

**CHRISTMAS EVE ~ \* ~ DECEMBER 24, 2024**



*Holy is  
His Name*

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 250 \* 205 West Jefferson Street  
Cole Camp, MO 65325**

**"Being Transformed By God's Grace To Love And Serve."**

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ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE  
December 24, 2024



*+If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated,  
please feel free to remain seated.*



Pre-Service Music

Lois Viebrock, Organist  
Jeannette VonHolten, Pianist

Special Music by the Choir

“A Little Child Will Come to Lead Us”  
“A Song, a Star, A Little Child”

Welcome and Announcements

*please stand as you are able*

Opening Hymn

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

#283

1 O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him,  
born the king of angels:

3 Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God  
in the highest: *Refrain*

*Refrain*

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

4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

2 The highest, most holy,  
light of light eternal,  
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
Son of the Father  
now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

*Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr.  
Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. un-  
known, st. 2*

## Greeting

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## Lighting the Advent Wreath and Christ Candle

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.**

Tonight is the night for which we have all been waiting. Our Advent wreath will now be completed the lighting of our Christ candle.

**“For unto us a child is given, unto us a Savior is born and the order of the world will be upon his shoulders.”**

In Christ, God’s Word is made flesh and lives among us.

**With the shepherds, we will tell of the wonders we have seen and heard.**

May the light of this wreath and Christ Candle show forth your signs of peace and hope for the world.

**Bless us as we celebrate your arrival this night!**

## Prayer of the Day

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. Amen.**

*please be seated*

## Processional Hymn

“O Come, Little Children”

1) O come little children  
O come one and all  
O come to the cradle  
In Bethlehem's stall  
The bright star will guide us  
And show us the way  
To Jesus who's lying  
Asleep on the hay

2) O come everybody  
O come to the stall  
With hearts full of love  
For this baby so small  
O sing little children  
To Him you adore  
O sing with the angels  
Sing peace evermore



*Following the program the children will return to sit with their families.*

Christmas Reading

Isaiah 9:2 - 7

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Words of Christmas Hope

Pastor Stephen Zeller

*please stand in body or spirit*

Hymn

"The First Noel"

#300

1 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.

*Refrain*

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!  
Born is the King of Israel.



2 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.

*Refrain*

3 And by the light of that same star  
three wise men came from country far;  
to seek for a king was their intent,  
and to follow the star wherever it went.

*Refrain*

4 This star drew near to the northwest,  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
and there it did both stop and stay  
right over the place where Jesus lay.

*Refrain*

5 Then entered in those wise men three,  
full rev'rently upon their knee,  
and offered there in his presence  
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

*Refrain*

*Text: English Traditional*

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your prayer. **Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*please be seated*

Offering

*Donated to Oaks Indian Mission and Salvation Army of Benton County*

Offering Hymn

“Once in Royal David’s City”

#269

*please stand in body or spirit*

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.....God with us: You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name. **Amen**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Eucharistic Prayer

## The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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.**

*please be seated*

## HOLY COMMUNION

By Stations

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine  
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.  
Red wine or white grape juice is available.

## Communion Hymns

“Angels We Have Heard On High”

#289

1 Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply,  
echoing their joyous strains.

3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn king.  
*Refrain*

### *Refrain*

Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heav'nly song?  
*Refrain*



“Away In A Manger”

#277

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.



2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.



3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Text: North American, 19th cent.

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

#288

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before him bow,  
and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!

3 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye need not fear the grave;  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all  
to gain the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!

2 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss:  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door,  
and we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr.  
John Mason Neale, 1818-1866

*Rejoice!*

*please stand in body or spirit*

### Post-Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

### Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.....On this day, O God, you gave us Christ the Son to save us. As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good news for all people. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### A Celebration Of The Light Of The World

*(When lighting the candle, dip the unlit candle to the lighted candle;  
then allow the next person to do the same from your lighted candle.)*

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world!

**He is the Light no darkness can overcome.**

Come to us, Lord, on this holy night; let your light scatter the darkness.

**Come to us, Lord, and illumine your Church.**

The old has passed away; behold the new has come! Bring light at last to our world as you foretold through the prophets.

**You have come to us, and you call us out of darkness and into your marvelous light!**





1 Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!  
 Alles Schlaft; einsam wacht  
 nur das heilige Eltern paar,  
 das im Stalle zu Bethlehem war,  
 bei dem himmlischen kind,  
 bei dem himmlischen kind.

2 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.

3 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!

4 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.



### Blessing

May the Lord God, who has called you out of darkness to be servants of light, grant you the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ Child. In the name of Almighty God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*(extinguish candles)*

- 1 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.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods,  
rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 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.
- 4 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.

*Let  
Heaven  
&  
Nature  
Sing!*

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ!

**Thanks be to God.**

## Characters In Children's Program



Gabriel:	Ben Goosen
God:	Grant Kullman
Mary:	Lexi Goyette
Joseph:	Hudson Kullman
Shepherd #1:	Freddie Goosen
Shepherd #2:	Kale Kruep
Shepherd #3:	Gannon Elliott
Inn Keeper #1	Grady Elliott
Inn Keeper #2	Jace Tinney
Inn Keeper #3:	Logan Jackson
Star:	Miranda Gerken
Angels:	Emi Bartell, Gracynn Elliott, Lauren Jackson, Ainsley Kullman, Nora Mullins, Elianna Parney, Lena Smith, Kelsey Viebrock & Charlotte Zeller
Shepherds:	Jaydon Bartell, Noah Gerken, Cash McCameron, Tucker Nash, Liam Parney, Cooper Rice, Kyler Tinney & Macoy Tinney
Animals:	Konway Kruep, Cooper Oelrichs, Easton Oelrichs, Callan Parney, Mason Smith & Isaac Zeller

~ \* ~ A SPECIAL THANK YOU ~ \* ~

Rev. Stephen Zeller, Pastor

Christmas Program Committee and Assistants, Emily Kullman and Anne Goosen

Children and Parents for their dedication to practices and the program.

Russ Oelrichs, sound & livestream

Todd Rusk, projection screen

Luther League for lighting the candles

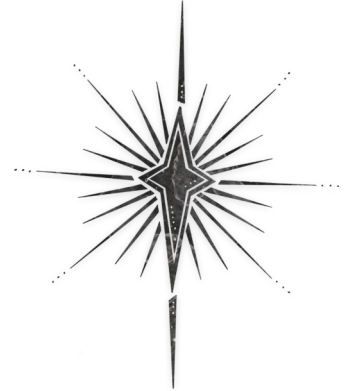
Lois Viebrock, organist

Jeannette VonHolten, pianist

Joyce Schlesselmann, choir director

St. Paul's Choir

Ushers, Altar Guild, Sexton and Custodian for all their hard work.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**