



Emanuel Lutheran Church  
Napoleon, Ohio  
Monday, December 24, 2018  
5:00 p.m.

## RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE *Still, Still, Still*

## 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.**

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

## FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7

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

<sup>3</sup>You 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.

<sup>4</sup>For 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.

<sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup>For 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.  
<sup>7</sup>His 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.

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

### PSALM 96

<sup>1</sup>Sing to the LORD <sup>1</sup>a new song; sing to the LORD, <sup>1</sup>all the earth.

<sup>2</sup>**Sing to the LORD, bless the name <sup>1</sup>of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from <sup>1</sup>day to day.**

<sup>3</sup>Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

<sup>4</sup>**For great is the LORD and greatly <sup>1</sup>to be praised, more to be feared <sup>1</sup>than all gods.**

<sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations, they <sup>1</sup>are but idols; but you, O LORD, have <sup>1</sup>made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup>**Majesty and magnificence are <sup>1</sup>in your presence; power and splendor are in your <sup>1</sup>sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you families <sup>1</sup>of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

<sup>8</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the <sup>1</sup>holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts <sup>1</sup>of the LORD.**

<sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, <sup>1</sup>all the earth.

<sup>10</sup>**Tell it out among the nations: "The <sup>1</sup>LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."**

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice, and let the <sup>1</sup>earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that <sup>1</sup>is therein.

<sup>12</sup>**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to <sup>1</sup>judge the earth.**

<sup>13</sup>You will judge the <sup>1</sup>world with righteousness and the peoples <sup>1</sup>with your truth.

### SECOND LESSON: Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great

God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (please stand as you are able)

Infant holy, infant lowly, For his bed a cattle stall; Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all. Swiftly winging, angels singing, Bells are ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all! Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping Vigil till the morning new Saw the glory, heard the story, Tidings of a Gospel true. Thus rejoicing free from sorrow, Praises voicing, greet the morrow: Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

### GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

<sup>1</sup>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: <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.]

- A The Gospel of our Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN LBW # 67** *Away in a Manger*

## SERMON

**HYMN LBW #71** *Angels We Have Heard on High*

## 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 *Lo, How a Rose*

## 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* -Seth Tonjes

## PROCLAMATION OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

### LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

**HYMN LBW # 65** *Silent Night*

### 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!**

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

**Postlude** *Joyful Tidings*

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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. Jack 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 - Jack Robbins

Worship & Music Coordinator & Organist - Angela Tonjes

Acolytes - Rudi Dachenhaus & Adara Hildebrandt

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