

Peace Lutheran Church

“Peace Through Christ”

Pastor Mike Schultze

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SHARING OUR GIFTS FROM GOD

December 24, 2023



As We Gather One of the most well-known of all Advent hymns is “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” In each of the seven stanzas of this hymn, we plead that our Savior would “come.” Our Gospel reading reminds us that our Savior has come and is literally our Emmanuel, or, “God with us.” At His incarnation in Mary’s womb and birth at Christmas, God was with us. Today, in His Word, God is with us. At His return on the Last Day, God will be with us as our Emmanuel takes us to be with Him.

***O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!***
LSB 357:1

As you sing this hymn, truly rejoice in knowing that your Emmanuel has come, continues to come, and will come again!

Hearing aids and large print bulletins are available. If you would like a hearing aid or large print bulletin please see an usher.

A special welcome to those with young children. A childcare room is located in the Fellowship Hall near the church office.

PRELUDE

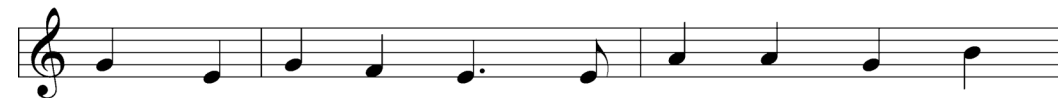
WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”



1 “From heav’n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
2 “To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
3 “This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
4 “He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by
5 “These are the signs that you shall mark: The swad - dling



news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of
sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
God for all be - low, That in His king - dom,
clothes and man - ger dark. There you will find the



joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
bright and fair, You may with us His glo - ry share,
in - fant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made.”

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world; the one who follows Me will not walk in darkness but have the light of life."

People: We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

Pastor: Then shall Your light break forth like the dawn, and Your healing shall spring up speedily; Your righteousness shall go before You; the glory of the Lord shall be Your rear guard. *Isaiah 58: 8*

People: Come, Lord Jesus, our Light and Life.

Pastor: Until that day, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN DURING LIGHTING “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive



Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!



Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

People: Lord, by faith we know You are the Savior of the world, but we have not readily acknowledged You as the Messiah born in the manger or as the One who has overcome the world. Forgive us that we are inspire our speech; teach us as we sing, "where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in!" Lord, we believe, help our unbelief. *Mark 9:24*

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, our Lord invites us to come and see what He has done---He has given us solid promises that guard our faith in days of sorrow, confusion, conflict, and pain. He has sent His Son to be His living Word of redemption for us in body, mind, and spirit. He truly is strong to save! By your faith in Jesus, all your sins have been forgiven. In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God!



HYMN OF PRAISE

"Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising"



1 Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the
2 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing And in
3 Ja - cob's star in all its splen - dor Beams with
4 From the bond - age that op - pressed us, From sin's



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing His love a -
love our race be - friend - ing; In our need His help ex -
com - fort sweet and ten - der, Forc - ing Sa - tan to sur -
fet - ters that pos - sessed us, From the grief that sore dis -



maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.
tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.
ren - der, Break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.
tressed us, We, the cap - tives, now are free.

5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing
When by faith we grasp this blessing,
And to You we come confessing
That Your love has set us free.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come to help us by Your might that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+THE WORD OF GOD+

OLD TESTAMENT READING *2 Samuel 7:1-11,16*
(After the reading is read.)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING *Romans 16:25-27*
(After the reading is read.)

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**



HYMN

“What Child Is This”



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

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HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 1:26-38*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st chapter.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**
(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.
People: Praise to You O Christ.

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People: Praise to You O Christ.

“SHARING OUR GIFTS FROM GOD”

HYMN

“Angels We Have Heard on High”



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy-ous strains pro-long?
3 Come to Beth-le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun-tains in re-ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad-some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Refrain
Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - ri - a



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

“Luther’s explanation to the Second Article of the Apostles’ Creed”

All: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

OFFERING

(Please sign and fill out the fellowship book and pass it down your row. When finished, pass it back down your row to the center aisle seat and the ushers will pick it up after the service.)

VOLUNTARY



OFFERTORY

“Create in Me”

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His
face shine on you and be gracious unto You. The Lord
look upon You with favor and + give you His peace.

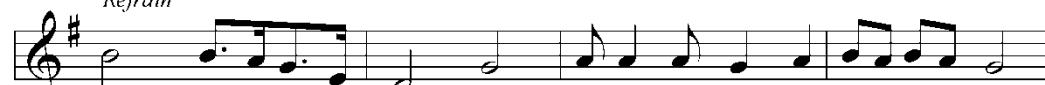
People: Amen.




CLOSING HYMN

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Refrain




Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

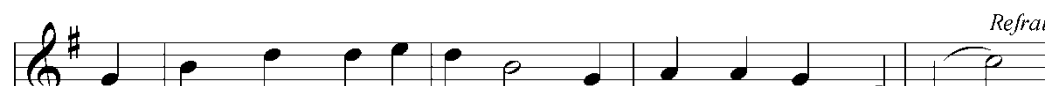


Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;



Refrain



Be - hold, through - out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.
Rang out the an - gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Altar Flowers: Given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for our Savior's birth, by the members of Peace Lutheran Church.

Attendance on 12/17/23: 10:00am– 85

Saturday 5:00pm- 20

THOSE WHO SERVE US, December 24, 2023 @ 7:00 pm

Elder: Blaine Wanke

Greeter: Andy & Pam Klittich

Reader: Dave Schmidt

Acolyte: Marshall Denninger

Ushers: Blaine Wanke

Todd Harter

Altar Care: Linda Young

Cookie & Coffee Service: S. McCracken, C. Klittich, V. Alamillo

Organist: Karen Foote

Choir Accompanist: Sandy Haven

Choir Director: Linda La Jeunesse

THOSE WHO SERVE US, December 25, 2023 @

10:00AM

Elder: Blaine Wanke

Reader: Blaine Wanke

Acolyte: Lucas Williamson

Ushers: Blaine Wanke

Todd Harter

Altar Care: Linda Young

Cookie & Coffee Service: S. McCracken, C. Klittich, V. Alamillo

Organist: Karen Foote

THOSE WHO SERVE US, December 31, 2023 @10:00AM

Elder: Blaine Wanke

Reader: David Hudnell

Acolyte: Lucas Williamson

Ushers: Glenn Benitz

Scott Ehlers

Altar Care: Linda Young

Cookie & Coffee Service: S. McCracken, C. Klittich, V. Alamillo

Organist: Karen Foote

THIS WEEK AT PEACE December 24, 2022

Today: **10:00 am “Sharing Our Gifts From God”**
1:30 pm New Life Christian Fellowship
4:00 pm Boy Scouts (FH)
5:00 pm Contemporary Candlelight Service
7:00 pm Traditional Candlelight Service

Monday: **10:00 am Christmas Communion Service**

Tuesday: office closed

Wednesday: 10:00 am Luther’s Attic Volunteers
6:30 pm A.C.A. Women’s Support Group

Thursday: ++++++++

Friday: ++++++++

Saturday: ++++++++

