

Welcome to Our Saviour. Once again, we stand amazed at the miracle of the Incarnation – Immanuel, God, with us. Let us fill the sanctuary of the Lord with praise, “Glory to God in the highest.” As the family of God, we greet one another; a special welcome to those visiting with us this evening.

- **Welcome pads are on the pews** at the center aisle; please sign and pass to your neighbor. Please include any changes.
- Please put your cell phones on quiet mode.

The bulletins this evening are sponsored to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ by the John Zimmerman family.

Thank you to our worship assistants this evening.

Reader: John Zimmerman
Ushers: Nadine & Otis Martin
Communion Assistant: Deb Flage

Pastor Frank, Mitchell, & Barb wish you a very Merry & Blessed Christmas.

Join us next Sunday at 9:00am for our Lessons and Carols Service.

The office will be closed for the holiday on Wednesday, December 25th.

VISION STATEMENT

Through the power of the cross, we, as disciples of Jesus Christ, are called to nourish those who hunger in mind, body, and spirit.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
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The Rev. Frank Terhune, Interim Pastor
Mitchell Sensenig, Organist
Barbara Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

December 24, 2024

7:00 pm

Throughout the service, where you find an asterisk () you are invited to stand as you are able.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

God Comes to Us in the Gathering of the People

A LIGHT FOR THE DARKNESS*

P Because injustice and despair threaten to overwhelm us, we pray for hope...

Advent Candle lit

Hymn *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (vs 1) **RED #257**

P Because so many swords have not yet been remade into plowshares, we pray for peace...

Advent Candle lit

Hymn *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (vs 2) **RED #257**

P Because grief and loss weigh so heavily upon us, we pray for joy...

Advent Candle lit

Hymn *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (vs 3) **RED #257**

P Because hatred is so strong, and because people all over the world are suffering, we pray for love...

Advent Candle lit

Hymn *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (vs 4) RED #257

P God has come to us as a child, to dwell with us, and to walk with us.

The Christ Candle is lit

P May the light and the fire from these candles burn away whatever would prevent the God of hope and peace and joy and love from being born among us.

GATHERING HYMN* *O Come, All Ye Faithful* RED #283

PRAYER OF THE DAY*

HYMN OF PRAISE * *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* RED #270

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

God Comes to Us in the Hearing of the Word

SCRIPTURE READING:

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm Hymn *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* RED #288

Titus 2:11-14

GOSPEL READING*

Luke 2:1-20

CHRISTMAS SERMON

HYMN * *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* RED #275

THE PRAYERS*

After each petition of the prayers:

L God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN* *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* RED #282

God Comes to Us Through Holy Communion

GREAT THANKSGIVING *

P We declare we are Christmas people and as Jesus is born in the stable, we are born again to everlasting life.

C **We come to pay homage and give thanks. We come to worship Jesus.**

P In this family meal we celebrate the gift of God in Christ Jesus.

C **In sharing the bread and wine we find forgiveness of sin and God's resurrection promise.**

P God gives us this gift to share.

C **We come to eat and drink and be changed.**

P In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

THE LORD'S PRAYER *

COMMUNION TOGETHER

Please join in singing during Communion.

Hymns: RED #289, RED #277, RED #279, RED #296

POST COMMUNION PRAYER *

God Comes to Us as the Light of the World

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE*

Lighting of the candles.

The acolyte will light the candle of the first person in each pew, who in turn will light the candle of their neighbor, and so on. The person receiving the light should tip their candle - this will prevent wax from dripping.

Please attempt to keep melted candle wax from dripping onto church furnishings and books, as well as keep hardened candle wax from falling onto the floor or other surfaces.

- P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
- C The light shines in the darkness, - - and the darkness did not overcome it.**
- P Those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.
- C We have seen Christ's glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.**
- P For a child has been for us, a son given to us.
- C What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**
- P Christ is born; salvation has appeared.
- C Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!**

The Candles are lit

HYMN * Silent Night, Holy Night! **RED #281**

(1st verse sung in German, followed by subsequent verses)

*Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schlaft,
einsam wacht nur das traute, hoch heilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar, schlaf in himmlischer
Ruh, schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.*

*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,
heav'nly 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.*

CLOSING PRAYER *

Almighty God, our Father, we praise You for the gift of Your Son,
and the opportunity to celebrate His coming into the world. Open

our ears that we may again hear the angelic chorus of old, open our lips that we too may sing praises unto Him, and open our eyes that we may visualize anew His presence as the light of the World. Grant this, we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord.
Amen.

God Comes to Us in Our Witness to the World

BENEDICTION *

Candles are extinguished.

CLOSING HYMN * Joy to the World

RED #267

DISMISSAL *

P Go into the night, glorifying and praising God for all you have seen and heard. As heralds of God's peace, go forth in joy to love and serve the Lord

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE



Prayer Requests

Linda Freed, Marianne McCann, Shirley Lafferty (Jim Lubrecht's niece), Mike Densmore (Jeanette Logan's cousin), Chuck Walker (friend of Otis & Nadine Martin), Brad Neil, Dan Fleming, Linda Freed, Dennis Hocker, Marian Wilson (Otis's sister), Mick Mortiz (Sandy's father), Jeannette Spencer (Anneke Fleming's friend), Marietje Koning

(Anneke Fleming's twin sister), Patsy Bauman, Randy Brittelli (Linda Schreier's son), Adam Mazur (Linda Schreier's godson), Jennifer Dupilka (Linda Schreier's granddaughter's mother), Abby Keith, Betty Nickle, Carol Gerig, Robin & Richard Walker (friends of Margo Whittaker), Betty Hammell, Jason Ziegler (friend of T.J. Johnson), Katherine Keister (friend of Nancy Pinko), Tina Stark (friend of Linda Schreier), Jacqueline Neil (Brad's mother), Nancy Staab (Joan Bateman's sister), Patti Spirk (Logan family friend), Joyce Hrestack (Joel Hain's ex-wife), Grace MacMurtrie (Hope Bowling's mother), Marion Tosheff, Betty Giovaninello (friend of Linda Schreier), Bishop Dunlop.

Pray for our military, especially Ian Bowling, Robert McCann, Jason Nunez, Reed Pollock, Jack Pollock, Maxwell Reilly, Myles Reilly, George Schreffler, III, & Chris Stevenson.

Pray for our shut-ins, especially Linda Freed, Shirley Kaltreider, Dottie Koppenhaver, Miriam Reinard, Pastor John Schaertel, Ed Seneca, Tom Snyder.