

Christ Child Concert

December 8, 2021

St. Peter's Lutheran Church & School ~ Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

Preservice music: Mrs. Erin Achey

Welcome: Pastor Michael J. Zuberbier

LIGHTING of the ADVENT CANDLES

Please join in this liturgy as the Advent candles are lit.

Week 1: Prophecy candle Week 2: Bethlehem candle

M: We light two Advent candles remembering Jesus who came in history. He came into a world of sin and death for us.

C: We remember Jesus who came as the promised Messiah. We also remember John the Baptist who prepared the way of the Lord.

M: We hear his call to repent of our sins.

C: We light two Advent candles as a sign of our repentance and our desire to be renewed to live a more God-pleasing life.

M: Come Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: Through your word and spirit – may our souls be blessed.

OPENING CONGREGATIONAL HYMN *As Angels Joyed with One Accord* | **CW 5**

**As angels joyed with one accord Upon the advent of our Lord,
So laud we all and bless the name Of him who from the Father came.**

**He came, not clothed in majesty Nor pow'r that suits his deity.
In lowly state he walked till he In dying set us captives free.**

**This done, he soared to God's right hand, Yey orphaned not his chosen band,
For he, not bound in grace and pow'r, Attends his own each day and hour.**

**In ev'ry age - let praise abound - He comes; we hear his voice resound.
His glorious gospel does not cease To bring us comfort, joy, and peace.**

**He comes in water to the child And cleanses it, from birth defiled.
This washing seals his pard'ning grace And shows the Father's kindly face.**

**He comes to us in bread and wine To give himself - and gifts divine.
Oh, praise him for this sacrament, Redeeming love's great testament.**

**Lift up your heads! All grief and pain Shall vanish when he comes again.
Where we shall see him face to face, There joy alone shall have a place.**

ADULT CHOIR

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”
by Brenda E. Austin

Come, O come, O come, O come. O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God
appears. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O Come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh; to us the
path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
Come, O come, O Come, O Come.

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”
by Cary John Franklin

God Rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay, for Jesus Christ our Savior
was born upon this day. To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone
astray: Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort of joy.
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly father a blessed angel came, and under certain shepherds,
brought tidings of the same, how that in Bethlehem was born the son of God by
name: Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort of joy.
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind, and left their flocks afeeding,
in tempest, storm and wind. And went to Bethlehem straight way this blessed babe to
find: Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort of joy.
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

But when to Bethlehem they came, where-at this infant lay, they found him in a
manger, where oxen feed on hay: his mother Mary kneeling, unto the Lord did pray:
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort of joy.
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place, and with true love and
brotherhood each other now embrace; this holy tide of Christmas doth bring
redeeming grace: Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort of joy.
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”
by Gerald Custer

In the darkness, in the silence of the longest night of all, comes a babe, born in a
manger, as the stars begin to fall: sent to save us, come to free us, love incarnate,
once for all, living mercy, full of grace, love divine, with human face.

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall; oxen lowing, little knowing Christ
the babe is Lord of all. Swiftly winging, angels singing, noels ringing, tidings
bringing: Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe 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 babe was born for you!
Christ the babe was born for you!

“Go Tell the News!”
by Nancy Price and Don Besig

Go tell the news, let everybody hear you; shout it loudly from the mountainside.
Wake up the world, tell everybody near you, “The tiny Savior has finally arrived!”
Sing alleluia! Sing it loud and clear. Sing alleluia! The Savior is here!

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere.
O, go, tell it on the mountain, “The tiny Savior is here!”

Angels tell the story, a star is shining bright. The king of love and glory is born to us
this night! Come and rejoice, it's time for jubilation; lift your voices in a song of
praise. Let all the people join the celebration, the tiny Savior is with us today!
Sing alleluia! Sing it loud and clear. Sing alleluia! The Savior is here!

Sing alleluia! Sing it loud and clear. Sing alleluia! The Savior is here!
Go tell it on the mountain!

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN *Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising* | **CW 42**

ALL Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the Lord with gladness praising;
Loudly sing his love amazing, Worthy folk of Christendom.

WOMEN See how God, for us providing, Gave his Son and life abiding;
He our weary steps is guiding From earth's woe to heav'nly joy.

MEN Christ, from heav'n to us descending And in love our race befriending,
In our need his help extending, Saved us from the wily foe.

WOMEN Jacob's Star in all its splendor Beams with comfort sweet and tender,
Forcing Satan to surrender, Breaking all the pow'rs of hell.

please stand

ALL Gracious Child, we pray you, hear us; From your lowly manger cheer us.
Gently lead us and be near us Till we join th' angelic choir.

SCRIPTURE READING: The Child Who Is Born to Us Isaiah 9:2-6
Our Prince and Peace chases away the gloom of death and frees us from Satan's kingdom of darkness.

²The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. For those living in the land of the shadow of death, the light has dawned. ³You have multiplied the nation. You have increased its joy. They rejoice before you like the joy at harvest time, like the celebration when people divide the plunder. ⁴For you have shattered the yoke that burdened them. You have broken the bar on their shoulders and the rod of their oppressor, as you did in the day of Midian. ⁵Every boot that marched in battle and the garments rolled in blood will be burned. They will be fuel for the fire. ⁶For to us a child is born. To us a son is given. The authority to rule will rest on his shoulders. He will be named: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷There will be no limit to his authority and no end to the peace he brings. He will rule on David's throne and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from now on, into eternity. The zeal of the Lord of Armies will accomplish this.

HANDCHIMES: Grades 5 & 6

“Oh, Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel”

by Martha Lynn Thompson

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 4:4-9

We rejoice in the peace that God gives us - peace with him today and forever - peace of heart, soul, and conscience through the message of sins forgiven.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always! I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if anything is excellent, and if anything is praiseworthy, think about these things. ⁹The things that you learned, received, heard, and saw in me: Keep doing these things. And the God of peace will be with you.

HANDBELLS: Grade 7 & 8

“Joy to the World”

by Martha Lynn Thompson

“A Joyful Ring”

by Barbara Kinyon

COLOSSIANS 3:16

“Babe in the Straw”

by Caedmon's Call

Who is this child asleep in a manger? The heaven's are bright and the stable's so cold. On this holy night have you come to redeem us? Little child in the straw –
Little child in the straw

Who is this babe? The Prince of the universe - The donkey is braying, the angels are singing. The prophets did say you would come to redeem the world –
Little babe in the straw save us all.

And if we lose sight of your sweet face at the birth of grace, at the birth of grace –
and light of truth shines like Bethlehem's star leads us to where you are,
show us who you are.

Merciful one, lover of every soul, the Father's own Son, Emmanuel.
Yes, we believe you are able to heal us. Noel, noel – Save us all.

And if we lose sight of your sweet face at the birth of grace, at the birth of grace, and light of truth shines like Bethlehem's star, lead us to where you are, show us who you are. Save us tonight.

Little babe in the straw, save us tonight. Little babe in the straw, **save us tonight!**

GATHERING OF OFFERING

designated for the purchase of new WELS hymnals for our sanctuary

SPLS BAND STUDENTS

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

arranged by the WLA band director - Mr. John Hall

ADULT BELLS

“Carol of the Bells”

by Kerry Boyce

“Advent Tidings”

by Michael Akers

please stand

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER *sung to the tune: “Away in a Manger”*

Our Father in heaven, all praise to your name! Your kingdom among us, your will done the same. By mortals and angels, come Lord, reign alone; Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.

The bread that we yearn for provide us each day; As we forgive others, our sins take away; In times of temptation, to lead us be near; From evil deliver your children most dear.

**For yours is the kingdom; o'er all things you reign And yours is the power; all things you maintain. To you be the glory, resounding again
From all of creation, forever! Amen.**

INSPIRATION

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

by F.M. Franzen/Kermit Moldenhauer

Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near! Let ev'ry hill and valley a level road appear! Then greet the king of glory foretold in sacred story: Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's Word!

God's people, see him coming: Your own eternal king! Palm branches strew before him! Spread garments! Shout and sing! God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you! Hosanna to the Lord, For he fulfills God's Word!

Then fling the gates wide open to greet your promised king! Your king, yet ev'ry nation its tribute too should bring. All lands, bow down before him! All nations now adore him! Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's Word!

His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above. His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love. So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding: Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's Word!

“Still Her Little Child”

by Ray Boltz and Steve Millikan

When she laid him in a manger he was still her little child. In a city filled with strangers, he was still her little child. Though the inn was full, and the night was cold; she held him close and smiled.

When she laid him in a manger, he was still her little child.

When the angels called him Savior, he was still her little child. When the wise men gave him treasures, he was still her little child. When the shepherds bowed before him, a star shone all the while. When the angels called him Savior, he was still her little child.

When he grew in strength and wisdom, he was still her little child. When he spoke the people listened, he was still her little child. When he healed the lame and dying, they would follow him for miles. And when he grew in strength and wisdom, he was still her little child.

When the people turned against him, he was still her little child. When they shouted “Crucify him!” He was still her little child. And when they nailed him to a wooden cross, then they were reconciled. When she held his broken body, he was still her little child. He was still her little Child.

“Noel, Noel”
by Linda Spevacek

Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici, Dévotes gens, crions à Dieu merci!
Chantons Noël pour le Roi nouvelet! Chantons Noël pour le Roi nouvelet!
Noël nouvelet, Noël chantons ici.

God rest ye merry gentlemen let nothing you dismay. Remember Christ our Savior
was born on Christmas Day to save us all from Satan’s pow’r when we were gone
astray. Oh tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy.
Oh tidings of comfort and joy.

Joyfully we sing, Noel, Noel, Noel, spreading to the world the news we have to tell.
O, he is born, the babe the newborn king, he has been born, glad tidings now we
bring. Joyfully we sing, Noel, Noel, Noel.

From God our Heavenly Father the blessed Angel came. And unto certain
Shepherds brought tidings of the same. How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of
God by name: O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy.
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Noel, Noel, Noel! Sing Noel! Noel, Noel, Noel!

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN *I Am So Glad When Christmas Comes* | **CW 51**

ALL I am so glad when Christmas comes, The night of Jesus’ birth.
When Bethl’hem’s star shone as the sun, And and angels sang on earth.

ADULTS The little child of Bethlehem, He was a king indeed!
For he came down from heav’n above To help a world in need.

CHILDREN & GRANDPARENTS

He lives again in heaven’s realm, The Son of God today;
And still he loves his little ones And hears them when they pray.

ADULTS I, too, shall sing my Savior’s praise, My joy, my crown, my Lord;
For he has made me his own child By water and the Word.

ALL And so I love all Christmas Eve And I love Jesus, too;
And that he loves me ev’ry day I know so well is true

JOINT CHOIRS

“Joy Has Dawned”
by Lloyd Larson

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Joy has dawned upon the world, promised from creation; God’s salvation now
unfurled, hope for every nation. Not with fanfares from above, not with scenes of
glory, but a humble gift of love: Jesus born of Mary.

Sounds of wonder fill the sky with the song of angels as the mighty Prince of Life
shelters in a stable. Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in darkness,
cling now to a mother’s breast vulnerable and helpless.

Come to Bethlehem, and see him whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on
bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds bow before the Lamb, gazing at the glory; gifts of men from distant lands
prophecy the story. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

CLOSING HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing | **CW 61**

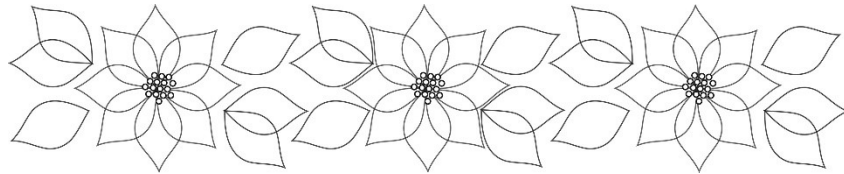
**Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.”
Joyful, all you nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

**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 God-head see, Hail th’incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

**Hail, the heav’nly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, Ris’n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

We thank the choirs and leaders this evening

- Pastor:** Rev. Michael J. Zuberbier
- Organist:** Erin Achey
- Directors:** Heidi Zabel, David Koepsell
- Accompanists:** Ruth Koepsell, Pam Zuberbier, Erin Achey, Katie Raddatz
- Flautists:** Pam Zuberbier, Crystal Zellner
- Sound:** Mike Hinds
- Video:** Mike Will



Christmas Services & Concerts

- Dec. 10 Joyful Witness Concert **7:00 pm @ St. Paul's, NFDL**
- Dec. 11 Joyful Witness Concert (repeat) **2:00 pm @ St. Paul's, NFDL**
- Dec. 12 St. Peter's Early Education Christmas Service **10:30 am**
- Dec. 13 WLA's Christmas Concert **7:00 pm @ WLA**
- Dec. 14 WLA's Christmas Concert (repeat) **1:00 pm @ WLA**
- Dec. 19 St. Peter's Day School Christmas services **2:00 pm or 4:00 pm**
- Dec. 24 St. Peter's Christmas Eve services **3:30 pm or 6:30 pm**
- Dec. 25 St. Peter's Christmas Day services **9:00 am**

The special bulletin covers for the Christ Child Concert are given to the glory of our Savior by Joe & Nancy Birkholz.