

Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio  
Christmas Day — December 25, 2011  
10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

P Glory to God in highest heaven, and on earth peace for those on whom his favor rests.

**C In the tender compassion of our God, the morning sun has risen upon us who lived in darkness.**

P The Word has become flesh, has come to dwell among us, and we have seen his glory.

**C Glory to the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

P To us a child is born, to us a son is given. Alleluia.

**C All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia.**

**CONFESSION**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the Word made flesh, the Lord and giver of life.

**C Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another. God of glory, God of peace,

**C we confess that we have shunned the light that reveals the truth about us. We cling to worldly things rather than sharing the gifts of this earth. We trust ourselves above all. Save your people, O God; sustain the rivers and trees that sing your praise; and free us to live boldly in the light and truth of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.**

P The grace of God shines upon us, bringing salvation to the whole world. We are saved, our sins are washed away, not because of anything we have done, but according to God's mercy in Jesus Christ. Renewed by the Holy Spirit, let us live in hope and joy.

**C Amen.**

\* **HYMN** *Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful*

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:*

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God In the highest: *Refrain:*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing: *Refrain:*

\* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Almighty God, you have made yourself known in your Son, Jesus, redeemer of the world. We pray that his birth as a human child will set us free from the old slavery of our sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

**Special Music:** piano/flute duet *Bring a Torch, Jeannette Isabella* flute-Holly Mohring

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:6–12**

<sup>6</sup>Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,

I have posted sentinels;

all day and all night

they shall never be silent.

You who remind the LORD,

take no rest,

<sup>7</sup>and give him no rest

until he establishes Jerusalem

and makes it renowned throughout the earth.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm:

I will not again give your grain

to be food for your enemies,

and foreigners shall not drink the wine

for which you have labored;

<sup>9</sup>but those who garner it shall eat it

and praise the LORD,

and those who gather it shall drink it

in my holy courts.

<sup>10</sup>Go through, go through the gates,

prepare the way for the people;

build up, build up the highway,

clear it of stones,

lift up an ensign over the peoples.

<sup>11</sup>The LORD has proclaimed

to the end of the earth:

Say to daughter Zion,

"See, your salvation comes;

his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him."  
<sup>12</sup>They shall be called, "The Holy People,  
The Redeemed of the LORD";

and you shall be called, "Sought Out,  
A City Not Forsaken."

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

### PSALM 97

The LORD is king; let the | earth rejoice;\*  
let the multitude of the | isles be glad.

<sup>2</sup>**Clouds and darkness are | round about him,\*  
righteousness and justice are the foundations | of his throne.**

<sup>3</sup>A fire | goes before him\*  
and burns up his enemies on | every side.

<sup>4</sup>**His lightnings light | up the world;\*  
the earth sees it and | is afraid.**

<sup>5</sup>The mountains melt like wax at the presence | of the LORD,\*  
at the presence of the LORD of | the whole earth.

<sup>6</sup>**The heavens de- | clare his righteousness,\*  
and all the peoples | see his glory.**

<sup>7</sup>Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight | in false gods!\*  
Bow down before him, | all you gods.

<sup>8</sup>**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Ju- | dah rejoice,\*  
because of your judg- | ments, O LORD.**

<sup>9</sup>For you are the LORD, most high over | all the earth;\*  
you are exalted far a- | bove all gods.

<sup>10</sup>**The LORD loves those | who hate evil;\*  
he preserves the lives of his saints  
and delivers them from the hand | of the wicked.**

<sup>11</sup>Light has sprung up | for the righteous,\*  
and joyful gladness for those who | are truehearted.

<sup>12</sup>**Rejoice in the | LORD, you righteous,\*  
and give thanks to his | holy name.**

### SECOND LESSON: Titus 3:4–7

<sup>4</sup>But when the goodness and loving  
kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he

saved us, not because of any works of  
righteousness that we had done, but

according to his mercy, through the water  
of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.  
<sup>6</sup>This Spirit he poured out on us richly  
through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that,  
having been justified by his grace, we

### \* GOSPEL: Luke 2:[1–7] 8–20

In those days a decree went out from  
Emperor Augustus that all the world  
should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first  
registration and was taken while Quirinius  
was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their  
own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also  
went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee  
to Judea, to the city of David called  
Bethlehem, because he was descended  
from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He  
went to be registered with Mary, to whom  
he was engaged and who was expecting a  
child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time  
came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she  
gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped  
him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a  
manger, because there was no place for  
them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds  
living in the fields, keeping watch over  
their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the  
Lord stood before 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; for see — I am bringing you  
good news of great joy for all the people:

might become heirs according to the hope  
of eternal life.

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

<sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of  
David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the  
Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you  
will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth  
and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly  
there was with the angel a multitude of the  
heavenly host, praising God and saying,  
<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom  
he favors!"

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone  
into heaven, the shepherds said to one  
another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and  
see this thing that has taken place, which  
the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they  
went with haste and found Mary and  
Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.  
<sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known  
what had been told them about this child;  
<sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what  
the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary  
treasured all these words and pondered  
them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds  
returned, glorifying and praising God for  
all they had heard and seen, as it had been  
told them.

**Special Music:** *The Friendly Beasts* -Castello family

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### HYMN *Angels We Have Heard on High*

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

*Refrain:* Glo-ri-a in excelsis Deo;  
Glo-ri-a in excelsis Deo.

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

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

## SERMON

### HYMN *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all you nations, rise; Join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Refrain:* Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain:*

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us second birth. *Refrain:*

### \* APOSTLES' CREED

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

**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.**

**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.**

## TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

As saints of old their first-fruits brought  
Or 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.

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(please remain seated)*

**A** Let us bring our prayers for the church, all creation, and the needs of the world before God.  
*Brief silence.*

**A** God of might, send forth from your church messengers to bring good news and to announce your salvation, so all people may know the hope of eternal life. Lord, in your mercy,  
**C hear our prayer.**

**A** God of creation, enlighten your people to see new and creative ways to preserve and protect the environment, so all people may share in the gifts of the land. Lord, in your mercy,  
**C hear our prayer.**

**A** God of peace, raise up leaders throughout the earth committed to peace, so all people may live in safety. Lord, in your mercy,  
**C hear our prayer.**

A God of grace, show us your glory through the mystery of the Word made flesh, so all in our congregation may come to greater knowledge of your truth. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

A God of salvation, we give you thanks for all who are made saints through the waters of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. Sustain us in faith until the day we join with the praises of your holy people before the throne of your Son. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

*Other petitions.*

P God of consolation, guard the unemployed, the homeless, the elderly, the young, and the sick. Keep them in your care, that they may rejoice and give thanks to your name.

Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Rejoicing in your glory revealed to the world, we offer these and all our prayers to you, O God of our salvation, through Christ our light.

**C Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### \* LORD'S PRAYER

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

### \* POST-COMMUNION HYMN *The First Noel*

The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

### \* BENEDICTION

### \* CLOSING HYMN *Joy to the World*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love, And wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love.

## POSTLUDE

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Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Shirlee Mires-Fejes in loving memory of Phil & Lisa Mires and Nelson Fejes.

### Rosebuds

The rosebuds today announce the births of Greydon Landry to Joe & Amanda Dilbone on September 24; and William Henry to Ryan & Andrea Hoffman on December 12.

### Serving Today

Pastor James L. Castello

Lay assistant - Karri Ashbaugh

Organist - Pat Mohring

Acolytes - Alexandria Biederstedt & Madison Ashbaugh

Altar Guild - Nanette Schwab & Susan Mabee