

**Peace Lutheran Church - Christmas Eve Worship**  
**December 24, 2024 - 5:00 pm & 7:00 pm**

<b>PRESERVICE MUSIC</b>	Bells of Peace		5:00 pm & 7:00 pm
	"Mary Did You Know"	<i>Todd Burns</i>	5:00 pm
	"O Holy Night"	<i>Bill Rusch</i>	5:00 pm
	"O Holy Night"	<i>Zak Palmer</i>	7:00 pm

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**WELCOME**

**INVOCATION**

- L: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: Amen.

**OPENING HYMN**                      "O Come, All Ye Faithful"                      **LSB 379 v. 1-3**

**OPENING VERSES**

- L: On this most holy night, we remember that God fulfilled His promise to bring salvation to this fallen world.  
C: **"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."** (*Isaiah 9:6*)  
L: God kept His promise that first Christmas night: "This will be a sign for you:  
C: **"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."** (*Isaiah 7:14*)  
L: Tonight we celebrate our faithful God who keeps His promises to each of us. It is His faithfulness that gives us hope! As He appeared to the shepherds, so He comes to us tonight as we hear the true story of His birth: "Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,  
C: **'Glory to God in the highest! Peace on earth, good will to men!'"** (*Luke 2:13-14*)

**RESPONSE**                      "O Little Town of Bethlehem"                      **LSB 361 v.1-4**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Jesus entered this world because from the time of Adam and Eve, sin and its effects have brought the darkness of pain, heartache, and trouble. We come to this place tonight seeking the light of forgiveness and salvation that only the Savior Jesus can provide. We recognize that we, too, are at fault. We confess our part in the sin and brokenness of this world:

**C: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy completely wipe away my sins.**

L: The name "Jesus" means "The Lord saves." Together we pray:

**C: Jesus, I need Your love, grace, and forgiveness for all my sins. Thank you for coming to this earth to save me!**

L: "Today in the city of David, a Savior is born to you, He is Christ the Lord!" The announcement of the angels brings God's good news to our lives. Jesus has come! Jesus is here and brings His forgiveness, hope and salvation for you! God's Son has come for you! Your sins are forgiven through faith in Him. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen! Come let us worship Him!**

<b>RESPONSE</b>	Choir: That First Nowell"	5:00pm	Flutist <i>Sheila Johnson</i>
	"It Came Upon The Midnight Clear"	7:00pm	<b>LSB 366 v. 1-4</b>

## FIRST CHRISTMAS READING

*Matthew 1:18-25*

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Bells of Peace

5:00pm

Solo: "Angels We Have Heard On High" 7:00pm

*Zak Palmer*

**SECOND CHRISTMAS READING**

*Luke 2:1-20*

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

L: This is the Christmas Gospel

C: **Thanks be to Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

5:00 pm

Pastor Jarod Fenske

**HYMN**

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

**LSB 380 v. 1-3**

**SERMON**

"*In A Manger*"

Pastor David Karolus

*Luke 2:1-20*

**SONG**

Choir: "Christmas Time"

5:00 pm

Solo: "Mary Did You Know"

7:00 pm

*Todd Burns*

**OFFERING & PRAYER**

**HYMN**

"What Child is This"

**LSB 370 v. 1-3**

**PRAYERS AND LORD'S PRAYER**

**HYMN**

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

**LSB 363 v. 1-3**

**BENEDICTION**

L: "When they had seen Jesus, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child." (*Luke 2:17*) Go with His blessing and share what you have heard about this child Jesus, the Son of God, Savior of the World!

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you His peace.

C: **Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

"Joy to the World"

**LSB 387 vs. 1-2**