

**Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio**

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**Pastor James L. Castello**

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**Third Sunday of Advent — December 11, 2016**

**LBW—Lutheran Book of Worship      WOV—With One Voice**

**\* Please stand as you are able**

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

*Hark the Herald Angels Sing* -Catechism Bells

*The First Noel* -Morgan Ashbaugh, piano

*Silver Bells* -Emanubells

*Joy to the World and O Come, All Ye Faithful* -Julia DelFavero, piano

*God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen* -Emanubells

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Ringing of the Bell**

**PRELUDE**    *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

**Advent Candle Lighting**

Knepley family    trumpeters: Tom Jenny & Seth Tonjes

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**    *(you may remain seated)*

P    Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

**C    Amen.**

P    Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.  
God of all time,

**C    we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy**

**forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

P    Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

**C    Amen**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P    Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C    Amen.**

**OFFERING**    *Little Drummer Boy* -Catechism Bells

**OFFERTORY**

**THE PRAYERS** *(you may remain seated)* -Karri Ashbaugh & Pastor

A As we anticipate the fullness of the presence of Christ, we join with the church throughout the world, praying for all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

A For the church and all messengers of the gospel, for all who call upon the name of the Lord, and for congregations throughout the world; that God work through us to bring harmony and reconciliation, let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

A For rain forests and deserts, for wilderness and developed land, and for plants blossoming and dormant; that the splendor and diversity of creation proclaim the glory of the Lord, let us pray.

**Have mercy, O God.**

A For our government, for the military and international relief workers, and for those who care for the stranger, widow, and orphan; that God raise up leaders who work for the protection of all, let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

A For all who call this community home, for those visiting from near and far, and for those preparing for the holiday season, that the advent of Christ make our hearts and minds rejoice, let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

A In thanksgiving for the departed who were faithful to God's word; that their words and actions direct us to the one who prepares a way for us, let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P For the hungry and homeless, for those in captivity, for the fearful and sorrowful, for those living with HIV/AIDS, and for the sick (*especially*); that those who help others serve with patience and grace, let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

P Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, those spoken aloud and those known only to you, and grant us peace through Jesus Christ, our coming Savior.

**C Amen**

\* **LORD'S PRAYER** (tune: Away in a Manger)

Our Father in heaven, we hallow thy name,  
May thy kingdom holy on earth be the same;  
O give to us daily our portion of bread:  
It is from thy bounty that all must be fed.

Forgive our transgressions and teach us to know  
That humble compassion which pardons each foe;  
Keep us from temptation, from evil and sin,  
And thine be the glory forever! Amen.

Congregation please be seated. *(Please refrain from applauding during the cantata.)*

**Cantata**

*What Sweeter Music*

Readers: Jamie Bostelman and Melinda Dachenhaus

*Seasonal Processional* -Choir, Bells

*Advent Peace Canon* -Choir, Holly Mohring-flute, Peggy Snyder-violin

*Still, Still, Still/Pat-a-Pan* -Ryan Kruse, Marv Mt.Castle, percussion

*Breath of Heaven* -Choir

*African Angel Carol* -Choir, Marv Mt.Castle, percussion

*Birth Announcement by the Angels* -Rudi Dachenhaus and Julia DelFavero

*O Holy Night* -Bell Choir

*Come Follow That Star* -Choir

*Baby Born in Bethlehem* -Choir

*Adeste Fidelis* -Bell Choir

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Refreshments are available after the service in the overflow area.

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#### **Altar flowers**

Flowers are given to the glory of God by the Hoffman family in honor of Wil's 5<sup>th</sup> birthday; in loving memory of Alfred Prigge by Linda, Don, Shirley, and Larry; and for the 35<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Kurt & Karen Rohrs from their children, grandchildren, and Mom Rohrs.

#### **Thank you for your Nativities !!**

You may take your nativities home after worship this morning.

#### **Project**

After School Club children will be working on a craft project and we need BURNED OUT Christmas tree lights. As you are putting away your decorations this year, please consider donating your used up lights (any colors!), and we will turn them into something beautiful. Just put them in a bag or box (tangled up is just fine!), and put them in Angela's office.

#### **Statistics**

12/04 114 + 107 (221) communed 96+76 (172)

Simply Giving 11/28-12/04 \$865 Gen Fd; \$220 Bldg Fd

#### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE — NOON TOMORROW!!!**

#### **Christmas Worship Schedule**

Please mark your calendars so you don't miss any of these opportunities for worship!!

**December 18** - Worship at 8:00 a.m.; Children's Christmas Program at 10:30 a.m.

**December 24** - Worship with Holy Communion at 5:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

**December 25** - ONE service at 10:00 a.m. with Holy Communion

#### **Caring Corner for December** — *Project: We Care "Angel Tree"*

We are adopting 50 kids from Project: We Care. Our "decorated" Angel Tree is located in the overflow. Each angel ornament lists a boy or girl with the age or a family with the number of family members and gift suggestion. Please choose a gift to buy, wrap, and label it with that paper angel and return it underneath the tree NO LATER THAN THIS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14.

Please wrap your gift and label it by LIGHTLY attaching the angel. Any gift cards do not need to be wrapped; simply enclose in an envelope and label it with the angel. Please give these to Carol Castello or to Pat at the church office.

All Angel Tree gifts need to be brought to the church by THIS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14. Deliveries to the families will take place on Monday, December 19 (with Tuesday, December 20 as a back-up date), and we will, of course invite them to worship with us here at Emanuel at Christmas and always. If you would like to help with the deliveries, all such Christmas elves are welcome – please see Carol Castello.

#### **Salvation Army Bell-Ringing** — Friday, December 16

Check the volunteer list near the church office and sign up now! There are several two-hour shifts still available between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. All the "red kettle" money raised at the Napoleon WalMart stays to fund all the efforts of Salvation Army in our local area. Let's do our part and help from the heart!

#### **Christmas Concert**

The Henry County Chorale will present a holiday Christmas Concert today, December 11, at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1075 Glenwood. The public is invited. A free will offering will be accepted for the benefit of the Henry County Chorale and St. Paul Lutheran Church.

### Serving Today

Pastor James L. Castello  
Worship & Music Coordinator & Organist - Angela Tonjes  
Bell Choir Director - Bill Panning  
Reader - Karri Ashbaugh  
Sound Board - Ed Biederstedt  
Acolytes - Carter Burken & Morgan Ashbaugh  
Ushers - 8:00 Barb Hoffman, Tom Hoffman, Chris Peper, Paul Mowery  
Altar Guild - Joleen Brubaker & Lauren Helberg  
Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Carol Castello (419-592-0847) or cecast@yahoo.com

### This Week

Today	10:30 a.m.	Children's program dress rehearsal
Monday	9:30 a.m.	Ruth Circle at Frisch's Big Boy
	noon	Newsletter deadline
	5:00 p.m.	Naomi Circle at Log Cabin
Wednesday	3:15 p.m.	After School Club
	3:30 p.m.	6 <sup>th</sup> grade catechism
	5:00 p.m.	Soul Food
	5:30 p.m.	Emanubells
	6:30 p.m.	7 <sup>th</sup> grade catechism
	6:30 p.m.	Choir party at Jenny's
	7:30 p.m.	7 <sup>th</sup> / 8 <sup>th</sup> grade bells
Thursday	8:00 p.m.	8 <sup>th</sup> grade catechism
	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	11:30 a.m.	Miriam Circle at Butcher's Block
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School Christmas Program

### Flower Chart

The new flower chart for 2017 is posted on the bulletin in the narthex. Pick your date early and sign up!

### Devotionals

New *Christ in Our Home* and *Portals of Prayer* devotionals are available at both entrances. They are available in both regular and LARGE print.

### Simon Robson's Benefit

Hog Roast and Gun Raffle, today, December 11, 2016, 11:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. at The Armory Arts & Events Center, 127 East Washington St., Napoleon. In November 2015 Simon was a passenger involved in a serious automobile accident that left him not only in a wheelchair, but starting over in life completely. All proceeds will go to Simon Robson Charitable Fund.

### Soliciting all extra love (and Christmas Cards)!

As most of you know, my cousin Marcus joined the Peace Corps last year and is spending two years in Thailand. This is his first Christmas so far away from home which is not so easy for him or for his family. As such, I am soliciting any extra Christmas wishes from his church family in the form of Christmas cards (or notes!). There is a container at each door for cards to be put in to (or they can be dropped at the church office!) I will gather them all together and send them as one Christmas package. We'll be collecting through the holiday season, so he may not get them until after Christmas, but he will get them with all the love they are sent with. So as you write your Christmas cards up this year (if you feel so moved), please include one for Marcus and bring it to the church. The love of Christ can be spread an extra 8,500 miles this season! Thank you!! -Holly Mohring



By the end of his life, Martin Luther wrote 60,000 pages, yet he hoped that "all my books would disappear and the Holy Scriptures alone be read."

*Did you know...*

Luther had probably eight siblings, yet only one of Luther's brothers (Jacob) and only three of his sisters survived to adulthood.