

Come, Lord Jesus

Children's Program and Blended Worship
December 23, 2018 - 10:00am



Prelude



Lighting of The Christ Candle

The Christ Candle represents the light that the Son brought into the world when he was born a little baby, God in the flesh, symbolizing the fulfillment of prophecy – the nativity of Jesus Christ, the Savior and light of the World.

♪ProceSSIONAL Hymn “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

St. Paul Senior Choir & Congregation

(Please stand for the second verse)

Choir:

1. Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,

Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Choir & Congregation:

**2. Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.**

Choir:

Amen. Amen

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

The Responsive Reading

- P** Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son.
C And shall call his name Immanuel.
P And there shall come forth a Rod out of the stem of Jesse:
C And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.
P And thou, child, shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
C To give knowledge of Salvation unto his people by the remissions of their sins.

P Through the tender mercy of our God, whereby the Dayspring from on high hath visited us:

C **To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death; to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

P I shall see him, but not now; I shall behold him, but not nigh:

C **There shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel.**

The Prayer

P O God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, through whose grace we celebrate the birth of our Savior, we come into your presence with holy joy, for you have gloriously fulfilled your promises, given to our first parents after the Fall, and to all those who waited in hope for the salvation of Israel. Accept the humble tribute of praise which we and our children bring, and grant that through the birth of your Son we may be born again in the Spirit unto the blessed hope of everlasting life.

C **Amen.**

Hymn #357 Oh, Come, Oh, Come. Emmanuel

**1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. Refrain**

**ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go. Refrain**

- 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain**
- 4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. Refrain**
- 5 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. Refrain**
- 6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain**
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain**

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Part One: The Prophecies of His Coming

Readings

Narrator: The first Advent candle is called the Candle of Prophecy. It symbolizes the Old Testament prophecies of the Advent, or coming, of the Savior. Today we celebrate the fulfillment of those prophecies – the Savior's coming on earth as a little child, his coming into our

hearts by faith in God's word, and his final coming in glory to judge all men. (Readings from Luke 1:68-70, Genesis 3:15, Deuteronomy 18:15, Isaiah 9:6 and Micah 5:2)

♪Song by Children Rejoice in the Lord

Part Two: His Coming on Earth as a Little Child

Readings

Narrator: The second Advent candle is called the Bethlehem Candle. It represents the coming on earth of Jesus, the Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary.

♪Song by the Children Jesus Loves Me

Readings Luke 2:1-7

♪Hymn #363 Silent Night, Holy Night, Vs. 1-3

1 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.

2 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!

3 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.**

Text: Public domain

A Christmas Prayer by the Children

In a manger Jesus lies; Angels praise him in the skies.
Shepherds kneel before him low. To the stable let us go.
Light of Heaven and Morning Star, Little Jesus, thine we are.
Lead us as they very own. To the Father's shining throne.

♪Song by the Children Away in a Manger

Reading Luke 2:8-14

♪Hymn #368 Angels We Have Heard on High

**1 Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains. Refrain**

**ref Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song? Refrain**

**3 Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. Refrain**

Part Three: His Coming into Our Hearts by Faith

Readings

Narrator: The third Advent candle is called the Shepherd Candle. It represents the coming of the Savior into our hearts through faith in his holy word. Even as the shepherd saw their savior with their own eyes, and believed, so we see him now through the eyes of faith.

♪Hymn #361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

- 1 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.**

- 2 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!**

- 3 How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n.**

**No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in.**

**4 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!**

Text: Public domain

Reading - We Can't Be There by Esther Poehler Wiechmann

We can't be there in Bethlehem, to worship, pray, or sing, nor travel like the wise men did, with treasures, to our King! But we can see Christ in his Word, and know him through his love, and we can send our hymns of praise, up to his throne above. For as he came once long ago, on that first Christmas day, so every day he comes again into our hearts to stay! We know he died and rose again to save us from our sin – his holy word comes to our hearts, and let's God's Spirit in! Oh, thank you, Savior, for your love in giving us this "Word", although we haven't seen – we're yours, for through your love – we've "heard"!

♪Hymn #367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

**1 Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth. Refrain**

**ref Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**2 Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the Infant Light. Refrain**

**3 Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star. Refrain**

**4 Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear. Refrain**

**5 All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the eternal Three in One. Refrain**

Text: Public domain

Reading

Narrator: The Savior who comes into our hearts today is no longer a little child in a manger; he is the Savior who comes to us through God's Word – the Holy Scriptures. We have learned to confess our faith in Jesus our Savior in the words of Luther's explanation of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed.

Reading I Believe

Narrator: I BELIEVE

☐ I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is true God, begotten of the Father from eternity;
I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ, true God, is also true man, born of the Virgin Mary;
I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature;
I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ, my Lord, has purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil.
I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ, my Lord, has redeemed me, not with gold or silver, but with His holy precious blood and with his innocent sufferings and death;
I BELIEVE that Jesus Christ, my Lord, has redeemed me that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness;
I BELIEVE that Jesus my savior died for me, that he rose again from the dead, and that he lives and reigns to all eternity.
THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE.

Part Four: His Final Coming in Glory

Reading Christ is Coming

P The fourth Advent candle is called the Angel Candle. It represents the final coming of the Savior in glory with all his angels to take all those who believe in him to everlasting life in heaven.

P "Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Shouted all the ancient prophets, "Recognize him in his day: Man of Sorrows, wounded for us, bruised to take our sins away."

P "Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Testified the holy angel, "God and man are reconciled. Born of Mary, virgin-mother, God's own Son becomes a child."

P Christ is coming! Christ is coming by the power of his Spirit to us in his holy Word, granting every joy and blessing that his presence can afford.

P Christ is coming! Christ is coming, coming soon to judge the nations, then to bring us to that place where we shall behold his glory and shall see him face to face.

Reading Christ, the King of Glory

P You are the King of Glory, O Christ:

C You are the everlasting Son of the Father.

P When you took upon yourself to deliver man:

C You humbled yourself to be born of a virgin.

P When you overcame the sharpness of death:

C You opened the Kingdom of heaven to all believers.

P You are sitting at the right hand of God;

C In the glory of the Father.

ALL: We believe that you will come to be our Judge. We therefore pray, help your servants whom you have redeemed with your precious blood; make them to be numbered with your saints in glory everlasting. Amen.

♪**Song by the Children Soon & Very Soon**

Offering and Rite of Friendship

♪**Special Music For Unto Us a Child is Born**

Piano duet by Liz Waddingham & Bev Cataldo

Prayer

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

(We bow our heads in prayer.)

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn #388 Go Tell It on the Mountain

ref **Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!**

1 **While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. Refrain**

2 **The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain**

3 **Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. Refrain**

Text: Public domain

Postlude



Welcome to St. Paul

**May you find God's amazing grace, mercy
and peace as you worship with us today.**

Members & Visitors, please add your name to the Friendship Register as it is passed along in each pew during the Rite of Friendship.

Visitors, please add your address and home church; if we can be of service to you, please speak with Pastor or a Deacon after the service.

All are invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall for a time of fellowship and refreshment following the service.

Thank you for visiting!

Thanks to those who provided the poinsettias which beautify our sanctuary this Christmas Season.

~ In Our Prayers ~

The Family of Andrea Young (sister of Gail Gouge) in their time of loss.

The Family of Kenneth Dohrmann (uncle of Lois Purcell & Dale and Brian Roberts) in their time of loss.

For Comfort, Strength & Healing:

Shawn Baker	Earl Jaspersen	Gary Sandell
Wesley Baker	Herluf Jaspersen	Jerry Thompson
Sandy Block	Marsha Johnson	Brooke Waddingham
Bryce Cherryholmes	Melissa Mayland	Alice Walkusch
Lois Eenhuis	Rhys Nieman	Darlene Wood
Mary Graham	Janice Peterson	

For Members & Friends Serving in the Military & Law Enforcement:

Members: Corey Alden, Cory Graham, Danielle Graham, Brad Kozisek,

Kevin Kozisek, Jarod Lemke, Adam Stenberg, Jim Thiele
Friends: Matt Barton, Kelly Vedane-Finn, Corey Grote, Eric Hythecker,
Levi Loschen, Ron Smith, James J. Sperr, Jacob Sperr

For Comfort & Strength:

The families of military and law enforcement officers wounded or
killed in service to our country, domestic and abroad

Those serving as Missionaries and Peace Corps Volunteers

Cima Family in Cambodia, Krista Jolivette in Ethiopia

Monday, December 24

7:00pm Christmas Eve Candle Light Worship / Communion

Tuesday, December 25

10:00am Christmas Day Worship

A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life ~ www.lutheransforlife.org

December 23 "Christmas celebrates more than just Jesus' birthday. This historical event testifies to unchangeable truth about humankind and our Almighty Maker. It bestows upon us the honor of a special connection to the Lord God that makes us more precious than any other creature. It forms the foundation for all peace and love and joy and hope by revealing His salvation and testifying to how we participate in His everlasting life. Christmas profoundly proves the Gospel to be our history, identity, and destiny, and it proclaims a distinctly life-affirming reality." *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life*

Lutheran Family Service ~ LFSiowa.org ~ (515) 573-3138

Did You Know: Someone once said, "Marriage is not just spiritual communion, it is also remembering to take out the trash." What have

you done lately to show your spouse how much you appreciate them? During these busy days of preparation for the coming Christmas celebrations, a handwritten note, an unexpected and gentle physical touch, affirming words, preparing a favorite meal or joyfully helping with household responsibilities are simple ways to let your spouse know just how much they mean to you.

CALLING ALL THOSE INTERESTED

Winter Jam, Friday, January 25 @ 7:00pm

Wells Fargo Arena, Des Moines

Tickets \$15 at the door, Featuring: Newsboys, Danny Gokey, Mandisa, Rend Collective & Others. Check out 2019.jamtour.com.

**Contact Amanda Clark (641-512-1853) or
Barbra Kozisek (812-525-9464) if interested.**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2019

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

125 "YEARS OF GRACE" ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Serving in the Lord's House this week of December 23, 2018

Organist: Liz Waddingham

Acolyte: Rachel Bierle, Trey Johnson

Deacons: Shawn Baker, Dan Clites

Ushers: Tom Formanek, Bill Horstman,
David Rosendahl, Fred Schroeder

December Courtesy Drivers: Fred & Lisa Schroeder, 641-587-2386

Special Music: St. Paul Senior Choir

Directed by Bev Cataldo

Acolyte "On Deck" 2018-2019 schedule:

December 30 – Braden Boehnke, Luke Lamb

January 06 – Aleah Brown, Alyssa Luppen

January 13 – Reed Cataldo, Vanessa Waymier

January 20 – Seneca Echelberger, Brody Frayne

January 27 – Trever Gardner, Kenedee Frayne

ACOLYTES, PLEASE REMEMBER, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE

for serving as an acolyte for the week to which you are assigned, from Sunday through the next Saturday. If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, please find a substitute and notify the church office to advise who will take your place by Thursday prior to your scheduled date.

Opportunities at St. Paul

TODAY	9:00am Fellowship
Sunday, December 23	10:00am Children's Christmas Program & Blended Worship
Monday, December 24	7:00pm Christmas Eve Candle Light Worship / Communion
Tuesday, December 25	10:00am Christmas Day Worship
Wednesday.....	No activities
Thursday	
Friday.....	
Saturday.....	
Sunday, December 30...	9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship

Monday, December 31.. 7:00pm New Year's Eve Worship / Communion

Tuesday..... NO PRAIRIE VIEW SERVICE

Wednesday..... NO ACTIVITIES

Thursday..... NO TRUSTEE MEETING

Friday.....

Saturday.....

Sunday, January 6 9:00am Worship / Communion

10:00am Fellowship

10:15am Sunday School

10:15am Adult Bible Study

**Monday, January 7 9:00am Hope Circle
(Bachman/Duregger/Kozisek)**

Tuesday Pastor's Conference

**Wednesday..... REGULAR WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES
RESUME**

4:00pm Junior Youth

5:15pm Christian Ed Meal:

5:45pm Christian Ed Classes

**7:00pm Wednesday Worship /
Communion**