



# ORDER OF WORSHIP CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE

December 24th, 2016

Officiate

Pastor Douglas Bergelin

Lay Minister

8:00 pm-Ted Fuller

Music

Ricki Budewitz

## AS WE GATHER

From the Old Testament, we believe that God has spoken by His prophets. We also believe that God is speaking by His Spirit through the Means of Grace. But it is only because of Christmas that we can know this God of the prophets, this God the Holy Spirit. For it is only and solely through Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Son of Mary, that anyone can come to know the one true God. As John said, “No one has ever seen God,” but “the only God, Who is at the Father’s side, He has made Him known”; John 1:18. Jesus made God known by His faithful teaching, but then especially by His work of salvation in His own holy life and sacred death and mighty resurrection. But knowing all that is to come, tonight we silently ponder the mystery of the Son of God, who took on our flesh by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, being born into the world for us and for our salvation. Tonight we pray and sing:

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! *LSB 361:4*

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For Our Guests:

*Hymnal Key-LSB is the Maroon Hymnal, WOV is the smaller Blue Hymnal*

## + PREPARATION +

**OPENING HYMN**      LSB 367 “Angels From the Realms of Glory”

*Please Stand*

## **INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES**

**Pastor:** Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

**People:** **He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory.**

**Pastor:** But Mary treasured up all these things,

**People:** **Pondering them in her heart.**

## **CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

**Pastor:** On this most holy night wherein we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, let us enter His presence confessing our need for Him Who came to save us from our sins.

**People:** **O Jesus Christ,  
Thy manger is my paradise at which my soul reclineth.  
He whom the sea and wind obey,  
Doth come to serve the sinner in great meekness.  
As You have come to join us and our children in our weakness,  
Forgive us our sin and be born in us tonight.**

**Pastor:** Thou Christian heart,  
Whoe'er thou art,  
Be of good cheer and let no sorrow move thee!  
For God's own Child,  
In mercy mild,  
Joins thee to Him; how greatly God must love thee!  
As a called and ordained servant of the Word made flesh and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen.**

## **THE NICENE CREED**

**All:** **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, light of light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **+ LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT +**

*We celebrate the Lord's Supper*

### **OUR COMMUNION PRACTICE**

**Pastor:** *Celebrating the Lord's Supper is an expression of our unity in the true Christian faith. In the Sacrament we are joined in a very close, personal and intimate way with Christ and with one another. We believe that when a person partakes of the Sacrament they are also confessing their unreserved agreement with the doctrine and practice that is proclaimed from the altar and pulpit of which the Sacrament is administered. In his small Catechism, Martin Luther gives us guidelines for self-examination of our faith and our worthiness to receive Christ's atoning lifeblood. Therefore, we welcome all to the Lord's Table who first have been baptized in the name of the Triune God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, are in agreement with this statement, and then with heartfelt conviction can boldly proclaim...*

**People:** **I believe that...**

- + Jesus is my only Lord and Savior from sin, death and the devil;**
- + I am a sinner in need of God's forgiveness;**
- + Jesus Christ is present in the Sacrament, and the bread and wine I receive are the true body and blood of Christ;**
- + God assures me that my sins have been forgiven and that I have life and salvation through faith in Him;**
- + And then as He enables me, I pledge to amend my sinful life, to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.**

*We ask that all visitors and guests who may wish to receive the Sacrament kindly speak to an Elder or the Pastor before or after the service.*

## PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things that are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

## SANCTUS

LSB 361 "Little Town of Bethlehem"

<sup>4</sup>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!

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*(For those with dietary restrictions, we offer non-alcoholic wine in the cups in the center of the individual trays.)*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"O Come, Let Us Adore Him" by Phillis Ann Huber

<sup>1</sup> O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
O come let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord.

<sup>2</sup> He gives us His own body  
He gives us His own body  
O come let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord.

<sup>3</sup> My Lord here now has led me  
Within His Holy place  
And here himself has fed me  
Christ the Lord.

<sup>4</sup> The bread which you have broken  
The wine which you have poured.  
Is Living bread from Heaven.  
Christ the Lord.

LSB 374 "Gentle Mary Laud Her Child"  
LSB 366 "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

## COMMUNION DISMISSAL BLESSING

### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**Pastor:** O God, You make this most holy night shine with the brightness of Your holy light. Grant that we know the mysteries of that light on earth and that we also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

## + WORD +

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

**Isaiah 7:10-17** The sign of Immanuel

<sup>10</sup> Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup> "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."

<sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test."

<sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also?"

<sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call Him, Immanuel.

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### EPISTLE

**1 John 4:7-16** God is love

<sup>7</sup> Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup> Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup> This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. <sup>10</sup> This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup> Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup> No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us.

<sup>13</sup> This is how we know that we live in Him and He in us: He has given us of His Spirit. <sup>14</sup> And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup> If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the

Son of God, God lives in them and they in God. <sup>16</sup> And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.

God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN

LSB 364 "Away in a Manger"

*Please Stand*

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Luke 2:1-20** The Birth of Jesus

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. Luke the 2nd chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup> This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> And everyone went to their own town to register.

<sup>4</sup> So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup> He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup> and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

<sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

<sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests."

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

<sup>16</sup> So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby, Who was lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they had seen Him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this Child, <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned,

glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**HYMN OF PRAISE** LSB 377 "On Christmas Night All Christians Sing"

## SERMON

*"Jesus Is Born For You"*  
*Luke 2:1-20*

## GATHERING OF THE OFFERINGS

*As the gifts are gathered, we ask that all worshipers sign the Record of Fellowship, indicating Communion attendance if offered and then pass the booklet to the person next to you in the pew. When all have signed the book, pass it back to the end of the pew.*

*To our visitors: This is a time in our service when congregation members give of the gifts God has given them to support the work of their congregation. You are welcome but not obligated to participate in supporting our ministries. We are blessed to have you worship with us. Please come again.*

**OFFERING HYMN** LSB 358 "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" vss. 7-8

*Please Stand*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church throughout the world and for all people of the world.

Mighty and loving God our Father, hear our prayer for the whole Church gathered this night around the manger of our Savior, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Give us true unity of faith and singleness of love. Bless especially all pastors and ministers of Your Church that they may rightly proclaim Your Word and faithfully administer Your Sacraments. To all Your people, give ears of faith to hear that their lives reflect Your saving Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: May the good news of the Savior descend upon all people of the entire world, granting the miracle of repentance and faith in the hearts and minds of all. Bring true peace among nations and people. Guide leaders to promote justice and peace. Bless all who work even through this night to defend and protect us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Gather each of our families into that love which tonight we view in the Holy Family. Give tender courage to all fathers, loving endurance to all mothers, and trusting obedience to all children. Grant to all who are single or all who are lonely an awareness of Your great love for each of them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Visit with Your mercy all who are afflicted with illness, all who suffer injury, and all who fear death. Give calmness in their silent suffering, and give faith to know and look to Your love that gives healing and life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: As Your love came down at Christmas, so give us Your forgiveness, life, and salvation by Your Son's body and blood according to His institution and testament. Give us the vision of our unity with the whole family of believers throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: In the silence of this night, we remember all who have gone before us with the sign of faith. Bring us with them into Your nearer presence in paradise. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: We join together in the prayer that He has taught us to pray...

**All: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*The ushers will come down the center aisle and will light the candles of those seated at the aisle. They will keep their lit candles erect. Please tip your candle to be lit, then keep it erect as the next person tips their candle. Pass the flame down the pew.*

**PLEASE BE CAREFUL NOT TO SPILL HOT WAX ON YOURSELF OR THE PEW.**

Pastor: As the light of these candles illumines our faces, it symbolizes the light of Christ, a Child in the manger at Bethlehem, a Savior suffering our death on the cross and soon to come from His throne on high as judge of all. He is our light here on earth and the eternal light Who enlightens heaven, where there is no need of candle or sun. Rejoice, for the Light of the world has come, Who transforms us with the brightness of His glory. This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.

**People: If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.**

Pastor: But if we walk in the Light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another,

**People: And the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

Pastor: You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father Who is in heaven.

O God, as You make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, grant that we, who joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our judge; Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: The almighty and merciful God, the Father, the Son ✠ and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**People: Amen! Glory to God in the highest! Peace to His people on earth!**

## THE HYMN

### LSB #363 “**Silent Night/Stille Nacht**”

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.

*Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht  
Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,  
hlaf in himmlischer Ruh, Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.*

2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav'nly host 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.

## BENEDICTION

Pastor: All out of darkness we have light,

**People: Which made the angels sing this night:**

Pastor: “Glory to God and peace to men

**People: Now and forevermore. Amen.”**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

*Carefully extinguish your candles at this time. Please be careful of hot wax.  
As you exit the church, please deposit your candles in the box in the narthex.*

## CLOSING PRAISE

LSB 380 “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”

## POSTLUDE

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### **Christmas Day Service-Lesson & Carols- 12/25/2016**

Officiate

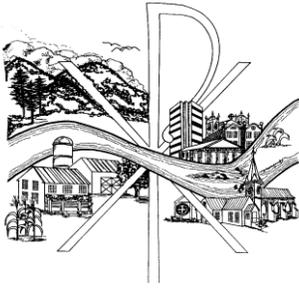
Pastor Douglas Bergelin

Lay Minister

Christmas Day 9:00 am – George Feller

Acolyte

Gabby Sippel



**ST. PETER'S**  
**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 W4661 CTH MM P.O. Box 115  
 Lebanon, Wisconsin 53047



*Reaching out . . .  
 to share the love and hope of Jesus Christ  
 through teaching, preaching,  
 and promoting spiritual growth.*

**Pastor: Reverend Douglas Bergelin**

**Cell: 701-220-4527**

**Pastor Email: [pastorbergelin@stpetersoflebanonwi.org](mailto:pastorbergelin@stpetersoflebanonwi.org)**

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**Web Site: [www.stpetersoflebanonwi.org](http://www.stpetersoflebanonwi.org)**

**Facebook: [www.facebook.com/st.peterslebanon](http://www.facebook.com/st.peterslebanon)**

**Board of Directors**

Larry Beyer	Executive Director	920-285-6060
Debbie Groeler	Secretary	920-925-3342
Bob Nass	Lay Ministry	414-630-2265
Connie Holz	Stewardship	414-416-2976
Dennis Groeler	Evangelism	920-285-3342
Pam Kuehl	Youth Ministry	920-285-6113
Bonnie		
Lauersdorf	Christian Ed – JSB	920-988-5834
Vacancy	Christian Ed – Parish	
John Christian	Church Properties	920-925-3482

Church Office	925-3547
School Office	925-3791 (Immanuel Campus)
School Building	925-3525 (St. Peter's Campus)
Early Childhood Center	925-3040

**LLS Program Staff**

Julia Wackt—Principal  
 Kiki Damrow—Kindergarten, Art  
 Kathy Fortlage—1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, Music  
 Jennie Berken—3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade  
 Pam Bartee—5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
 Julia Wackt—7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
 Jenny Meyers—7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
 Dennis Messman—K-8<sup>th</sup> Phy. Ed.  
 Tori Long--K-2 Aide  
 Anna Witan—K-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Spanish  
 Karen Braun - Administrative Assistant  
 Jackie Unke – Early Childhood Center Director  
 Donna Schleicher– Grade PreK-3  
 Heidi Field – Grade PreK-4

**St. Peter's** – A congregation of over 400 souls – is a member congregation in the South Wisconsin District of The Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. We have been a vital part of the Lebanon community for nearly 130 years.

**Worship Services-Labor Day-Memorial Day**

Communion at both services every Sunday and all Festival Days  
 8:00 & 10:30 am

- Sunday School and Bible Study for all ages 9:15 am
- *Summer Worship Times Memorial Day-Labor Day*

**We Celebrate Two Sacraments**

In **Baptism**, God freely offers His grace and lovingly establishes a new community. In **Holy Communion** those who come to the table receive in bread and wine the body and blood of their Lord. This gift is itself the real presence of God's forgiveness and mercy, nourishing believers in union with their Lord and with each other.

**Lebanon Lutheran School (LLS) & LLS - Early Childhood Center (State Licensed Facility)**

Lebanon Lutheran School is an association serving children with Childcare, Preschool, and Kindergarten through Grade 8. It is a joint ministry of St. Peter's and Immanuel Lutheran Church of Lebanon (NALC).

**Support Staff**

Pennie May	Church Secretary
Email: <a href="mailto:secretary@stpetersoflebanonwi.org">secretary@stpetersoflebanonwi.org</a>	
Yvonne Weisensel	Church Custodian
Barb Boyd	LLS Custodian
Vacancy	LLS-ECC Custodian