



Emanuel Lutheran Church
Napoleon, Ohio
Monday, December 24, 2018
10:30 p.m.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC *Baby, What You Goin' To Be?* -Choir

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE *Night of the Father's Love* -Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

A On this holiest of nights,

C we come, joining the shepherds who are stunned by wonder.

A On this most silent night,

C we come, our hopes and dreams joining those of Mary and Joseph.

A On this nights of carols and candlelight,

C we come, our glad songs joining with the choirs of angels over us.

PRAYER

A Let us pray: Lord, we thank you for the birth of your Son. Help us to prepare again for his coming: to prepare inwardly, in our hearts, and outwardly, in our world. We do not only commemorate the birth of Jesus, but celebrate his presence and his continued rebirth in our hearts. We not only celebrate the meaning of his life for our world, but rejoice at his continued presence in it. We thank you for the most special moment over 2000 years ago, and for this moment, and for those to come, and Jesus is here and with us yet again. In Jesus' name we pray.

C Amen.

O Come, All Ye Faithful -Living Spirit

Isaiah 9:2-7

²The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light; those
who lived in a land of deep
darkness—on them light has
shined.

³You have multiplied the nation, you
have increased its joy; they
rejoice before you as with joy at

the harvest, as people exult
when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the
bar across their shoulders, the
rod of their oppressor, you have
broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping
warriors and all the garments

rolled in blood shall be burned
as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us, a
son given to us; authority rests
upon his shoulders; and he is
named Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually,

and there shall be endless
peace for the throne of David
and his kingdom. He will
establish and uphold it with
justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and
forevermore. The zeal of the
LORD of hosts will do this.

HYMN *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*

For lo! The days are hast'ning on, By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever circling years Shall come the time foretold,
When peace shall over all the earth Its ancient splendors fling,
And all the world give back the song Which now the angels sing.

Micah 5:2-5a

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from
of old, from ancient days. ³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time when
she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to
the people of Israel. ⁴ And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the
Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure,
for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ⁵ and he shall be the one of
peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil,

HYMN *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by;
Yet in they dark streets shineth The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.
For Christ is born of Mary, And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king, And peace to all the earth!

Luke 1:26-35, 38

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel
Gabriel was sent by God to a town in
Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin
engaged to a man whose name was
Joseph, of the house of David. The
virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he
came to her and said, "Greetings,
favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹
But she was much perplexed by his
words and pondered what sort of
greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel
said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found favor with God. ³¹
And now, you will conceive in your
womb and bear a son, and you will
name him Jesus. ³² He will be great,
and will be called the Son of the Most

High, and the Lord God will give to
him the throne of his ancestor David.
³³ He will reign over the house of
Jacob forever, and of his kingdom
there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to
the angel, "How can this be, since I
am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel said to
her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon
you, and the power of the Most High
will overshadow you; therefore the
child to be born will be holy; he will
be called Son of God. ³⁸ Then Mary
said, "Here am I, the servant of the
Lord; let it be with me according to
your word." Then the angel departed
from her.

HYMN *What Child I This*

What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mary!

Luke 2:1-7

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should
be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was
governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph 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. ⁵He
went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was
expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her
child. ⁷And 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.

HYMN *Away in a Manger*

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, The little Lord
Jesus laid down his sweet head; The stars in the sky looked
down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, But little Lord
Jesus no crying he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus; look
down from the sky And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Luke 2:8-16

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there

was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" ¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

"Gloria" -Bell Choir

Luke 2:17-20

¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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.

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star Shining in the east beyond them far; And to the earth it gave great light, And so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

Matthew 2:1-11

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" ⁷ Then Herod secretly called

for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

HYMN *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright;
west-ward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
heav'n sings alleluia; alleluia the earth replies. *Refrain*

CHRISTMAS CREED *(please stand as you are able)*

C I believe in Jesus Christ and in the power of the Gospel which began in Bethlehem. I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a small village, where the shepherds saw the sign, and for whom there was no room in the inn. I believe in the one whose life changed the course of history, for whom the kings of the earth had no power, and who was not understood by the proud. I believe in the one to whom the poor, the oppressed, the discouraged, the afflicted, the sick, the blind and the leprous welcomed and accepted as Savior. I believe in the one who, with love, changed the hearts of the proud, and with his life, showed that it is more important to serve than to be served, and that the greatest joy is in giving your life for others. I believe in peace, which means justice among all peoples and nations and love among all. I believe in reconciliation, forgiveness and the transforming power of the Gospel. I believe that Christmas is strength and power, and that this world can change if, with humility and faith, we kneel before the manger. I believe that I must be the first one to do so. Amen.

SIGN OF PEACE

A The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS *Give a Gift* -Joleen Brubaker

OFFERTORY

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!

PRAYERS

A In joy and thanksgiving at Christ's birth:
Let us sing to the Lord a new song,

C On earth peace, good will among people.

A We pray for all faithful people, for all welcome messengers of good news:
Let us sing to the Lord a new song,

C On earth peace, good will among people.

A For the nations and their rulers, for the corporations and their executives,
for anyone with power over the lives of others:
Let us sing to the Lord a new song,

C On earth peace, good will among people.

A For those who defend the helpless, for those who strive for justice, for those
who work to find a way to peace, for all the world, and all who live in it:
Let us sing to the Lord a new song,

C On earth peace, good will among people.

A For anyone suffering, sick, alone, afraid, or in any kind of trouble:
Let us sing to the Lord a new song,

C On earth peace, good will among people.

A For our own community, for friends, neighbors, and family, near and far:
Let us sing to the Lord a new song,

C On earth peace, good will among people.

A Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. Before the eyes of all the nations
you sent your Son, the exact imprint of love itself, to be our salvation. With
the shepherds in the fields, let us go now to Bethlehem, there to find Christ in
our hearts, and in the world.

**C Let us sing to the Lord a new song: on earth peace, good will among
people. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

A 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

O Holy Night -Bell Choir & Holly Mohring -flute

PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

HYMN LBW # 65 *Silent Night*

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

HYMN LBW #39 *Joy to the World*

BENEDICTION

A Alleluia! Our God is now here! In the name of our God,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, we cry out with the angels in the heavens
and the shepherds in the fields:

C Alleluia! Our God is now here! Amen!

Postlude *Adeste Fidelis* -Bell Choir

There will be continuous communion. We will begin with the balcony, then the center pews beginning from the back, then the side pews (again beginning from the back).

Please form two lines in the middle aisle. Ron Wiechers will distribute the wafer, then please proceed to the right or left for the wine (or grape juice). You will be directed by the ushers.

Everyone is invited to our Lord's table.

Officiating - Choir Members

Worship & Music Coordinator & Organist - Angela Tonjes

Bell Choir Director - Bill Panning

Acolytes - Cale Perdew & Cameron Burken

Ushers - Tom & Barb Hoffman, Kelli Burkhardt, Terri Sedam

Thank you to all the choir members that took part in tonight's service.