



Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Sharing God's Love with All!
Christmas Eve Family Worship
December 24, 2016, 4:00 pm

Welcome

Gathering Hymn.....*I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve (vs 1-3)*.....#271
(First Verse Norwegian Solo.....Rita Hegge)

The little child in Bethlehem, he was a king indeed! For he came down from heav'n above to help a world in need.

He dwells again in heaven's realm, the Son of God today; and still he loves his little ones and hears them when they pray.

Greeting

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.

Reading.....*John 1:1-5*.....Pastor Dorothy Sandahl

C: Thanks be to God!

Hymn.....*O Come All Ye Faithful (vs 1)*.....#283

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!

Reading.....*John The Baptist*.....Dave Hegge

C: Thanks be to God!

Hymn.....*Joy To The World (vs 1-2)*.....#267

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 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.

Reading..... *Jesus is Born*.....Molly Toraason

C: Thanks be to God!

Special Music.....Sarah Toraason

Reading.....*The Shepherds*.....Sarah Toraason

C: Thanks be to God!

Hymn.....*It Came Upon A Midnight Clear (vs 1)*.....#282

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.

Reading.....*The Wise Men*.....Rita Hegge

C: Thanks be to God!

Special Music.....Halaynna Macharia

Hymn.....*The First Noel (vs 1-2)*.....#300

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.

Reading.....*The Rest Of The Story*.....Caitlin Toraason

C: Thanks be to God!

Hymn.....*Go Tell It On The Mountain (vs 1-2)*#290

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

What does this mean to us today? Where is Christ reborn in our faith, in the retelling and passing it on? Share with one another what this story means to you.

Confession (*Let us pray together*)

C: Most wonderful God, let not our celebrations be tarnished by

either unrepentant or apathetic hearts; forgive us for our limited loving, holding fears and judgments. May the Spirit at the heart of Christmas breathe into us that healing which makes all things new. For your name's sake. Amen!

Assurance of Pardon

P: "You shall call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins." Jesus said, "I have come that you might have life, and have it to the uttermost." Glory to God! We are forgiven and liberated people!

C: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of the Day

C: Most loving God, you make us happy each year as we remember the birth of Jesus. As we joyfully receive him now as our Savior, so may we look upon his power and glory with love and wonder. Amen!

Offering

Offering Hymn.....*Lord, I lift Your Name On High*.....#857

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises. I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us. You came from heaven to earth to show the way, from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay, from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

Offering Prayer: *(From Martin Luther)*

P: Little Child of God, laid in a manger, we adore your coming! Now God is of our image, God is of our flesh and blood. Now there is no difference at all between your body and ours. You are our Savior and

our brother lying in a cot. You join our human frailty, share our needs, and assure us of utter glory. Halleluiah!

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving.....Page 144

Words of Institution

P: For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Lord's Prayer.....Page 145

Holy Communion

Communion Hymn 1.....*What Child Is This (vs 1-2)*.....#296

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you; hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

Communion Hymn 2.....*Away In A Manger (vs 1-2)*.....#278

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.

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.

Communion Prayer

P: Jesus Christ, the exact likeness of God's own being, has come into the world full of grace and truth. He has made us right with God through death and resurrection. Our thanks and praise abound.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn.....*Silent Night, Holy Night (vs 1-2)*.....#281

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!

Blessing

P: Go now and join your voices with the song of joy in all creation. Announce peace. Proclaim forgiveness and let the earth know that God reigns. And may God sustain you with his powerful Word. May Christ Jesus be born as Savior within you. And may the Spirit reveal to you the glory of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Go in peace, love and serve the Lord, and one another!

C: Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Office Closure: The church office will be closed on Thursday, December 29th. Sorry for any inconveniences!

Celebration Sunday: Anybody who celebrated a birthday or special occasion in the month of December, please feel free to bring a treat to share after worship next Sunday, January 1st in celebration!

Joint Service: We will be having a joint service with Grace Lutheran on Sunday, January 15th at Grace starting at 8:00am. We will also be having pot luck after worship, so bring a dish to pass!

Committee Leaders: Please remember to update the office, or write on the calendar outside of the office, times of any practices, meetings, events, and so forth so that they can be added to the Sunday announcements and monthly Messengers. Thanks!

Annual Meeting: Our Saviour's annual congregational meeting will take place after worship on Sunday, February 5th. Committees will need to have their annual reports turned into the office no later than **Thursday, January 19th**. Thank you!

Happy Birthday: Wishing a happy birthday this upcoming week to: **Constance Kastad, Carol Byington, Clinton Larson, Caitlin Toraason, LeAnn Ring, Lisa Schmitt, Sawyer Kurth, Debra Olson, Jeffrey Reick, Mackenzie Standish, and Bonnie Lyga.**

Please pray for the following: Barb Harms, Karl Fernholz, Roy Arneson, George Przybilla, Goodwin Anderson, Vicki Windjue, Steven Hanvold, Ralph Johnson, Lara Schansberg, Charlie Bratz, Fern Moe, Bob Guinn, Jeff Betthauser, Mary Eid Everson, Jerry Betthauser, Elaine Foss, Linda Schroeder and Christin Stoutner.

Coming Up This Week:

Thursday - Office Closed

Sunday - Worship 9:15am (Celebration Sunday)

Christmas Poinsettias

In Loving Memory of:

- Daughter Connie Watson by Mary Ann Watson
- Husband Charles E. Watson by Mary Ann Watson
- Husband Sidney Borreson by Irene Borreson
- Son Dale Borreson by Irene Borreson
- Alvin and Esther Nelson by Jim and Kay Nelson
- Victor Foss and Samuel Foss; Leonard and Helen Foss by Sharon Foss
- Raymond and Alma Loga; Hugh and Alvina Goard; John and Viola Dunham by Dave and Brenda Loga Family
- Alfred and Elenora Sesvold; James and Ethel Hughes by Jim and Georgia Hughes and Family
- Janice Chamberlain by Karen Witte
- John Witte by Karen Witte
- Daryl Oates by Donna Oates and Family
- Nathalie Rusk and Stella Ringstad by John, Paula and Nick Powell; Paul and Megan Nelson; Cody Bautch
- Ruth Powell by John, Paula and Nick Powell; Paul and Megan Nelson; Cody Bautch
- Clarence and Agnes Mathson; Elmer and Florence Ryan by John and Shirley Mathson
- Edward Ausderau by Delores Ausderau and Family
- Bennie and Stella Ringstad; August and Emma Ringstad by Ben and

- Sharon Ringstad and Richard and Bev Waldera
- Ronald E. Harms by Barbara J. Harms
 - Helen Pollman; Bob and Shirley Gauger; Albert and Elsie Gauger by Kathy and Chuck Gauger and Family
 - Parents Morgan and Blanche Halverson and Brother Duane Halverson by Shirley Wozney
 - Tom Toraason by Ann Toraason and Family
 - John Hansen by Sue Hansen and Family
 - Peter Speerstra; William B. Delong; Mary Pat Delong by Jack and Mary Speerstra and Family
 - Neil Coburn from Deloris Coburn and Family
 - Frank Coburn, from Deloris Coburn and Family
 - Kari Coburn from Deloris Coburn and Family

In Honor of:

- Russ and Carol Anderson's 60th Wedding Anniversary on December 26th by Jim, Julie, Sharon and Family
- Our grandsons: Devin Klomsten, Jackson, Gannon and Bennett Loga by Dave & Brenda Loga
- Our Godchildren, Mikayla, Chloe, and Darren by Kris and Duane Dubiel
- Willard and Helen Halverson by Jim and Kay Nelson
- Hughes Grandkids: Taylor, Hillary, Cody, Kayley, Evan, Carson and Avery by Jim and Georgia Hughes
- Marilyn Speerstra by Jack and Mary Speerstra and Family

Thank you for blessing our church with Christmas Poinsettias.

You are welcome to take your flowers home after the Christmas Day service. Plastic to cover the flowers is available in the sacristy.

Pastor: Dorothy Sandahl

Email: pastoroslcwh@gmail.com

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Church Website: oslcwhitehall.org

Church Email:

osluthwh@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon-Wed-Fri. 10am-1pm; Tues-Thurs. 7am-2pm

Assisting in Worship Today:

Accompanist: Tekla Baken

Ushers: Tom and Kris Matchey

Communion Servers: Andy and Mary Johnson

Videographer: Blake Herman

The Magic of
Christmas
is not in the presents
but in *His* 
presence