

CHRIST'S TRUE BODY AND BLOOD, given and shed in His passion for the forgiveness of sins, are really present in, with, and under the bread and the wine in the Sacrament of the Altar and are given to and received by those who commune. Confirmed church members who are of one faith with us are invited to the Lord's table. Please register by marking the attendance card in the pew rack.

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Divine Service III LSB pages 184-202

L = Liturgist

* = Stand

C = Congregation

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***HYMN OF INVOCATION** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

1. **Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

2. **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 the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell; Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

3. **Come, Desire of nations, come, Fix in us Thy humble home;
Oh, to all Thyself impart, Formed in each believing heart!
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

NURSERY & KINDERGARTEN CHRISTMAS PAGEANT (10:30)

*Away in a Manger**In a Little Stable**Happy Birthday, Jesus****INVOCATION AND GENERAL CONFESSION**

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. (Sung)

L: O Wisdom, proceeding from the Most High—

C: I confess that I have not always lived a wise life. I have not followed Your teachings.

L: O Lord, head of all the peoples of the world—

C: My sin has separated me from You. Have mercy on me for Your sake, my Redeemer.

L: O Branch of Jesse—

C: I call to You for help, for I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.

L: O Key of David—

C: I deserve to have heaven closed to me on account of all that I have done wrong. Open to me the gates of paradise, for Your holy life has exempted me from condemnation.

L: O Morning Star, Sun of Righteousness—

C: Forgive me for my dark misdeeds. Shine the light of Your love into the depths of my being.

L: O Emmanuel—

C: Come near to me and save me. Amen.

***THE ABSOLUTION**

C: Amen. (Sung)

***THE GLORIA PATRI** (Taken from LSB, page 186)

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (Sung)

***THE KYRIE**

C: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. (Sung)

***THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And with Your spirit. (Sung)

L: Let us pray.

C: Amen. (Sung)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING for the fourth Sunday in Advent is from Micah 5:2-4, page 1006: (8:00)

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God. (Sung)

THE EPISTLE READING is from Hebrews 10:5-10, page 893:

⁵Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'" ⁸When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He does away with the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

***ALLELUIA AND VERSE**

C: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. (Sung)

***THE HOLY GOSPEL** - according to St. Luke, the first chapter, verses 39-45, page 856:

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord. (Sung)

³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to Thee, O Christ. (Sung)**

The Sung Creed – (Sung to “From Heaven Above”)

With angel choirs we join to raise,
To God the Father highest praise,
By whose strong Word all things were made,
The wonders of His love displayed.

By love God’s Son was sent to earth,
The child of wondrous virgin birth.
For sinners all, that life He gave,
And rose triumphant from the grave.

The Spirit of the Lord draws near,
To sanctify God’s people dear.
Where Christ’s forgiving pow’r is known,
The wonders of God’s love are shown.

Most wonderful of all – believe,
That life eternal they receive
Who place in Jesus Christ their faith;
With Him they too shall conquer death.

THE SERMON

“Bethlehem - Little is Big”

(Micah 5:2)

THE OFFERING - *During the offering all worshipers are asked to fill out the blue or ivory cards found in the pew rack. Please pass cards down to center aisle. They will be collected immediately after the offering.*

VOLUNTARY

***THE OFFERTORY** (LSB pg 192)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH/*LORD'S PRAYER**

***THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen. (Sung)**

***THE AGNUS DEI (sung)**

LSB page 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

349, 374, 546, 357

8:00 Chancel Choir

O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild

NUNC DIMITTIS (Sung) - Song of Simeon Luke 2:29-32 LSB page 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

L: Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

C: **And His mercy endureth forever. (Sung)**

L: Let us pray.

C: Amen. (Sung)

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And with Thy Spirit. (Sung)

L: Bless we the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God. (Sung)

*THE BENEDICTION

C: Amen. Amen. Amen. (Sung)

*THE CLOSING HYMN

**See how God, for us providing, Gave His Son and life abiding;
He our weary steps is guiding From earth's woe to heavenly joy.**

**Gracious Child, we pray Thee, hear us, From Thy lowly manger cheer us,
Gently lead us and be near us Till we join the angelic choir.**

*SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE + + + + +

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY:

Preacher: Pastor Dennis A. Kastens

Liturgist 5:00, 8:00 & 10:30 - Pastor Jon C. Furgeson; 9:20 - James Prothro

Organist: Alice Kastens

Choir Dir.: Sherry Bierwagen, DMM

NEWS AND NOTES:

THE 4th SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 20, 2009

TODAY'S EDUCATION HOUR: 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

Adult Bible Class (Lower Commons) Foundations: The Lutheran Difference

Adult Bible Class (Commons conference Room): "How We Got the Bible"

Women's Bible Class (Office Conf. Rm.): led by Janice McCreary

Youth Bible Class: led by Christina Stackle, DCE

8th Grade Youth: led by Rick Goodman 7th Grade Youth: led by Greg Wirtel

SERVICES for Mary Jane Wagner, 73, and Evelyn A. Middendorf, 92, were held this week. Our condolences to the Wagner, Troske, Nichols, Schlechte, and Orf families.

INSTALLATION of 2010 Officers is Sunday, Dec. 27, 8:00 a.m. including all elders and returning council members.

GIVING TREE DESIGNATED FOR SEMINARIANS this weekend. Please take a card from the tree and purchase a gift card in any amount and turn in to the office or the Social Ministry mail slot. All proceeds will be divided equally between the Seminary Students assigned to Peace.—Greg Wirtel, Soc. Ministry

ADULT INQUIRY series begins January 19, with sessions on Tuesdays. Posted.

NEW FLOWER ORDERS may now be placed for the coming year, starting with Sunday, January 10th through February, for anniversaries or other special occasions you may have. To order, please call Marion Weihe.

PERSONALIZED PAN ORDERS and gift orders are in! Please pick up your order this weekend at the Mission Outreach table located in the Commons.

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER is in your mail slot today.

YOUTH NEWS: Jr. Youth Christmas Party is this evening from 6:30-8:00 in the Youth Room. Jr. Youth sign up for the New Year's Eve Party (video games, bounce house, volleyball, 3x3 basketball, hockeyball and more) by Dec. 27. Cost \$10. Time is 7:00 p.m. to 12:15 a.m. All Youth sign up to help make visits to our homebound on January 3. Meet after church at 11:30 for free pizza lunch and then we'll make our visits. We'll be back around 2:30 p.m.

68 NEW MEMBERS received during 2009 will be welcomed at the Jan. 9/10, 2010 services. (New members, details appear in your mail slots.)

2010 OFFERING ENVELOPES available today in Commons.

PEACE LUTHERAN YOUTH BASKETBALL PROGRAM (K-2) Registration deadline is today for 2010 season.

POINSETTIAS **To the glory of God:** Paul & Verna Beck; Ken & Marilyn Fanger; Bruce and Merrily Goldsmith; Don & Susan Hasting; John, Jeanne, & Karl Hooss; Fran & Ruth Rich; Wayne & Marilyn Schuessler; Roland & Dorothy Wachter; Frank & Marion Weihe. **In honor of:** Roy & Ginnie Baese in honor of our grandchildren; the Brown family in honor of Don & Joyce Hipp; Marlene Kruse in honor of grandson Daniel Hardy, U.S. Marines; Ben & Audrey Lattina in honor of Jesus' birthday; Jim & Donna Stabile in honor of Paul & John Stabile: **In memory of:** Dennis & Cindy Banks in memory of our parents, and in honor of Dennis' mother; Elaine Blair in memory of Charles Blair; Kenneth DeNeal in memory of Louise E. DeNeal; Greg & Lois Ebmeyer in memory of Norbert & Lorraine Laramie and Don Ebmeyer; Peggy Forsythe in memory of husband John Forsythe and Oscar Pruesser; the Mark Habrock & Todd Reh families in memory of Edward Nass; also Mark & Carolyn Habrock in memory of Dorothy Habrock; Helen Hellwege, in memory of husband Will Hellwege; Bruce & Jane Herzog in memory of Doris Herzog and Erwin & Marie Weigel; Walter Hillemann, in memory of Meta Hillemann; Dorothy Hurst, in memory of family members, Clif, Jerry, Deborah & Katie; the Keller & Smith families, in memory of Verna & Emil Keller; Pat & Ray Kergo, in memory of our parents; Leon & Mary Jane Knoernschild, in memory of our parents; Ruth Kutscher, in memory of husband Rev. Leonard Kutscher and grandson Mark Hudson; April, Eric & Claudia Lappe, in memory of Clara Boice; Ron & Christel Ludwig, in memory of mom Hannelore Andres; Dan, Jen, and Ali Martin, in memory of grandmother, Martha Rapp; Ken & Jan Meister, in memory of Brett Meister; David & Carol Menendez, in memory of E. & L. Mueller and A. Menendez; and in honor of A. Menendez; the Mueller & Truemper families, in memory of our parents; the Arman Rapp family in memory of wife, mother, and grandmother, Martha Rapp; Bill & Lisa Rericker, in memory of Zachary & Gabriel; the Rubach family, in memory of Ronald Rubach; Fern Ruth & family, in memory of Donald Ruth; Robert Schmaltz, in memory of wife Blondell; Marilyn Schnell in memory of husband Charles Schnell; Milton R. Schwartzmeyer, in memory of Patricia L. Schwartzmeyer; Janet, Helen, Kevin & Kimberly Sheets in memory of Ron Sheets; Milton Simunich in memory of Dorothy Simunich; Jerry, Mary Beth & Colin Stokes in memory of Ian Orr, and in honor of LCPL David McArthur; Dan & Gale Uhlig, in memory of our parents; Roger & Dottie Uhlig in memory of Rey & Virginia Uhlig; Dan & Kathy Waser & family, in memory of Marvin Brink and also to honor Kathy Waser & granddaughter Payton Rutledge's January 5th birthdays. Robert & Linda Wolff, in memory of infant son David Samuel Wolff and Robert's mother, Rosemary Wolff; Ralph & Shirley Wolters, in memory of loved ones; John & Janet Yaeger, in memory of our parents.

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2009:

Today: 1:00 Cub Scouts Arrow of Light
Christmas Party
6:30 Jr Youth SNL

Mon: Last Day 4-yr-olds - Christmas Vacation Begins
3:30 GP B-ball Practice
5:30 GP Boys 3rd & 5th Gr B-ball

Tue: Last Day 3-yr-olds - Christmas Vacation Begins
9:00 Quilters
6:00 Chimes Choir
6:30 Men's Volleyball
7:00 Chancel Choir

Wed: 4:00 NO Confirmation Classes

Thu: **CHRISTMAS EVE**
OFFICE CLOSED
2:00 Daycare Closes
4:00 Sun. School Christmas Eve Serv.
6:00 Christmas Candlelight w/ Comm. Service
10:00 Choral Candlelight Service

Fri: **CHRISTMAS DAY**
OFFICE CLOSED
DAYCARE CLOSED
9:30 Christmas Day
Service w/Communion

Sat: 9:00 Girls B-Ball
11:00 HS Boys B-ball
5:00 Worship Service

Sun: 1:00 HS Boys B-ball
6:00 Elders Christmas Meeting