



*Jesus, Immanuel...  
God with us.*

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.*

JOHN 1:14 (NIV)

# St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

Bonduel, Wisconsin

December 24, 2023

## *The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Eve*



### Processional Hymn

### *O Come All Ye Faithful*

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!

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!

## Christmas Eve Litany and Lighting of the Wreath

Beloved in Christ, in this Christmastide let it be our care, comfort, and delight, to hear again the message from the Prophet Isaiah and the Evangelist Matthew, that “the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means God with us).

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

**Amen.**

Dear Lord, we pray, speak to us this night as you first spoke to Your servants who heard the angels. Give to us faith as you gave to Mary and to Joseph. Bring true peace and joy to our hearts, peace that finds joy in knowing God is with us. And let us make glad this house of the Lord with our carols of praise, for indeed...

The promised Deliverer has come.

**In the midst of our deepest need He has come to us all.**

For unto us a Child is born,  
**to us a Son is given!**  
And they will call his name Immanuel  
**Which means God with us.**

We may be tempted to live in denial of evil,

**As if it does not surround us,**

Or to despair of evil,

**As if the baby sent to Bethlehem is not God with us,**

Or to miscalculate the iniquity of our own sin,

**As if the just punishment we deserve is not significant,**

But prophet has said

Unto us a Child is born,  
**to us a Son is given!**  
And they will call his name Immanuel  
**Which means God with us.**

For Immanuel rules the world and all things for us and for our salvation.

**He calculated the iniquity of our sin,**  
He was sent to Bethlehem to suffer, to die,  
**and to rise again,**  
And Immanuel will appear again for us  
**to usher in salvation.**

*(The center white candle, the Christ Candle, is lit)*



For unto us a Child is born,  
**to us a Son is given!**  
And the government shall be upon his shoulder:  
**And his name shall be called Wonderful,**  
Counselor,  
**The mighty God,**  
The everlasting Father,  
**The Prince of Peace.** (Isaiah 9)

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

**"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son,**  
and they will call his name Immanuel" –

**Which means, God with us.** (Isaiah 7)

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,

**Because He will save His people from their sins.** (Matthew 2)

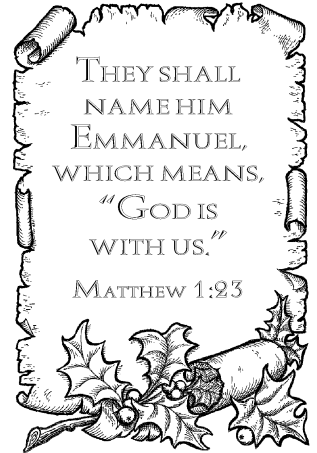
## Hymn

## *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.

For Christ is born of Mary,  
And, gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the king  
And peace to all the earth!

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Immanuel!



## A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah

*Isaiah 7:10–14*

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” <sup>13</sup>And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Music**      2:00 and 4:00pm      *Breath of Heaven*

## A Reading from the Apostle John

*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. <sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. <sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup>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

### *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*

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, goodwill to all,  
From heav'n's all-gracious king."  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come  
With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heav'nly music floats  
O'er all the weary world.  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hov'ring wing,  
And ever o'er its babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

All you, beneath your heavy load,  
By care and guilt bent low,  
Who toil along a dreary way  
With painful steps and slow:  
Look up, for golden is the hour,  
Come swiftly on the wing,  
The Prince was born to bring you peace;  
Of Him the angels sing.

For lo, the days have come to pass  
By prophets seen of old,  
When down into the circling years  
Came Christ as was foretold.  
His word of peace shall to the earth  
God's ancient promise bring,  
And all who take this gift will hear  
The song the angels sing.



## The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: <sup>23</sup>"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ!**

**Hymn**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

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!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

**Sermon**

**"Merry Christmas! God Is with Us!"**

*Matthew 1:23*



Hymn (stand) *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Offering (please fill out the red fellowship book at the end of each pew)

## Christmas Medley

### *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

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!

Flocks were sleeping,  
Shepherds keeping  
Vigil till the morning new  
Saw the glory,  
Heard the story,  
Tidings of a Gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing,  
Free from sorrow,  
Praises voicing,  
Greet the morrow:  
Christ the child was born for you!



*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.

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

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 sky look down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

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.

## Prayers

### Lord's Prayer

### Lighting of the Candles

*(Please tip the unlit candle when lighting; always holding lit candles upright.)*

### Benediction

### 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 Thy holy face

With the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,

Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

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



#### Acknowledgments

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# *Serving the Lord in Worship*

**Pastors** Rev. Timothy J. Shoup Rev. Mark R. Palmer  
**Organist** Mrs. Lorraine Doell  
**Music** 2:00pm Amy Rottier, Debbie Welch  
4:00pm Willa Rusch

## *Prayers*

**In Need of Healing . . .** *Jon Baker, Bonnie Buss, Bruce Heling, Ron Kohn, Gregory Kopitske, Jr., Tom Kriehn, Joyce Moeller, Sue Nohr, Theresa Runge, Marlene Schmidt, Dalton Schmidt, Aurelia Steinbach, Leon Stuewer, Tracy Sundstrom, Orpha Swift, Marilyn Tessmann, Dick Wegner, Mark Welch, Jacob Worthington and Deb Zernicke.*



## *Announcements*

**Family Devotions Online . . .** Use our All Things St. Paul QR code (back of the bulletin) for a short pastor-led video that will bring encouragement from God's Word for all families. These videos may also be found at the St. Paul Bonduel YouTube website under playlists.

**More about All Things St. Paul QR Code . . . Members:** Please use the QR code today, found on the back of the bulletin, to update your email address, phone number, and mailing address. Also please provide an online review of our church or school. **Visitors:** Are you interested in St. Paul Church or School? Use the QR code found on the back of the bulletin and request information about membership or enrollment at our school.

**Contribution Envelopes . . .** for 2024 are available in the narthex.

### *Attended/Communed — December 14/17, 2023*

Thursday	12/14	7:00pm	103/ 82
Sunday	12/17	8:00am	228/199
		10:15am	<u>120/ 90</u>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>451/371</b>
		<b>Livestream Views</b>	<b>171</b>

**Amico's SPYRT Fundraiser . . .** Every second Tuesday of the month, Amico's in Bonduel will donate 25% of the day's sales to our SPYRT youth group. Support our youth and support a local business, beginning January 9, 2024.

**Special Voters' Meeting . . .** A Special Voters' Meeting will be held in the fellowship hall on Sunday, January 14 after the 10:15am service. Information concerning the Ukraine Refugee Sponsorship Program will be shared.

### **Pastoral Call Process and Questionnaire Update**

We received approximately 60 completed questionnaires ranking nine pastoral skills or traits according to what you think is most important for our congregation in our next associate pastor. Thank you for participating! Preaching and Pro-Lutheran School were among the higher ranked qualities. We will post the results after Christmas. We pray for God's will and guidance. Also, after Christmas, look for a "candidate submission form" for any member to submit the name of a pastor you would like to be added to our list of candidates.

### **Director of Church Ministry – DCM**

At the October 24 Quarterly Voters' Meeting, our congregation elected to expand our ministry by calling a part-time DCM to begin in early 2024. The DCM's purpose will be to support and help expand the gospel ministry at St. Paul by assisting our pastors with coordinating events, visiting shut-ins and members in need as assigned, teaching Bible class, helping lead evangelism, and facilitating communication with our members and the community. Candidates for this position will have a corresponding earned degree from a Concordia University. If you would like more information, or know of a possible candidate for this called position, please contact Al Kohn or one of our pastors by this year's end.

### **The Lutheran Hour . . . "The Exit from Regret" *Luke 2:27–28***

When life becomes an endless roundabout of regret, Christ is your entrance to forgiveness and a new start. Tune in next Sunday at 7:30am to hear guest speaker Rev. Dr. John Nunes WTCH/960 AM, WRVM/102.7 FM at 10:00am, or go to [www.lutheranhour.org](http://www.lutheranhour.org).

**Thank You . . .** to everyone who baked goods for the bake sale last Saturday, volunteered in the concession stand, helped set up, baked cookies, and led the activities at the WRLHS Christmas event on Sunday.

**2024 WRLHS Annual Campaign . . .** The yearly campaign has started. The theme this year is "I Can Only Imagine". Please help us meet our goal of paying off the debt on our beautiful school by pledging or making a donation to Wolf River marked "Annual Campaign". Information regarding the 2024 Annual Campaign is located in the back of each of our association churches or on our website [wrlhs.org](http://wrlhs.org). Thank you for helping!

**Thrivent Action Teams . . .** Want to be able to give one more Christmas gift yet this year? If you are a Thrivent product holder you probably can request one or two Thrivent Action Team gift cards for up to \$250 each. Google "Thrivent Action Teams" to read the rules and find the application process. The money may be used for a variety of stewardship events such as purchasing supplies for Sunday School classes, buying food for the fellowship meals between services, purchasing supplies or prizes for a fundraiser, etc. Apply before December 31 to make use of this year's funds.



## *POINSETTIAS 2023*



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

Ron & Amy Schmidt and Family ..... Jeff Simon  
 Darren & Maureen Zernicke ..... Paul & Renee Schmidt and Family

<i>PLACED IN MEMORY OF</i> .....	<i>PLACED BY</i>
<i>Mark Adkins</i> .....	Dianne Adkins and Family
<i>Sheryl Bahr</i> .....	Bahr Family
<i>Jeff, Shelby and Dennis Bahr</i> .....	Sally Bahr and Family
<i>Loved ones now departed</i> .....	Jon and Karen Baker
<i>Robert Beilfuss</i> .....	Brian and Carrie Beilfuss and Family
<i>Our Parents</i> .....	Dewey and Marcia Bellile
<i>Warren and Margaret Born</i> .....	Sheldon and Barbara Born
<i>Sally Luepke</i> .....	Dan and Dixie Brunner
<i>John and Shirley Brunner</i> .....	Dan and Dixie Brunner
<i>Gerald Dehn</i> .....	Betty Dehn and Family
<i>Mom and Dad</i> .....	Mari Dehn
<i>John Dobratz</i> .....	Family of John Dobratz
<i>Our Parents</i> .....	Doug and Geraldine Druckrey
<i>Adolph "Spitz" and Rose Marie Druckrey</i> .....	Family Members

<i>Germaine, Dennis, and Brian Frank</i> .....	John Frank
<i>Lyle and Patty Ann Gehm</i> .....	Carol Gehm and Family
<i>Rolly and Bob Genke</i> .....	Diane Genke
<i>Mary Genke</i> .....	Randy Genke, Amy and Steve
<i>Eugene Graziano</i> .....	Anita Graziano
<i>George and Emma Gehm</i> .....	James J. and Ione Grunewald
<i>Curtis and Arlene Grunewald</i>	
<i>Lorenz and June Froelich, Don Mueller</i> .....	Gary and Connie Holewinski and Family Mary Mueller
<i>Justin Jeske</i> .....	The Family of Justin Jeske
<i>Henry and Eleanor Klosterman</i> .....	The Klosterman Family
<i>Edwin Knueppel and Florence Knueppel Buelow</i> ...	Their Family
<i>Ray and Mary Braun</i> .....	Ken, Cheryl, Kevin Kohn and Family
<i>Vernon and Victoria Kohn</i> .....	Ken, Cheryl, Kevin Kohn and Family
<i>Loved Ones</i> .....	Steve and Lisa Lemhouse
<i>"Sally" Luepke</i> .....	Larry and Jane Luepke
<i>David McClone</i> .....	Tom and Lois McClone and Family
<i>Al Marohl</i> .....	The Family of Al Marohl
<i>Lauren Marohl</i> .....	Josh and Tricia (Wegner)Marohl Families
<i>All Deceased Loved Ones</i> .....	Carol Moede and Family
<i>Audrey Moede</i> .....	Charles Moede and Family
<i>Roger Peterman, Marsha Boerst, Maynard and</i> .....	Maribeth Peterman
<i>Marcella Boerst, Bob and Marlene Buettner</i>	
<i>Donnie, Buck and Sally Pleshek</i> .....	Matt Pleshek
<i>George and Elda Sager, James Sager</i> .....	D.J. and Lana Reinke
<i>Charles and Doris Mueller</i> .....	Johnny and Kris Reinke
<i>John and Geraldine Reinke</i>	
<i>All Grandparents Now Departed</i> .....	Steve and Michelle Reisner Family
<i>Our Parents and Brothers</i> .....	Ellen and Dennis Rudzinski
<i>Tamra Czarapata</i> .....	Sandy Staszak
<i>Rob Swanson</i> .....	Martha Swanson, Phil and Mary Jo Olson
<i>Ernie and Mutzy Tischler</i> .....	By their Children and Grandchildren
<i>George and Diane VandenBrook</i> .....	Tim and Wendi VandenBrook and Family
<i>Roger Wood</i> .....	Tim and Wendi VandenBrook and Family
<i>Rev. Mark and Gladys Wegner, and</i> .....	Richard and Carol Wegner
<i>Luther and Naomi Leininger</i>	
<i>David Wegner</i> .....	His Family
<i>Jenny Wickman-Hacker</i> .....	Randy and Barb Wickman
<i>Bob Woldt</i> .....	The Family

*All Departed Loved Ones* .....Rob and Glenda Woldt  
*Roger Wood*.....Audrey Wood and Family  
*Rachel and Dale Wussow* .....Wussow Family


*Poinsettias may be taken home following the  
 Christmas Day service on December 25<sup>th</sup>.*



**EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

- Sunday 12/24** 2:00pm Christmas Eve Worship  
 4:00pm Christmas Eve Worship  
 7:00pm Christmas Eve Worship
- Monday 12/25** 9:00am Christmas Day Worship—Holy Communion
- Tuesday 12/26** 7:00pm Men’s Club
- Wednesday 12/27** 1:30pm Meadowview  
 4:00pm – 5:00pm Food Pantry
- Thursday 12/28** 7:00pm Worship
- Friday 12/29**
- Saturday 12/30**
- Sunday 12/31** 8:00am Worship  
 10:15am Worship



	<p style="text-align: right;">             Rev. Timothy J. Shoup, Administrative Pastor              Rev. Mark R. Palmer, Associate Pastor              Mr. Aaron M. Landgrave, Principal              Mrs. Lorraine Doell, Music Director              Mrs. Robin Reep, Youth Director           </p> <p style="text-align: right;">             Church Office 715-758-8559      School Office 715-758-8532              240 E. Green Bay Street, Bonduel, Wisconsin 54107              Website: <a href="http://www.stpaulbonduel.com">www.stpaulbonduel.com</a> </p>
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