

Christ Child Concert

December 6, 2023

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

Preservice music: Mr. Brent Nolte

OPENING HYMN

Oh, How Good It Is | **CW 731**

Stanza 1: Choirs

Stanza 2 & 3: Congregation (please stand for stanza 3)

INVOCATION

L: Tonight, we celebrate the nativity of our Lord who was born to save us from our sins. Therefore, let us confess our guilt to him and seek his forgiveness.

CONFESSION

L: O Jesus, you are the holy Son of God, the sinless son of Mary.

C: Surely, I was sinful from birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

L: O Jesus, you are the light of the world.

C: We have walked in the darkness of sin.

L: O Jesus, you are the Savior. You are Christ the Lord.

C: Have mercy on us and grant us your peace.

HYMN RESPONSE (to the tune *Cradle Song*)

**Delay not! Delay not! Why longer abuse the love and compassion
of Jesus, your God? A fountain is opened - how can you refuse?
Come, wash and be cleansed in His pardoning blood.**

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

Please be seated

ADULT BELLS

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”
by Sandra Eithun

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

He Whose Praise the Shepherds Sounded | **CW 351**

ADULT CHOIR

“What Child Shall Come?”
by Patrick Liebergen

What Child shall come that lonely night and bring God’s love forever?
Will all behold the shining light and sing with joy together?

“This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste,
haste to bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!
Sing we noel, sing we noel.

What Child shall come to set us free, the promise of salvation? And bring for all
eternity God’s peace to all creation? Emmanuel, the Lord and King!
Emmanuel, rejoice and sing! Sing we noel! Sing we noel!

What Child shall come that night? Come to dwell? Sing we noel!
The Lord Emmanuel.

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”
by Jane Holstein

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice! Give ye heed to what
we say: Jesus Christ is born today! Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the
manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice! Now ye hear of
endless bliss. Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this! He has opened heaven’s door,
and we are blest forevermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christians, all, rejoice with heart and soul and voice. Now ye need not fear the
grave. Peace, peace. Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to
gain his everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!
Christ was born today!

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

Joy Has Dawned | **CW 352** st. 1-2

FIFTH & SIXTH GRADE BELLS

“What Star Is This”
by Linda Lamb

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

Joy Has Dawned | **CW 352** st. 3-4

INSPIRATION

“In the Bleak Midwinter”
by Gustav Holst

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth
shall flee away when He comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
cherubim and seraphim thronged the air; but His mother only,
in her maiden bliss, worshiped the Beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give Him: give my heart.

“Once in Royal David’s City”
by Henry Gauntlett

Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

“Glory to God”
by Lloyd Larson

The shepherds were out in the fields one night; Glory to God in the highest!
Watching their sheep by the stars’ faint light; Glory to God in the highest! Suddenly!
the night sky blazed; an angel said, “Do not be afraid; I bring you good news of great
joy this night!” Glory to God in the highest!

Refrain: Jesus is born: the hope of the world!
Peace on earth; Good will to all; Glory to God in the highest.

In silence, the shepherds were terrified; Glory to God in the highest! But joy filled
their hearts as the angels cried: “Glory to God in the highest!” “To Bethlehem in a
manger bed, go worship Him,” the angel said. Rejoicing they journeyed to see the
Child singing “Glory to God in the highest!”

Refrain: Jesus is born: the hope of the world! Peace on earth;
Good will to all; Glory to God in the highest. (Repeat)

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo. Glory to God in the highest!

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

Love Has Come | **CW 364**

SEVENTH & EIGHTH GRADE BELLS

“Joy to the World”
by Valerie Stephenson
“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”
by Terry Osman

GATHERING OF OUR OFFERING

Please stand

PRAYERS

L: We thank you, first of all, for the loving promise of salvation that you made to
Adam and Eve, the originators of our sin, and for how you kept that promise by
sending your Son Jesus Christ to our world and to our hearts.

**C: (sung) Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled
Within my heart, made clean and new,
A quiet chamber kept for you.**

L: Because this pleases our Lord, we remember, in his name, the poor and helpless,
the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and those who are sad, the lonely
and the unloved, the elderly and the little children. We especially remember all
those who do not know the Lord Jesus, or who do not love him, or who by sin have
grieved his heart of love.

**C: (sung) Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,
And see what in the manger lies.
Who is this child, so young and fair?
It is the Christchild lying there.**

L: Finally, we praise you God for all those who rejoice with us in heaven, who live in
greater light than we, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in
the Word made flesh, who died in faith, and who live before the throne of God and
praise him each day in his temple. O Lord, receive our praise now and carry our
praise to the world.

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.**

Please be seated

ADULT CHOIR & INSPIRATION

“Christmastime”
by Lloyd Larson

Refrain: Ring Christmas bells, ring them loud with a message bringing peace on the earth, tidings of good cheer! Come, carolers, come and join with the angels singing,
“Joy to the world!” Christmastime is here!

Children, gather around and listen. You’ll hear the sound of angels
filling the sky telling everyone Christmastime is here! *Refrain*

Loved ones close to our hearts and strangers in lands afar - together sharing the joy:
Emmanuel! Go, tell the world! He has come to dwell! The time is here!
With one voice, let the world rejoice!

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o’er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo! *Refrain*

Sing gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo! Sing gloria in excelsis Deo!

ADULT CHOIR, INSPIRATION & ADULT BELLS

“Peace, Peace”
by Fred Bock

Peace, peace, peace on earth and good will to all.
This is a time for joy, this is a time for love.
Now let us all sing together of peace, peace, peace on earth. (repeat)

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.

L: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord
with joy and gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

Joy to the World | **CW 353**

We thank the choirs and leaders this evening

Leader:	Randy Westphal
Organist:	Brent Nolte
Directors:	Heidi Zabel, David Koepsell
Accompanists:	Ruth Koepsell, Erin Achey
Oboe:	Ella Zeitler
Flute:	Sue Haefemeyer
Sound/Lights:	Carl Manske
Video:	Mike Will



Christmas Services & Concerts

Dec. 10	St. Peter’s PreK & K Christmas Service 10:30 am
Dec. 15	Joyful Witness Concert 7:00 pm @ St. Paul’s, North Fond du Lac
Dec. 16	Joyful Witness Concert (repeat) 2:00 pm. @ St. Paul’s, North Fond du Lac
Dec. 17	St. Peter’s Day School Christmas Services 2:00 pm or 4:00 pm
Dec. 19	WLA’s Christmas Concert 7:00 pm @ Winnebago Lutheran Academy
Dec. 20	WLA’s Christmas Concert (repeat) 1:00 pm @ Winnebago Lutheran Academy
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 Christ Child bulletin covers are given by John & Renee’ Rickert family, in memory of Renee’s mother, Dorothy Schroeder.