

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH and ACADEMY

Sussex, Wisconsin

January 3, 2021 – 4:00 p.m.

The Second Sunday after Christmas

The Thirtieth Annual Christmas Service of Lessons & Carols

Featuring the Senior Choir
of Peace Lutheran Church

CAROL CONGREGATION AND CHOIR

Once in Royal David's City

Text: C. F. Alexander, 1818-95; Tune: H. J. Gauntlett, 1805-76; Setting: David Willcocks, 1919-2015

Congregation:

1. Once in royal David's city
 Stood a lowly cattle shed,
 Where a mother laid her Baby
 In a manger for His bed:
 Mary was that mother mild,
 Jesus Christ her little Child.

Senior Choir:

2. He came down to earth from heaven
 Who is God and Lord of all,
 And His shelter was a stable,
 And His cradle was a stall:
 With the poor and mean and lowly
 Lived on earth our Savior holy.

All Women and Treble Voices:

3. And through all His wondrous childhood
 He would honour and obey,
 Love and watch the lowly maiden,
 In whose gentle arms He lay:
 Christian children all shall be
 Mild, obedient, good as He.

Congregation:

4. For He is our childhood's pattern,
 Day by day like us He grew,
 He was little, weak, and helpless,
 Tears and smiles like us He knew:
 And He feels for all our sadness,
 And He shares in all our gladness.

Congregation:

5. And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love;
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Congregation:

6. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
Shall we see Him, but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high.
Then like stars His children, crowned,
All in white, His praise will sound!

Stand

INVOCATION, BIDDING PRAYER, and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sit

CAROL CHOIR

Still, Still, Still

Text: Austrian Carol, tr. Meg Peacocke, b. 1930; Setting: Philip Ledger, 1937-2012

Still, still, still, let all the world be still,
For Mary lays her son to rest,
Sings to him softly at her breast,
Still, still, still, let all the world be still.

Sleep, sleep, sleep my dearest baby sleep.
The angels all rejoice and sing,
Heav'n for your delight shall ring,
Sleep, sleep, sleep my dearest baby sleep.

Joy, joy, joy, my heart is filled with joy!
The God of love has left his throne,
Made this humble world his own,
Joy, joy, joy, my heart is filled with joy!

CAROL CHOIR

What Is This Fragrance

Text and Tune: Traditional French; Translation: Werner P. Grams, alt.; Arrangement: William Averitt, b. 1948

What is this fragrance sweet and tender,
Lovelier than the flow'rs of spring?
Shepherds, now hearken to the splendor
Of which angelic choirs do sing.
What is this fragrance sweet and tender,
Lovelier than the flow'rs of spring?

What is this radiance soft and gentle,
Shining with love upon our eyes?
Star of the East was ne'er so glorious,
Tracing its path through distant skies.
What is this radiance soft and gentle,
Shining with love upon our eyes?

Hasten, then, shepherds, quickly journey
To see the Savior from above,
Bring unto Him your dearest treasure,
Fervent devotion, endless love.
Hasten, then, shepherds, quickly journey
To see the Savior from above.

CAROL CONGREGATION AND CHOIR*Away in a Manger LSB 365*

Text: Little Children's Book, Philadelphia, 1885, sts. 1-2; Vineyard Songs, Louisville, 1882, st. 3 alt.

Tune: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1883-1921; Setting: David Willcocks, 1919-2015

Choir:

Away in a manger,
 No crib for a bed,
 The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
 The stars in the bright sky
 Looked down where He lay,
 The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Congregation:

The cattle are lowing,
 The baby awakes,
 But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
 I love Thee, Lord Jesus!
 Look down from the sky,
 And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Choir and Congregation:

Be near me, Lord Jesus;
 I ask Thee to stay
 Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
 Bless all the dear children
 In Thy tender care
 And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

FIRST LESSON**Genesis 3:8-19**

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise
 and that the Seed of the woman will bruise the serpent's head.*

CAROL CONGREGATION*The Tree of Life LSB 561*

Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955; Tune: Bruce W. Becker, b. 1952; Setting: Henry V. Gerike, b. 1948

1. The tree of life with ev'ry good
 In Eden's holy orchard stood,
 And of its fruit so pure and sweet
 God let the man and woman eat.
 Yet in this garden also grew
 Another tree, of which they knew;
 Its lovely limbs with fruit adorned
 Against whose eating God had warned.
2. The stillness of that sacred grove
 Was broken, as the serpent strove
 With tempting voice Eve to beguile
 And Adam too by sin defile.
 O day of sadness when the breath
 Of fear and darkness, doubt and death,
 Its awful poison first displayed
 Within the world so newly made.
3. What mercy God showed to our race,
 A plan of rescue by His grace:
 In sending One from woman's seed,
 The One to fill our greatest need—
 For on a tree uplifted high
 His only Son for sin would die,
 Would drink the cup of scorn and dread
 To crush the ancient serpent's head!
4. Now from that tree of Jesus' shame
 Flows life eternal in His name;
 For all who trust and will believe,
 Salvation's living fruit receive.
 And of this fruit so pure and sweet
 The Lord invites the world to eat,
 To find within this cross of wood
 The tree of life with ev'ry good.

SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises Abraham that in his Seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed.

Stand

CAROL CONGREGATION AND CHOIR

On Christmas Night LSB 377

Text: Traditional English Carol; Tune: Sussex Carol; Setting: Joseph Herl, b. 1959

Congregation:

1. On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring,
On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring,
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King's birth.

Congregation:

2. Then why should men on earth be so sad,
Since our Redeemer made us glad,
Then why should men on earth be so sad,
Since our Redeemer made us glad,
When from our sin He set us free,
All for to gain our liberty?

Choir:

3. When sin departs before His grace,
Then life and health come in its place;
When sin departs before His grace,
Then life and health come in its place;
Angels and men with joy may sing,
All for to see the newborn King.

Congregation:

4. All out of darkness we have light
Which made the angels sing this night:
All out of darkness we have light
Which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God and peace to men
Now and forevermore. Amen."

Sit

THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

The prophet foretells the birth of the Savior.

CAROL CHOIR

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611-84; Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78; Tune: *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551;
Setting: Claude Goudimel, 1510-72

"Comfort, comfort ye my people,
Speak ye peace," thus saith our God.
"Comfort those who sit in darkness,
Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem
Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover
And her warfare now is over."

FOURTH LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-9

The Christ descends from Jesse and is anointed with the Holy Spirit.

CAROL CONGREGATION AND CHOIR

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming LSB 359

Text: German, 16th cent., sts. 1-2, 4; Friedrich L. C. Layriz, 1808-59, st. 3; Translation: Theodore Baker 1851-1934, sts. 1-2, alt; Harriet R. K. Spaeth, 1845-1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876-1948, st. 4;

Tune: *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng*, Köln, 1599; Setting: Michael Praetorius

Congregation:

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As prophets long have sung,
It came, a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.

Congregation:

3. This flow'r whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us
And lightens ev'ry load.

Choir:

2. Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it,
The Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright
She bore to us a Savior,
When half-spent was the night.

Congregation:

4. O Savior, child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory,
Who dost our weakness know:
Bring us at length we pray
To the bright courts of heaven,
And to the endless day.

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

The Angel Gabriel announces the conception of the Son of God to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

CAROL CHOIR

Blessed Be That Maid, Marie

Text: 15th cent. English; Tune: William Ballet's Lute Book

Blessed be that Maid Marie,
Born He was of her body
Very God ere time began.
Born in time the Son of Man.
Eya! Jesus hodie natus est de Virgine.
(Jesus is born today of the virgin.)

Sweet and blissful was the song
Chanted of the angel throng.
Peace on earth, Alleluia.
In excelsis Gloria!
Eya! Jesus hodie natus est de Virgine.

Fare three kings from far off land,
Incense, gold and myrrh in hand;
In Bethl'em the Babe they see,
Stelle ducti lumine (led by the star).
Eya! Jesus hodie natus est de Virgine.

SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

St. Luke announces the birth of Jesus under the Emperor Caesar Augustus.

CAROL CHOIR***O Bethlehem***

Text: Carl Schalk, b. 1929; Tune: Traditional Basque Carol; Composer: Carl Schalk b. 1929

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|---|--|
| <p>1. O Bethlehem! See your glory shines
so brightly, O Bethlehem.
You are raised up with favor divine,
You are chosen, yours the favor,
Chosen of God to cradle the Savior,
O Bethlehem!</p> <p>2. O Bethlehem! Here at last we see
the Promised One, O Bethlehem.
Let us give praise with joyful hearts.
He has opened heav'n before us,
Come let us join the heav'nly chorus,
O Bethlehem!</p> | <p>3. O Bethlehem! Soon comes the cross,
the nails, the piercing, O Bethlehem.
Then the glorious Easter morn,
Conquering death, its bondage breaking,
Christ victorious, new life awaking,
O Bethlehem!</p> <p>4. O Bethlehem! Now with the shepherds
We, too, worship, O Bethlehem.
He who made the heav'n and earth,
O wondrous birth, the Lord of all,
Born a child in manger stall,
O Bethlehem!</p> |
|---|--|

SEVENTH LESSON**Luke 2:8-16***The Angel of the Lord announces the birth of Christ to the shepherds.***CAROL** CONGREGATION AND CHOIR***All My Heart Again Rejoices LSB360***Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; Translation: Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662; Setting: Kevin Hildebrand, b. 1973***Congregation:***

1. All my heart again rejoices
As I hear far and near
Sweetest angel voices.
“Christ is born,” their choirs are singing
Till the air ev'rywhere
Now with joy is ringing.

All Men:

2. Hear! The Conqueror has spoken:
“Now the foe, sin and woe,
Death and hell are broken!”
God is man, man to deliver,
And the Son now is one
With our blood forever.

Choir:

3. Should we fear our God's displeasure,
Who, to save, freely gave
His most precious treasure?
To redeem us He has given
His own Son from the throne
Of His might in heaven.

All Women and Treble Voices:

4. See the Lamb, our sin once taking
To the cross, suffering loss,
Full atonement making.
For our life His own He tenders,
And His grace all our race
Fit for glory renders.

Choir:

5. Softly from His lowly manger
 Jesus calls one and all,
 “You are safe from danger.
 Children, from the sins that grieve you
 You are freed; all you need
 I will surely give you.”

All:

6. Come, then, banish all your sadness!
 One and all, great and small,
 Come with songs of gladness.
 We shall live with Him forever
 There on high in that joy
 Which will vanish never.

Stand

CAROL CONGREGATION AND CHOIR

Text: French; tr. *The Crown of Jesus, Part 2*, London, 1862, alt.; Tune: French; Setting: Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

Angels, We Have Heard on High LSB 368

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

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
 Why your joyous strains prolong?
 What the gladsome tidings be
 Which inspire your heav’nly song?
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see
 Him whose birth the angels sing;
 Come, adore on bended knee
 Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
 Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Sit

EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

CAROL CHOIR

Text and Tune: Traditional Polish; Translation and Setting: Mark Sedio, b. 1954

Manger Carol

In a manger lowly
 Lies the babe so holy;
 Born a child, the infant Savior,
 Angels sing His glory;
 Born a child, the infant Savior,
 Shepherds tell the story.

Joyous light of heaven,
 God’s own Son is given;
 Word of God in flesh, Emmanuel,
 Brings the world salvation,
 Clothed in flesh, God’s Word, Emmanuel,
 Light to ev’ry nation.

Stand

CAROL CONGREGATION

What Child Is This LSB 370

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98; Tune: English, 16th cent; setting: John Stainer, 1840-1901, alt.

1. 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!
2. Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!
3. 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!

NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-18

St. John unfolds the mystery of the incarnation.

Sit

CAROL CHOIR

And the Word Became Flesh

Text: John 1:14, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4; Composer: Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930

1. And the Word became flesh
and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.
We have beheld His glory,
glory as of the only Son
from the Father.
2. It was John who spoke out
about Him, saying,
"This is He, the One.
Though He comes after me now
greater than I is He,
for He was before me.
3. From His store of love
He has blessed us fully,
grace on top of grace.
God gave the Law through Moses,
yet surely it was love and truth
came through Jesus.
4. No one ever sees God,
nor has he seen Him;
but God's only Son,
He who is near the Father,
He it is who has made God known,
brought Him to us.

CAROL CONGREGATION

O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; Translation: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941; Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662
Setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941, sts. 3, 5, 6; Keith L. Vieregge, sts. 1, 2, 4

All:

1. O Jesus Christ, Thy manger is
My paradise at which my soul reclineth.
For there, O Lord, doth lie the Word
Made flesh for us;
Herein Thy grace forth shineth.

Choir:

2. He whom the sea and wind obey
Doth come to serve the sinner in great meekness.
Thou, God's own Son, with us art one,
Dost join us
And our children in our weakness.

All:

3. Thy light and grace our guilt efface,
Thy heav'nly riches all our loss retrieving.
Immanuel, Thy birth doth quell
The power of hell
And Satan's bold deceiving.

Choir:

4. Thou Christian heart, whoe'er thou art,
Be of good cheer and let no sorrow move thee!
For God's own Child, in mercy mild,
Joins thee to Him;
How greatly God must love thee!

All:

5. Remember thou what glory now
The Lord prepared thee for all earthly sadness.
The angel host can never boast
Of greater glory,
Greater bliss or gladness.

All:

6. The world may hold her wealth and gold;
But thou, my heart, keep Christ as thy true Treasure.
To Him hold fast until at last
A crown be thine
And honor in full measure.

HOMILY

Stand

PRAYERS

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray...

Grant, almighty God, that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in human flesh may set us free, who through sin are held in bondage; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: O God, as You make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of Your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, grant that we, who joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our judge; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: May He who by His incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of God's peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, ✠ the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

Sit

CAROL CONGREGATION AND CHOIR

See in Yonder Manger Low

Text: Edward Caswall; Tune: John Goss, 1800-80; Setting: John A. Behnke; Arrangement: Keith L. Vieregge

All:

1. See in yonder manger low,
Born for us on earth below,
See, the gentle Lamb appears,
Promised from eternal years.
Hail, O ever blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Men:

2. Lo, within a stable lies
He who built the starry skies,
He who, throned in height sublime,
Sits amid the cherubim.
All: Hail, O ever blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Women and Children:

3. Sacred Infant, all divine,
What a tender love was Thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss
Down to such a world as this.
Men: Hail, O ever blessed morn!
Women: Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
All: Sing through all Jerusalem:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

All:

4. Teach, O teach us, holy Child,
By Thy face so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble Thee
In Thy sweet humility.
Hail, O ever blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

The offering will be received at the door.

Special Thanks to...

Senior Choir—

Soprano:

Carol Bender
Verla Gatchell
Maggie Gehlbach
Susan Gehlbach
Katie Laubenstein
Lynn Leider
Gabrielle Ligrow
Sharon Martin
Sherry Prowatzke
Kara Rhode

Bass:

Mark Goltermann
Randy Kirk
Keith Kunkel
Cole Petersen
Jason Petersen

Alto:

Beth Boehringer
Angela Christopherson
Julie Goltermann
Louise Johnson
Kayla Kütemeier
Laura Laubenstein
Sharon Murphy

Tenor:

Rev. Gary Gehlbach
Nathanael Hahn
Cheri LaFore
Caleb Ligrow
Elijah Ligrow
Larry Martin
Kerry Welch

Instrumentalists—

Oboe: Beth Boehringer

Violin: Sarah May

Senior Choir Director: Rev. Peter C. Bender

Organ/Piano: Katherine May

Preacher: Pastor Bender