**

P: to recover the remnant that remains of his people.

Prayer

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray...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.

C: **Amen.**

(Be Seated)

Psalm 98

98 Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.

**² The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight
of the nations.**

³ He has remembered his steadfast love and
faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

**⁴ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

⁵ Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody!

**⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!**

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who dwell in it!

⁸ **Let the rivers clap their hands;
let the hills sing for joy together**

⁹ before the LORD, for he comes
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading Titus 2:11-14

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ 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.

Hymn

"From Heaven Above" (1-3)

#268

Gospel

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling

cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Sermon

Pastor Bill

Hymn

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

#270

Confession

(Please Stand)

P: Behold, the miracle born in human flesh, let us approach the God of grace to confess our human sin and weakness (*stand or kneel*):

C: we confess: that we have wandered away from your presence into darkness, sought other gods, treated others poorly, stood by in apathy, failed to stand for justice, and refused to extend mercy and grace to others. Forgive us our sins O Lord. Increase our faith in you and redirect us to loving you and loving our neighbors in thought, word and deed.

P: Behold! You are not to remain in darkness. Out of mercy for us and for the world, Jesus - the light of the world - is born of flesh and blood to bear all of our sins on the cross so that we might have forgiveness, wholeness and life now and forever. Rejoice, in the name of Jesus your sins are forgiven.

Offering

7:00,

Christmas Sanctus

Dangler

Zion Choir: Ruth Hoenie, Rhonda Weaver, Dianne Uhlenhake, Amy Hesse, Sandy Wierwille, Connie Torsell, Dora McAfee, Linda Yahl, Dwayne Hoenie, Bob Hinschlager, Miriam Johns

11:00, *A Thousand Candles*

Kohler

Singers: Diane Uhlenhake, Nicole & Katie Carpenter

(Please stand)

Offertory Response "Glory to you, God"

The musical score is written on six staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below each staff. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth; yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth. Ours the re - joi - cing for Word giv - en frame; ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name. Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done; yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone." The score ends with a double bar line.

Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
Ours the re - joi - cing for Word giv - en frame;
ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.
Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;
yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayers of the People

L: Lord in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.
C: And also with you.

Lord's Prayer

P: Let us pray together the prayer our Lord taught us...

C: 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.

Words of Institution

(sit)

The Whole Meal

Body of Christ given for you.

Blood of Christ shed for you.

Communion Hymns

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear" #282

"Away in a Manager" #277

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" #295

"The First Noel" #300

Post Communion Blessing

(Please stand)

Lighting of the Candles

Pastor will light his candle from the Christ Candle and then he will light the Usher's candles. The Ushers will share their candle's flame with the congregation, pew by pew, and in the balcony. The candles remind us that Jesus - the light of the world - overcomes the darkness in it.

The candles will remain lit through the singing of "Silent Night". Please be careful with the candles to avoid dripping wax onto clothes, pews and the floor. Parents please decide whether or not your child is old enough to hold a candle. Sharing a candle with them can also be extremely meaningful.

Hymn *"Silent Night, Holy Night!"* #281

Moment of Silence

Blessing

P: May the light of the world illumine your path and your life forever. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

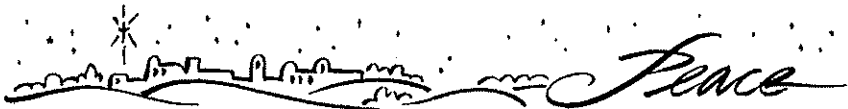
Recessional Hymn *"Joy to the World"* #267

Sending

P: Go in peace!

C: The savior is born!

Postlude *Grand Choeur Dialogue* Smith



Acolytes: 7 PM: Jessi Eberle
 11 PM: Maylee Fischbach

Communion 7 PM: Connie Torsell
Assistants: 11 PM: Jeanne Wurster

Crucifer: 7 PM: Grady Hughes
 11 PM: Will Ross

Ushers: 7 PM: Ryan, Brandy, Eliza & Zaila Yahl
11 PM: Jeanne Wurster, Darl Bishir,
Dianne Uhlenhake, Dan Macklem

Readers: 7 PM: Stephanie Ross
11 PM: Dan Macklem

A piece (Zampognaro-shepherd with bagpipe) has been added to the Willow Tree nativity in the Glory of God in memory of Jack Rouhier and in honor of Jo Rouhier by Bill Kellermeier.



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