

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE 2023

PASTOR: W. Paul Weeg

ORGANIST: Marena Henkle

ACOLYTE: Weston Paulson

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

“Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful” LBW # 45

Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!

Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;

Come and behold him Born the king of angels:

Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,

Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Luke 1:68-79 The song of Zechariah (The Benedictus)

P: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

C: He has raised up a mighty Savior for us in the house of his servant David,

P: As he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

C: that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

P: Thus, he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant,

C: The oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham

P: to grant us, that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear,

C: In holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

P: And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

C: To give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.

P: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

C: To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

“I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve” LBW # 69

*I am so glad each Christmas Eve, The night of Jesus’ birth!
Then like the sun the star shone forth, And angels sang on earth.*

*The little child in Bethlehem, He was a king indeed!
For he came down from heav’n above To help a world in need.*

*And so I love each Christmas Eve, And I love Jesus too;
And that he loves me every day I know so well is true.*

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY: **Isaiah 9:2-7**

SECOND READING: **Titus 2:11-14**

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” LBW # 60

*Hark ! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.”
Joyful all you nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”*

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL: **Luke 2:1-7**

SOLO: ***“O Holy Night”*** Crystal Wilde

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL: **Luke 2:8-14**

“Infant Holy Infant, Lowly” LBW #44

*Infant holy, infant lowly, For his bed a cattle stall:
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the Child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing, Bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!*

CHRISTMAS GOSPEL: **Luke 2:15-20**

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” LBW # 54

*It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, From heav’n’s all gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing*

WE PRAISE AND ADORE THE GIFT OF GOD IN FLESH RECEIVED

P: Jesus, Son of the living God, splendor of the Father, light eternal, king of glory, sun of justice, born of the Virgin Mary:

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: Jesus, wonderful counselor, strong Lord, eternal God, Prince of Peace

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: Jesus, most powerful, patient, obedient, gentle and humble of heart, loving all who are pure in heart:

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: Jesus, God of Peace. Source of life, pattern of holiness, friend of all, our God and our refuge:

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: Jesus, brother of the poor, treasurer of the faithful, good shepherd, true light, inexhaustible wisdom, boundless love, our way and our life:

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

P: Jesus, joy of the angels, king of the patriarchs, master of the apostles, teacher of the evangelists, strength of the martyrs, light of every witness to the truth, crown of all the saint

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Praise God: Common Prayer at Taizé

SERMON

“The First Noel” LBW # 56

*The first Noel the angel did say Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they, lay 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.*

SOLO ***“Away in a Manger”*** Sheila Lundon

THE COLLECTION OF THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Of the 2023 Christmas offering, the first \$1500 will go to Benevolence. The rest will remain in the general fund of Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

Thank you to all who have been faithful in supporting our ministry this past year.

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” LBW # 41

*O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.*

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE DISTRIBUTION OF LIGHT

** The ushers will receive light from the Pastor and then will light the candle of the worshipper in each pew nearest the center aisle. **Please, tip only unlit candles!**
After all candles have been lit, we will sing Silent Night
(arrows indicate raising/lowering of candles)*

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht, alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute hochheilige 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.

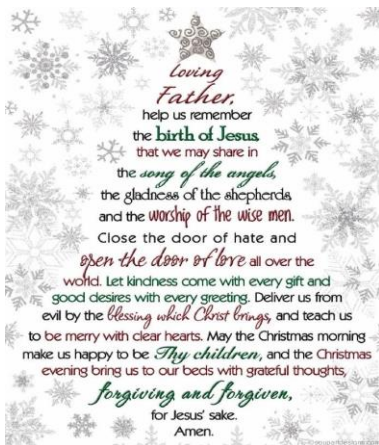
“Joy to the World” LBW # 39

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev’ry heart prepare him room
And heav’n and nature sing,
And heav’n and nature sing,
And heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*No more let sin and sorrow grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.*



Poinsettia Gifts

Given by . . .

- Clarice Bartz - In Memory of Loved Ones
- Ardis Hanson - In Memory of Allan Hanson
- Rod & Emi Kuntz - In Memory of Loved Ones
- Merlin & Lisa Bartz - In Memory of Jane Buechele
- Phil & Gloria Hackbart - In Memory of Loved Ones
- Charlotte Cole & Family - In Memory of Loved Ones
- Dean & Mardine Meyer - In Memory of Dale & Shirley Meyer
- Mark Fredrickson – In Memory of Ken & LaVerne Fredrickson
- Greg & Shal Zillgitt - In Memory of Zillgitt and Wytaske Family
In Memory of Fehr family



- Laurie Nack-Bublitz Family - In Memory of Loved Ones
and Kuper Dean Malmin- Love you !
- Keven Bruesewitz Family – In Memory of Koral Rosendahl
In Memory of Gene & Connie Bruesewitz
and Tom & Jean Fretty
- Connie Rosenberg Family - In Memory of Harper Putz, Don Anderson,
and Elmer & Pearl Rosenberg
- Chris and Teresa Braun Family - In Memory of Allan Hanson
In Memory of Everett & Chrystal Braun
- Pastor W. Paul and Peggy Weeg - In Memory of James R. & Beverly C. Erickson
and Rev. Warren C. & Rebecca N. Weeg
- W. Peder Weeg - In Memory of William Peder Johnson
- Chris Paulson Family - In Memory of Scott Paulson, Ray Smidt, and Bob & Marlis Ames

*Thank you to all who shared plants to beautify our sanctuary.
You may take your poinsettias after worship tonight.*

*No Christmas Day service tomorrow...enjoy your time with family and friends!
2024 Offering envelopes... are available in the entrance-please take them with you.*

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR!