

Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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Pastor James L. Castello

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Third Sunday of Advent — December 11, 2011

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Emanuel's mission is to witness to the good news of salvation through Christ to individuals, the community and the world through discipleship and service.



LBW—Lutheran Book of Worship

WOV—With One Voice

* Please stand if you are able

PRELUDE *The Friendly Beasts*

Ringing of the Bell

(10:30) **Special Music:** *Gloria* -Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (*please stay seated*) Psalm 146

P Rejoice and put your trust in God, creator of heaven and earth.

C whose faithfulness and justice lifts up those who are bowed down and oppressed, imprisoned and hungry;

P upholding the defenseless and casting down the oppressors.

C Let us rejoice and praise God who will reign forever, for all generations.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

8:00 Ron & Jeannie Wiechers 10:30 Jennifer Jenny & Joshua, Tom & Beth Jenny

Let us pray: God of grace and truth,

C may our spirits rejoice in the forthcoming birth of Christ, our Savior, in whom we are privileged to experience your mercy and see your glory. Amen.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who shapes the whole creation, who comes with might and mercy, who fills the hungry with good things.

C Amen.

P Let us approach the throne of grace with repentant hearts.

P Faithful God,

C we confess that we have been unfaithful to you. Like dry leaves and withered grass, our lives are blown about by our sins and the powers of evil around us.

Restore us, O God; let the light of your face shine on us, and we shall be saved.

Amen.

P God is patient, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. In the name of Jesus Christ, I bring you this good news: You are free from all that imprisons you; your sins are forgiven; God heals your broken hearts. Live in peace and harmony as you wait for the day of God.

C Amen

* **HYMN WOV # 643** *Once in Royal David's City*

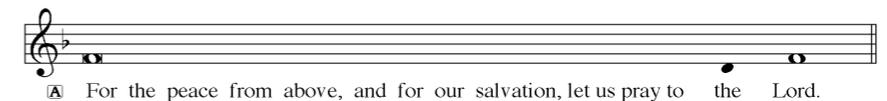
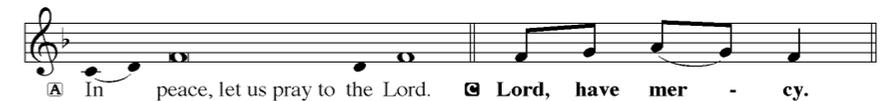
“O Bethlehem, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel.” Micah 5:2

* GREETING

P Grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the promised gifts of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

C And also with you.

* KYRIE



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
 and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
 Lord, have mer - cy.
 For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.
 Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE

Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!
 Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
 Come and behold him Born the king of angels:

Refrain: Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
 Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,
 Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
 Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing! *Refrain:*

*** SALUTATION**

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
 because the LORD has anointed me;
 he has sent me to bring good news to
 the oppressed,
 to bind up the brokenhearted,
 to proclaim liberty to the captives,
 and release to the prisoners;

²to proclaim the year of the LORD's
 favor,
 and the day of vengeance of our God;
 to comfort all who mourn;
³to provide for those who mourn in
 Zion—

to give them a garland instead of ashes,
 the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
 the mantle of praise instead of a faint
 spirit.

They will be called oaks of
 righteousness,
 the planting of the LORD, to display
 his glory.

⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins,
 they shall raise up the former
 devastations;
 they shall repair the ruined cities,
 the devastations of many generations.

⁸For I the LORD love justice,

I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
 I will faithfully give them their
 recompense,
 and I will make an everlasting covenant
 with them.

⁹Their descendants shall be known among
 the nations,
 and their offspring among the peoples;
 all who see them shall acknowledge
 that they are a people whom the LORD
 has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
 my whole being shall exult in my God;
 for he has clothed me with the
 garments of salvation,
 he has covered me with the robe of
 righteousness,
 as a bridegroom decks himself with a
 garland,
 and as a bride adorns herself with her
 jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
 and as a garden causes what is sown in
 it to spring up,
 so the Lord GOD will cause
 righteousness and praise
 to spring up before all the nations.

A The word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 126

When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,
then were we like | those who dream.

²**Then was our mouth | filled with laughter,
and our tongue with | shouts of joy.**

³Then they said a- | mong the nations,
"The LORD has done great | things for them."

⁴**The LORD has done great | things for us,
and we are | glad indeed.**

⁵Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses | of the Negeb.

⁶**Those who | sowed with tears
will reap with | songs of joy.**

⁷Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing,
¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this
is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not
despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test
everything; hold fast to what is good;

²²abstain from every form of evil.

²³May the God of peace himself sanctify

you entirely; and may your spirit and soul
and body be kept sound and blameless at
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The
one who calls you is faithful, and he will
do this.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (tune: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*)

We are called to ponder myst'ry and await the coming Christ,
to embody God's compassion for each fragile human life.
God is with us in our longing to bring healing to the earth,
While we watch with joy and wonder for the promised Savior's birth.

*** GOSPEL: John 1:6–8, 19–28**



⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.
²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.



(Turn to page 12 for the 10:30 Service.)

8:00 a.m.

BAPTISM OF EVELYN RYNAE RUBY

PRESENTATION

P In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Parents and Sponsors: I present **Evelyn Rynae Ruby** to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

P In Christian love you have presented this child for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring her to the services of God's house, and teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As she grows in years, you should place in her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for her instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of her Baptism and in communion with the Church, she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ. Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

Parents and Sponsors: I do.

THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth.

By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things. By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of

cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that she who is here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of her who is cleansed by this water and bring her forth as an inheritor of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen

RENUNCIATION AND PROFESSION

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

P Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

Parents and Sponsors: I do.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

BAPTISM

P **Evelyn Rynae Ruby**, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

LAYING ON OF HANDS

P God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon **Evelyn**: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

C **Amen**

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

P **Evelyn**, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen

GIVING OF THE LIGHT

A Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

PRAYER FOR PARENTS

P O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon **Josiah** and **Stephanie**. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their child. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their child the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

WELCOME

A Through Baptism God has made this new sister a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

C **We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and worker with us in the kingdom of God.**

BAPTISMAL HYMN WOV # 770 *Borning Cry*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN *Silent Night* (the 3 verses originally included in this song)

Silent Night! Holy Night! Bring to earth saving light;
Grace fulfilled to us is giv'n,
From the golden heights of heaven,
Comes in lowly birth, comes in lowly birth.

Silent Night! Holy Night! Shows to each His great might.
Love descends from heaven above;
Dwells with us in brotherly love,
Hailed by nations afar, hailed by nations afar.

Silent Night! Holy Night! Grants us grace, from sin's plight.
Stills God's wrath as was foretold
By His prophets in days of old.
Peace, goodwill to all, peace, goodwill to all.

SERMON

* **HYMN LBW # 54** *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*
"An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them." Luke 2:9

TITHES AND OFFERINGS *Let There Be Peace on Earth* -Terry Hershberger

OFFERTORY (*tune: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*) (*please remain seated*)

As saints of old their first-fruits brought
Of orchard, flock, and field
To God, the giver of all good,
The source of bounteous yield;
So we today first-fruits would bring,
The wealth of this good land,
Of farm and market, shop and home,
Of mind and heart and hand.

In gratitude and humble trust
We bring our best today
To serve your cause and share your love
With all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us
In Jesus Christ your Son,
Teach us to give ourselves each day
Until life's work is done.

THE PRAYERS (*please remain seated*)

A Walking in the light of the coming Savior, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who await God's justice.

Brief silence.

A God of love, you have clothed all the baptized in garments of salvation; equip us to bear witness to the Light of the world, that all might believe. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of goodness, all creation proclaims your glory; open our eyes to see your power and majesty in the detailed beauty of our world, and open our hearts to be gentle caretakers of the earth. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of justice, you anointed prophets to proclaim liberty to captives and release to prisoners; by your Spirit raise up prophetic voices today to challenge all that enslaves people and condemns many to lives of poverty. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of joy and gladness, you desire that we give thanks in all circumstances. In this season of preparation for the coming of your Son, open us to experience your grace in unexpected places. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of faithfulness, you have covered your saints with the robe of righteousness; we give you thanks for those who have died, and we entrust them to your keeping. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Other petitions.

P God of peace, you promise to turn mourning into dancing. Comfort all who mourn, bring healing to the sick (*especially*), and give hope and reconciliation to those estranged from family. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love and faithfulness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

*** LORD'S PRAYER** (*please stand*)

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C 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**

*** HYMN LBW # 39** *Joy to the World*

“Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people.” Luke 2:10

POSTLUDE Fantasia on *The First Nowell*

10:30 a.m.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN *Silent Night* (the 3 verses originally included in this song)

Silent Night! Holy Night! Bring to earth saving light;
Grace fulfilled to us is giv'n,
From the golden heights of heaven,
Comes in lowly birth, comes in lowly birth.

Silent Night! Holy Night! Shows to each His great might.
Love descends from heaven above;
Dwells with us in brotherly love,
Hailed by nations afar, hailed by nations afar.

Silent Night! Holy Night! Grants us grace, from sin's plight.
Stills God's wrath as was foretold
By His prophets in days of old.
Peace, goodwill to all, peace, goodwill to all.

SERMON

*** HYMN LBW # 54**

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

“An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them.” Luke 2:9

*** NICENE CREED**

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

THE PRAYERS *(please be seated)*

A Walking in the light of the coming Savior, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who await God's justice.

Brief silence.

A God of love, you have clothed all the baptized in garments of salvation; equip us to bear witness to the Light of the world, that all might believe. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A God of goodness, all creation proclaims your glory; open our eyes to see your power and majesty in the detailed beauty of our world, and open our hearts to be gentle caretakers of the earth. Hear us, O God.

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A God of justice, you anointed prophets to proclaim liberty to captives and release to prisoners; by your Spirit raise up prophetic voices today to challenge all that enslaves people and condemns many to lives of poverty. Hear us, O God.

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C Your mercy is great.

A God of faithfulness, you have covered your saints with the robe of righteousness; we give you thanks for those who have died, and we entrust them to your keeping. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Other petitions.

P God of peace, you promise to turn mourning into dancing. Comfort all who mourn, bring healing to the sick (*especially*), and give hope and reconciliation to those estranged from family. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast love and faithfulness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

*** PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS *Will We Know Him?* -Choir

*** OFFERTORY** *(tune: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear)*

As saints of old their first-fruits brought
Of orchard, flock, and field
To God, the giver of all good,
The source of bounteous yield;
So we today first-fruits would bring,
The wealth of this good land,
Of farm and market, shop and home,
Of mind and heart and hand.

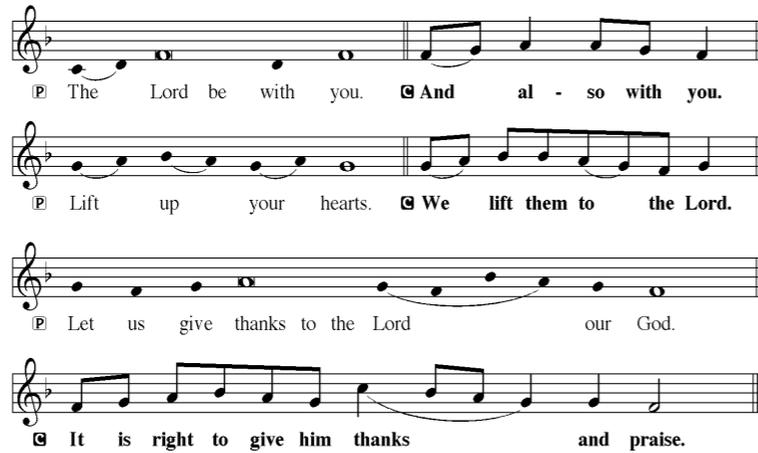
In gratitude and humble trust We bring our best today
To serve your cause and share your love With all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us In Jesus Christ your Son,
Teach us to give ourselves each day Until life's work is done.

*** OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

*** GREAT
THANKSGIVING**



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary...

(tune: *Angels We Have Heard on High*)

Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of hosts all praise be given!
All your glory fills the earth, all your power fills the heavens!
Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo!

Blessed is the King who came, bringing love and light divine.
Blessed is the King who comes in the bread and in the wine.
Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo!

*** EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*** LORD'S PRAYER**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C **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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

Is Your Heart Prepared? - Choir

*** BLESSING**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

*** POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE** (tune: *Away in a Manger*)

Lord, now in your mercy your servants release
As your word has promised Oh, grant us your peace.
Our eyes your salvation and mercy behold,
Prepared for the nations, as prophets foretold.

A Light to the Gentiles, by whom they now see
The glory of Isr'el, the promised one he
Who lives now and ever, the heaven's bright Son,
With Father and Spirit eternally one.

*** POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

A Lord God, we give you thanks that you have fed us even now with the banquet that is yet to come. Keep us alert for signs of your presence in the world around us. Send us as healing oil and sheltering comfort to those in need, and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

*** BENEDICTION**

*** HYMN LBW # 39** *Joy to the World*

"Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people." Luke 2:10

*** DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Fantasia on *The First Nowell*

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Our 10:30 worship service is being broadcast on WNDH 103.1 FM

Altar flowers

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Donnie Daman in loving memory of Orv.

Baptism

Being baptized at the 8:00 worship hour is Evelyn Rynae Ruby, a daughter born on August 13, 2011 to Josiah Wallace and Stephanie Ruby. Evelyn's sponsors are Chad & Tiffany Rupp and Meredith Hoops.

PLEASE NOTE: ONE SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY – 9:00 A.M.

Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 18 - Cantata

9:00 a.m. ONE SERVICE

Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve

(Both services will offer 30 minutes of pre-service music.)

7:00 p.m. Children's Program

11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service with Communion

Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. ONE SERVICE with Communion

Saturday, December 31, New Year's Eve - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1, New Year's Day

10:00 a.m. ONE SERVICE with Communion

Newsletter deadline — noon tomorrow!

Offering Envelopes

Be sure to pick up your 2012 offering envelopes in the overflow.

The new directories are here!!

If you had your picture taken for the directory (or submitted a picture) you will find your new directory in an envelope with your name on it in the box in the overflow.

Coffee hour

Cookies and coffee will be served by the choir after the 9:00 a.m. worship next Sunday, December 18th. Please stay and join us in fellowship after the Cantata.

2012 Flower Chart

The new flower chart is hanging in the narthex. Please mark your date *clearly!*

Installation

Installation of the 2012 Church Council members will take place on NEXT SUNDAY, December 18, at the beginning of the service before the Christmas Cantata. Also, even though new council members will not officially take office until January 1, they are invited and encouraged to attend the December 19 regularly scheduled church council meeting.

During construction ... valet parking

In addition to the parking spaces reserved at the back entrance and assistance provided to navigate the stairs at the back entrance for those who need assistance, church council would also like to provide valet parking if all parking spaces at the back entrance are occupied. This is especially important as we approach the winter months when the parking lot and sidewalks may become slippery. Individuals will be at the back entrance to assist you into the church, park your car, and then return your car to the back entrance after the service. Members who are willing to assist our elderly and handicapped members in this regard are asked to simply be at the back entrance to lend a hand. There will not be specifically assigned times. Just be there to help out over the next several months.

Do you have good used or outdated books etc.?

If you have any outdated or old materials from Sunday School, devotionals, prayer books, Bibles etc. that you would like to get rid of, please contact Judy Hoffman. They will be donated to Christian Resources International where they will be put to good use.

Salvation Army Bell Ringers — We need you!!!!

We still urgently need volunteers to be Bell Ringers at Wal Mart on **December 17** . There are SIX SPOTS still open. There must be at least 1 adult at each door or 2 junior high or high school students at each. Younger people are also invited, but they must have an adult with them. Rain or shine! High School Seniors: This may count towards your community service hours. Sign up on the bulletin board by the church office!

Thrivent Open House — Wayne Park Drive Office

You are invited to a holiday open house at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans at 15146 County Road M1, Napoleon, on Monday, December 19 from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. (No products will be offered.)

Toledo Symphony Christmas Concert

The Toledo Symphony Neighborhood Concert series will present a Christmas concert on Thursday, December 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Napoleon Township (corner of Henry Co Rd Q1 & 17). You may call the church office at 419-758-3522 to make reservations or stop by the church office Monday through Friday from 10 a.m - 2 p.m. and purchase your tickets. They will also be open on Wednesday, December 7 & 14 from 6:00 -6:45 p.m. Payment is due by Thursday, December 15. Ticket prices are \$20 for those ages 13 and up; \$10 for children ages 6-12; Free for ages 5 and under.

Soul Food – change!

Soul Food is expanding its hours! We will be serving from 5 to 6:30 p.m. from now on. Please bear with us as we “adjust” our cooking times and portions; we’re going to try to stagger the times that the food is ready to accommodate the latecomers as well as the early birds! Everyone is welcome for our weekly feeding of bodies and souls!

Chapel Communion — Chapel Communion will be offered on Wednesday at 2:30 p.m.

If you would prefer that Pastor bring communion to your home (because of our elevator construction or other reasons) please give us a call.

Statistics

12/04 Attendance 115 + 80 (195) Communed 109 Offerings \$10,127.44 (\$4,895 Bldg Fd; \$35 World Hngr)

Serving Today

Pastor James L. Castello
Worship & Music Coordinator & Organist - Angela Tonjes
Worship Assistants - 8:00 Terry Hershberger 10:30 Karri Ashbaugh
Acolytes - 8:00 Austin Damman & Alexandria Biederstedt
10:30 Ryan Kohout & Madison Ashbaugh
Ushers - 8:00 Tom & Barb Hoffman, Ed & Tiffany Biederstedt
10:30 Terry Walther, Tom Jenny, Kurt Rohrs
Altar Guild - Nanette Schwab & Susan Mabee
Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Carol Castello (419-592-0847) or cjcast@yahoo.com

This Week

Today 1:00 p.m. KFC Shopping for Project We Care
Monday 9:30 a.m. Ruth Circle
noon Newsletter deadline
5:30 p.m. Naomi Circle
6:00 p.m. Education Board
6:30 p.m. Doctrine & Worship Board
Wednesday 11:30 a.m. Martha Circle
2:30 p.m. Chapel Communion
3:15 p.m. After School Club
3:30 p.m. 6th grade catechism
5:00 p.m. 7th grade catechism
5:00 p.m. Soul Food
6:00 p.m. Emanubells
7:00 p.m. 8th grade catechism
7:00 p.m. Choir
8:00 p.m. Living Spirit
Thursday 9:00 a.m. Bible Study