

Emanuel Lutheran Church, Napoleon, Ohio

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Missionary to Japan, Hanna Jensen-Reinke (Hanna.Jensen-Reinke@elca.org)

Third Sunday in Advent † December 16, 2018

LBW-Lutheran Book of Worship WOV-With One Voice

* Please stand as you are able

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE *O Come, Little Children*

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING -Long family
God With Us, Emmanuel -Choir & Bill Panning -bells

During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Prince of Peace.

C The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

In the midst of conflict, we look to the One who brings harmony.

C The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

In the midst of confusion, we look to the One who brings clarity.

C The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

In the midst of division, we look to the One who brings unity.

C The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

In the midst of separation, we look to the One who restores the broken.

C The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

Today we light three candles. The first candle reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. The second candle reminds us of our joy in proclaiming Christ as our Mighty God. We light the third candle to remind us that Jesus is our Prince of Peace. In a world filled with conflict, tension and discord, we look for the peace that comes through Christ alone.

God With Us, Emmanuel -Choir & Bill Panning -bells

CLOSING PRAYER

Gracious Lord, as we continue our Advent journey, we acknowledge that our surroundings are often far from peaceful. By your Spirit, help us to be agents of peace in the world around us. Throughout this season continue to fill us with the peace that surpasses all understanding. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 98, downright unruly)

A Hey! Sing to God something brand new!

C For God has done wonderful things! Hey!

A God has not forgotten to love us all!

C Even the ends of the earth have heard!

A Make a joyful noise!

C Hey! Hey! Hey!

A With bells and songs, piano and harp, and organ!

C All instruments loud and strong!

A With the roaring sea and everything in it!

C With all the land and everything in it!

A The floods clap their hands!

C The hills sing for joy!

A Thank God! God is coming to set everything right:

C Justice for everyone, everything fair!

A Hey! Sing to God something brand new!

C For God has done wonderful things! Hey!

CONFESSION

A When Mary and Joseph arrived in Bethlehem they found there was no room.

C We confess that in the midst of all our anxieties, we have not made room in our hearts for others. We confess that, paralyzed by fear, prejudice or apathy, we have not made room in our homes for the stranger. We confess that, forgetting the welcome we have been shown, we have not made room in your church for those who are different from us. We confess that in the busyness of Christmas time, we have not made room in our lives

for you. Gracious God, forgive us and renew us. Use this Advent time to break open our hearts and throw open the doors. Open our eyes to your presence and open our arms wide to welcome you.

A God is good! God is faithful! God is merciful! God comes to us, in vulnerability, again and again, to show us how much we are loved. We are forgiven; we are freed, we are beloved; we are blessed.

C **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

TITHES AND OFFERINGS -Jackson Delaney

OFFERTORY

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.

OFFERING PRAYER

A Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love, inspire us to extend your care among the hungry, the homeless, the lonely, the broken, and all in need. In Jesus' name we pray.

C **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN LBW # 45 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

“THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS”

READING

SONG *Jesus Christ Was Born* -preschool-kindergarten

BELLS *Away in a Manger*

READING

SONG *Joy to the World* -grades 1-2

BELLS *Angels We Have Heard on High*

READING

SONG *Christmas Hallelujah* -grades 3-5

BELLS *O, Holy Night*

READING

FINALE *The Twelve Days of Christmas*

PRAYERS

A As we await the coming of Christ, we pray in hope for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A For choirs, hymn writers, musicians, and off-key singing, we give you thanks, Holy One. Fill us with your song of joy. Open us to proclaim your glory in our singing, speaking, and silence. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A For the hurting places in creation; for seas and lands ravaged by natural disasters; for communities and creatures displaced by floods and droughts. Grant peace through your presence and joy in your healing. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A For peace to ring out in our hearts and in our homes; for mercy and forgiveness to reign in every community; for war to cease and hunger to end. Give us this joy now, Holy One. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A For those who are oppressed; for soldiers and veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder and their families; for neighbors who have no access to medical care; for those who are ill and those who mourn. Fill them with your peace. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A For foster families opening their homes; for grandparents raising grandchildren; for single parents struggling to make ends meet; for expectant parents who now grieve. Give strength and comfort, Holy One. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A In thanksgiving for preachers and teachers who have guided us on the way. Bring us with them to rejoice eternally in you. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Confident that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we bring to you these prayers and those unspoken, in the name of Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

* **LORD'S PRAYER** 🎵 (please stand as you are able)

**Our Father, Lord on heav'n's high throne,
Most holy be your name
Your kingdom come. Your will be done
On earth-in heaven the same.
Give us this day the food we need;
Forgiven may we be.
Into temptation do not lead,
From evil set us free.**

**Yours is the kingdom; unto you
In grateful love we bow;
And yours the pow'r; Lord, let us view,
Your mighty presence now.
The glory yours; your praise be sung
By angel hosts and all
In ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue
Forevermore! Amen.**

BENEDICTION

A May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,

C Amen!

A May you learn the obedience of Joseph,

C Amen!

A May you share the joy of the angels,

C Amen!

A May you have the eagerness of the shepherds,

C Amen!

A May you feel the determination of the magi,

C Amen!

A May you know the peace of the Christ Child.

C Amen!

A Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. Merry Christmas.

C Amen!

CLOSING HYMN LBW # 70 *Go Tell It On the Mountain*

POSTLUDE *Joy to the World*

Parents, please pick up your children in the basement



Altar Flowers

Flowers are given to the glory of God by Judy Demmel in loving memory of Neil Demmel.

Annual Reports

All committees and boards are asked to have their annual reports in to the church office by the end of December. Thank you!

Devotionals

Portals of Prayer and *Christ In Our Home* are available at both entrances. There are both regular and large print editions.

We pray for people having birthdays this week ... Sharon Panning, Alexander Bogert, Bryant Dachenhaus, Charlee Glick, Thomas Hoffman, Natalie Long, Thomas Manahan, Kyle Miller, Betty Panning, Andrew Schwab. **and wedding anniversaries ...** Brian & Deanna McCabe, Jim & Carol Castello, Hugh & Sue Schink, Gene & Christine Walters. **and for all the military...**

Offering Envelopes

The offering envelopes for 2019 are available in the hallway outside the church offices.

Christmas Concert

A Trans-Siberian Orchestra Tribute by Siberian Solstice present The Angel's Gift today at 7 p.m. at St. John's United Church of Christ, corner of State Route 108 and Co. Rd. J between Napoleon and Holgate. Everyone is invited for appetizers and little sweets before the concert beginning at 5:30 p.m. A Free-Will Offering will be taken to defray the band's expenses.

Choir Party

This is a reminder to all choir members: party at the Jenny's this Wednesday, December 19, at 6:30 p.m. Bring a potluck dish and your spouse/friend/children. We will sing for a little while!

Newly Elected Council Members

You are invited to attend the Monday, December 17th, council meeting, for we will be setting the date for the installation service and meeting dates for January. And there will be a time of fellowship with desserts following the meeting.

Worship Schedule – mark your calendars!!!

Sunday, December 23

9:00 a.m. Cantata - Choir members will furnish refreshments after worship.

Monday, December 24

5:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

10:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Tuesday, December 25

9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 30

9:00 a.m. Worship

Statistics

12/9 (185) communed (154)

Offerings: \$5717 (\$80 Bldg Fd; \$26 Sun Sch; \$200 Good Sam; \$1010 Bell Choir)

Simply Giving 12/7 - 12/10 : \$130 Gen Fd; \$45 Bldg Fd; \$25 Good Sam; \$25

World Hunger

This Week

Monday 9:30 a.m. Angel Tree deliveries

7:00 p.m. Church Council

Wednesday 3:15 p.m. After School Club

5:00 p.m. Soul Food

6:30 p.m. Choir Party at Tom & Beth Jenny's
NO Living Spirit

Thursday 9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Serving Today

Worship & Music Coordinator & Organist - Angela Tonjes

Bell Choir Director - Bill Panning

Lay Assistant - Jamie Bostelman

Sound Board - Jeff Sharpe

Acolytes - Preston Speaks & Ashton Delaney

Ushers - Dave Schwab, Alan Storch, Lenny Sonnenberg, Chris Peper

Altar Guild - Maxine Eickhoff & Phyllis Kloos

Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Phyllis Kloos (419-260-6582) or
phyllis_kloos@yahoo.com

Volunteers needed

Please consider volunteering as lay assistant, sound board operator, or usher for our worship services. You can sign up for one week or for a month. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex or talk to Betty Mowery or Ronnie Rohrs to volunteer. WE NEED YOU!!!

Call Committee update:

The Ministry Site Profile (MSP) which was completed by the Call Committee and Transition Team was approved by Church Council at its November meeting and forwarded to the Synod office. The Synod office makes this MSP available to pastors who may be seeking a call. The Call Committee will now wait for the Synod office to identify candidates who may be interested in our vacancy at Emanuel, and then provide the Call Committee with information on the prospective candidate(s) to determine if there is mutual interest. In summary, we wait for the Synod to provide us with prospective candidates. As always, contact any Call Committee member if you have any questions.