

FOR UNTO US

*a Child
is Born*

ISAIAH 9:6



St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

Bonduel, Wisconsin

December 24, 2017

The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Eve

✠ LOVE INCARNATE ✠

Welcome

Everyone wants to know and experience love. Christmas is all about love. God's Word in 1 John says, "In 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." On this Christmas Eve, we gather rejoicing that "God is love" and that "the Father has sent His Son to be the Savior of the world!" (1 John 4:9,14,16)

Pre-Service Prayer

Luther's LSB 358 Verses 8, 9, 10, 13

8. Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,
Through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery
That You might share Your joy with me.

10. Were earth a thousand times as fair
And set with gold and jewels rare,
It would be far too poor and small
A cradle for the Lord of all.

9. Ah, Lord, though You created all,
How weak You are, so poor and small,
That You should choose to lay Your head
Where lowly cattle lately fed!

13. Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.

Processional Proclamation *please stand and face the cross*

Jesus Christ, the Son of God

Born for us this day!

Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world

Born for us this day!

Jesus Christ, Lamb of God

Who takes away the sin of the world!

Grant us Your peace

And hear our prayer!

Processional Hymn 380 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Christmas Eve Litany *(using Isaiah 7:10–14)*

In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen!

In prophetic days of old, “The LORD spoke to Ahaz: “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.”

We acknowledge, O Lord, that all too often in our thoughts and words and actions we question Your Word for us.

And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also?”

O Lord, our gracious God, forgive us at all times, especially when we weary You by not seeking Your will and Your ways.

“Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

Direct us this night to the One born of the virgin. Teach us anew that He is Immanuel, God with us. Amen.

Be assured. “God is love,” (1 John 4:16). “In 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,” (1 John 4:9). Hear then His word of absolution: As a called and ordained servant of the Lord, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen and Amen.

Hymn 389 *Let all Together Praise Our God*

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| 1 Let all together praise our God
Before His glorious throne;
Today He opens heav'n again
To give us His own Son,
To give us His own Son. | 4 He undertakes a great exchange,
Puts on our human frame,
And in return gives us His realm,
His glory, and His name,
His glory, and His name. |
| 2 He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne,
Is born an infant small,
And in a manger, poor and lone,
Lies in a humble stall,
Lies in a humble stall. | 5 He is a servant, I a lord:
How great a mystery!
How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
No truer friend than He,
No truer friend than He. |
| 3 Within an earthborn form He hides
His all-creating light;
To serve us all He humbly cloaks
The splendor of His might,
The splendor of His might. | 6 He is the key and He the door
To blessèd paradise;
The angel bars the way no more.
To God our praises rise,
To God our praises rise. |

△ Your grace in lowliness revealed,
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield
And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.

Christmas Prayer

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Dear Eternal Lord of all creation, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Immanuel, Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully acknowledge Him as our Redeemer and Savior, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn 370 *What Child Is This*

The Christmas Gospel

The Christmas Epistle Proclamation: 1 John 4:7–16

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In 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. ¹⁰ In 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.

¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶ So 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.

Hymn

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:

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

Christ the Lord!

Highest, most holy,

Light of Light eternal,

Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;

Son of the Father

Now in flesh appearing!

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

O come, let us adore Him,

Christ the Lord!

The Christmas Gospel Luke 2:1–20

An Oral Presentation

Response

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest:

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

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

Christmas Sermon: Heavenly Love

Hymn 392 *God Loves Me Dearly*

Offering

Christmas Medley

O Little Town of Bethlehem

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.

Angels We Have Heard on High

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

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a 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.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Lord God Almighty, for the heavenly love in the birth of your son, on this most holy night we lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving. Let the proclamation of His birth sound forth throughout the world.

Hear our prayer.

In the birth of Your Son, You have signaled the beginning of a new creation; while we still live in a world wracked by the ravages of sin, we know that the final triumph is Yours.

Hear our prayer.

In the birth of Your Son, You have visited and redeemed Your people. Continue to visit those who are lonely, sick, recovering or near death. Let Your presence be a comfort to them, and give them perseverance until that time You grant healing, relief, deliverance and peace.

Hear our prayer.

In the birth of Your Son, You have signaled Your love for all humanity. Keep us ever mindful of all the lost people, and stir in us a sense of urgency to tell others the Good News of His coming so that they can join in the praise of Your holy name.

Hear our prayer.

In the birth of Your Son, who would travel to the cross and rise from the grave, we give You thanks for all the believers who have gone before us, especially those who have been with us during Christmases past and are now with You. Give us a sure confidence in Your promise of resurrection and eternal life, and bring us at last together with them into Your presence at the full coming of Your Kingdom.

Hear our prayer.

Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray.

Our Father

Lighting of the Candles

(Please tip the unlit candle when lighting. Hold lit candles upright.)

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you

And be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn

Silent Night, Holy Night

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.

(After the hymn, please extinguish candles and remain seated. Please wait to be ushered out.)



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Serving the Lord in Worship

Liturgy Rev. Timothy J. Shoup **Sermon** Rev. Mark R. Palmer
Organist Mrs. Lorraine Doell
Acolytes Noah Weier Ayden Kohn Charlie Tauchen

Bulletin Sponsored . . . to the glory of God and in loving memory of *Edna Kallies* and *Medora Kallies*, whose birthdays were on December 24 and January 1, by Bill and Tillie Kallies.

Next Weekend's Services

Saturday, December 30, Worship Service – 7:00pm
Sunday, December 31, Worship Services – 8:00am, 10:15am



POINSETTIAS 2017



Placed with thanksgiving to the glory of God for His Son by:

Jeff Simon

Derrick and Amy Zernicke

PLACED IN MEMORY OF

Mark Adkins

Larry Reisner, Maynard Bahr, and

Marvin Murphy

Jeff and Dennis Bahr

Loved Ones in the Schlemmer, Schulenberg, and

Baker Families

Robert Bleick, Heather Bleick, Matt Suski, and

Albert and Emma Graf

Warren and Margaret Born

PLACED BY

Dianne Adkins and Family

Kevin Bahr Family

Sally and Shelby Bahr and Family

Jon and Karen Baker

Margery Bleick

Sheldon and Barbara Born

<i>Florence Buelow</i>	Her Family
<i>Sue Busch</i>	Her Family
<i>Gerald Dehn</i>	Betty Dehn and Family
<i>Devin Eggert</i>	Michael, Jennifer, and Hailey Eggert
<i>John H. Engel</i>	Tim and Amy Engel and Family
<i>Lyle and Patty Ann Gehm</i>	Carol Gehm and Family
<i>Mary Genke</i>	Randy, Amy, Steve, and Kim Genke
<i>George and Emma Gehm, Curtis Grunewald</i>	James J. and Ione Grunewald
<i>Justin Jeske</i>	His Family
<i>Henry and Eleanor Klosterman</i>	The Klosterman Family
<i>RoJean Knueppel</i>	Knueppel Families
<i>Kristine Reinke</i>	Knueppel Families
<i>Ray and Mary Braun</i>	Ken and Cheryl Kohn and Family
<i>Vernon and Victoria Kohn</i>	Ken and Cheryl Kohn and Family
<i>Willard Kohn</i>	Marcella Kohn and Family
<i>Duane Kuehn</i>	Janice Kuehn and Family
<i>Loved Ones</i>	Steve and Lisa Lemhouse
<i>Rochelle "Sally" Luepke</i>	Larry and Jane Luepke
<i>Lauren Marohl</i>	Josh Marohl Family
<i>David McClone</i>	Tom and Lois McClone and Family
<i>Richard Moede</i>	Carol Moede and Family
<i>Marian and Dick Monroe</i>	Daughters, Children, and Grandchildren
<i>Mim Mueller</i>	Wally Mueller and Children
<i>All Grandparents now departed</i>	Steve Reisner Family
<i>Ivan and Norma Rueckert, DuWayne Rueckert, and Donna Rueckert</i>	Joe Rueckert Family
<i>Brandi Ann Sporisky</i>	Jay and Julie Sporisky and Family
<i>Dean L. Sporisky</i>	Jay and Julie Sporisky and Family
<i>Dennis, Alvina, and Judi Sumnicht</i>	René Sumnicht and Family
<i>Jacob Thorne</i>	His Family
<i>Rev. Mark and Gladys Wegner, and Luther and Naomi Leininger</i>	Richard and Carol Wegner
<i>Dave Wegner</i>	Sandy Wegner and Family
<i>Jenny Wickman-Hacker, Mayford and Jane Schultz, and Agnes Wickman</i>	Wickman Family
<i>Jacob Thorne</i>	Phil and Marlene Wozniak
<i>Dale Wussow</i>	His Family

Poinsettias may be taken home following the Christmas Day service on December 25th.