

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH and ACADEMY

Sussex, Wisconsin

December 22, 2024 – 3:00 p.m.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Christmas Service of Lessons & Carols

Featuring the Cherub, Seraph, Academy, Cantate,
and Senior Choirs of Peace Lutheran Church

Preservice Music

He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child – arr. Myanna Harvey

Silent Night – arr. Cesar Madeira

A La Nanita Nana (Let Us Sing a Lullaby) – arr. Daniel Kelley

Fuga sopra il Magnificat – J. S. Bach

Lo, How a Rose – arr. Carole Neuen-Rabinowitz

What Child Is This? – arr. Sue Mitchell-Wallace

The First Noel – arr. Carole Neuen-Rabinowitz

CAROL CONGREGATION AND CHOIRS

Once in Royal David's City

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

All Children's Choirs:

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.

Treble Choir:

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 feeleth for our sadness,
And He shareth in 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,
We shall see Him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars His children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Stand

INVOCATION, BIDDING PRAYER, and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sit

CAROL ALL CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Text: Robert Herrick

Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams

Ed. St James Music Press

What Sweeter Music

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol
for to sing the birth of this our Heav'nly King,
the birth of this our Heav'nly King?
We see Him come,
and know Him ours,
who with His sunshine and His showers
turns all the patient ground to flowers,
turns the patient ground to flowers.

So we will give Him, and bequeath
this holly and this ivy wreath,
to do Him honor who's our King,
and Lord of all this revelling.
Dark and dull night, fly hence away
and give the honor to this day,
that sees December turn to May,
that sees December turn to May.

The darling of the world is come,
and fit it is we find a room to welcome Him.
The nobler part of all the house here is the heart:
Awake the voice! Awake the string!
What sweeter music can we bring
to sing the birth of this our King,
the birth of this our heav'nly King?

CAROL ALL CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

Text: Traditional French carol; Setting: Arlen Clarke

He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child

He is born, the divine Christ Child;
Play on the oboe and bagpipes merrily,
He is born, the divine Christ Child;
Join in song, for the Lord has come.
Prophets wise had foretold His birth,
Pledging peace to all men on earth;
Filled with hope, men began to pray,
Till His coming this happy day.

He is born, the divine Christ Child;
Play on the oboe and bagpipes merrily,
He is born, the divine Christ Child;
Join in song, for the Lord has come.
Born within a stable small,
He is King and Lord of all;
With his mother, meek and mild,
Shepherds greet him, the little child.

CAROL SENIOR CHOIR

Shepherds of Bethlehem

Text: Pavlin Bajan ms. Collection Archives of the Society of St. Adalbert, Trnava, Austria-Hungary, 1783;
Tune: Traditional Slovak carol; Translation: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008; Setting: Carl F. Schalk, 1929-2021

Shepherds of Bethlehem,
Come, see the diadem
Sparkling brightly in the heavens high;
Out of that blinding glow
To us who dwell below
Angels shout their very happy cry:
Lo, a pure maiden bore a pure Baby
and laid Him down in a cradle of hay.

Angels declare to us
Tidings most glorious:
Christ the Lord has left His throne above.
Now to our race descends
And to our nature bends
God and man in one to show His love.
Lo, a pure maiden bore a pure Baby
and laid Him down in a cradle of hay.

O precious Floweret,
In Thy crude bassinet,
Bless and keep our valleys and our fields,
That we may honor Thee
And serve Thee faithfully
With the bounty that our pasture yields.
Lo, a pure maiden bore a pure Baby
and laid Him down in a cradle of hay.

FIRST LESSON BEATRICE HERMANSON

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

Let Our Gladness Have No End

LSB 381: The congregation may use the hymnal.

Text and Tune: Bohemian, 15th cent. Translation: Unknown, sts. 1, 3-4; Vincent Pisek, 1859-1930, st. 2

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| <p>1. Let our gladness have no end, alleluia!
For to earth did Christ descend, alleluia!
On this day God gave us
Christ, His Son, to save us;
Christ, His Son, to save us.</p> | <p>3. See, the loveliest blooming rose, alleluia!
From the branch of Jesse grows, alleluia!
On this day God gave us
Christ, His Son, to save us;
Christ, His Son, to save us.</p> |
| <p>2. Prophesied in days of old, alleluia!
God has sent Him as foretold, alleluia!
On this day God gave us
Christ, His Son, to save us;
Christ, His Son, to save us.</p> | <p>4. Into flesh is made the Word, alleluia!
He, our refuge and our Lord, alleluia!
On this day God gave us
Christ, His Son, to save us;
Christ, His Son, to save us.</p> |

CAROL SENIOR CHOIR

Sans Day Carol

Text and Tune: Traditional Cornish carol; Setting: John Rutter, b. 1945

1. Now the holly bears a berry
as white as the milk,
And Mary bore Jesus,
Who was wrapped up in silk:
And Mary bore Jesus Christ
Our Saviour for to be,
And the first tree in the greenwood,
It was the holly.

3. Now the holly bears a berry
as black as the coal,
And Mary bore Jesus,
Who died for us all:
And Mary bore Jesus Christ
Our Saviour for to be,
And the first tree in the greenwood,
It was the holly.

2. Now the holly bears a berry
as green as the grass,
And Mary bore Jesus,
Who died on the cross:
And Mary bore Jesus Christ
Our Saviour for to be,
And the first tree in the greenwood,
It was the holly.

4. Now the holly bears a berry,
as blood is it red,
Then trust we our Saviour,
Who rose from the dead:
And Mary bore Jesus Christ
Our Saviour for to be,
And the first tree in the greenwood,
It was the holly.

SECOND LESSON AUTUMN CHRISTOPHERSON

Genesis 22:15-18

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

CAROL SENIOR CHOIR

Carol of the Lamb

Text: Lisa M. Clark, b. 1982; Composer: David von Kampen, b. 1986

Little lamb, peer in the stall;
See the Lamb of God for all.
Wonder how this sacrifice
Silently will pay the price.
Through the valley He will tread,
Up a hill to bow His head.
In a garden, He will rise;
Pastures green will be the prize.
Weary shepherd, come find rest;
In a stable be a guest.
Gather near your Shepherd Good;
He can lead where no one could.
Staff and rod Himself will bear,
Streams of life with you to share.
In His house, forever dwell,
His unending mercies tell.

THIRD LESSON JACOB BENDER

Isaiah 9:2-7

The prophet Isaiah foretells the birth of the Savior.

CAROL ACADEMY AND CANTATE CHOIRS

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

LSB 369: The congregation may follow the music from the hymnal.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008; Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929-2021; Setting: Kevin Hildebrand, b. 1973

1. Where shepherds lately knelt
and kept the angels' word,
I come in half belief,
A pilgrim strangely stirred;
But there is room and welcome there for me.
2. In that unlikely place
I find Him as they said:
Sweet newborn babe, how frail!
And in a manger bed:
A still, small voice to cry one day for me.
3. How should I not have known
Isaiah would be there,
His prophecies fulfilled?
With pounding heart I stare:
A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.
4. Can I, will I forget
how Love was born, and burned
Its way into my heart - unasked,
unforced, unearned,
To die, to live, and not alone for me.

FOURTH LESSON TALITHA SCHNEIDER

Isaiah 11:1-9

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

CAROL CONGREGATION AND SENIOR CHOIR

What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

LSB 342: The congregation may use the hymnal.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955; Tune: *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, Harrisburg, 1813, ed. John Wyeth;
Setting: Jonathan Kohrs, b. 1963

All Men:

1. What hope! An Eden prophesied
Where tame live with the wild;
The lamb and lion side by side,
Led by a little child!

All Women and Children:

2. A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem,
A branch from David's line,
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem:
The fruit of God's design.

Choir:

3. As banner of God's love unfurled,
Christ came to suffer loss,
That by His death a dying world
Would rally to the cross.

Congregation:

4. Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord,
Lost Paradise restore;
Lead past the angel's flaming sword—
Come, open heaven's door.

FIFTH LESSON WESLEY GIORDANO

Luke 1:26-38

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

CAROL SENIOR CHOIR

Christians, Gather Round

Text: Andrej Ozym, *Kancional*, Turčiansky Sv. Martin, Austria-Hungary, 1805; Translation: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008;
Tune: Traditional Slovak carol; Setting: Carl F. Schalk, 1929-2021

Christians, gather round, hear the joyful sound!	Hear we now a voice bidding us rejoice.
Man by God this night befriended,	He who in the Godhead rested
Heaven's Light to earth descended.	Now in flesh is manifested.
Christians, gather round, hear the joyful sound!	Hear we now a voice bidding us rejoice.

Glory pure and bright breaks upon our night.
See our fields with splendor blazing,
And our hills in light amazing!
Christians, gather round, hear the joyful sound!

SIXTH LESSON WILLIAM DALEIDEN

Luke 2:1-7

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

CAROL ACADEMY AND CANTATE CHOIRS

'Twas in a Place Most Humble

Text and Setting: Robert Field; Tune: Traditional German carol

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|---|--|
| 1. 'Twas in a place most humble
That Christ our Lord was born;
Let Christians all with joyful hearts
Give thanks this Christmas morn.
Holy Savior! Give thanks this Christmas morn. | 3. Wherever Thou dost lead us
We gladly follow Thee;
Whatever be the pasture,
Our Shepherd Thou shalt be.
Holy Savior, Our Shepherd Thou shalt be. |
| 2. All pow'r and love and glory
Is in His mighty hands:
Our ev'ry joy and sorrow
He sees and understands.
Holy Savior, He sees and understands. | 4. We'll ever do Thy bidding,
And never from Thee part;
Our lives are Thine to order,
Come live in ev'ry heart.
Holy Savior, come live in ev'ry heart. |

SEVENTH LESSON KATIE LARSON

Luke 2:8-16

The Angel of the Lord announces the birth of Christ to the shepherds.

Stand

CAROL CONGREGATION

Angels We Have Heard on High

LSB 368: The congregation may sing the hymn in 4-part harmony.

Text: French; Translation: *The Crown of Jesus, Part 2*, London, 1862, alt.;

Tune: French; setting: Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

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

CAROL CONGREGATION AND ALL CHOIRS

Silent Night

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848; Translation: John F. Young, 1820-1885, st. 1 and 3;

Tune: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863; Setting: Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

Congregation:

1. Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Academy and Cantate Choir:

2. Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

Senior Choir:

3. Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Congregation:

4. Silent night, holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our King;
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

EIGHTH LESSON BENJAMIN VOLQUARSDEN

Matthew 2:1-12

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

CAROL ACADEMY AND CANTATE CHOIRS

O Nata Lux

Text: Anonymous hymn text, 10th cent.; Composer: Patti Drennan, b. 1952

O nata lux de lumine, Jesus redemptor saeculi,
Dignare clemens supplicum
laudes preces que sumere.
O nata lux.
O nata lux de lumine, Jesus redemptor saeculi,
Qui carne quondam contegi dignatus es pro perditis,
Tui beati corporis. O nata lux de lumine,
de lumine, O lux.

O Light born of light, Jesus,
Redeemer of the world,
mercifully deem us worthy and accept
the praises and prayers of your supplicants.
Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh
for the sake of the lost ones,
grant us to be made members
of Your holy body.

Stand

NINTH LESSON PASTOR FABRIZIUS

John 1:1-18

St. John unfolds the mystery of the incarnation.

Sit

CAROL CONGREGATION AND SENIOR CHOIR

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Text: Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 348–c. 413; Translation: John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, sts. 1-4, alt.;
Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877, st. 5; Tune: Plainsong, 13th cent., mode V; Setting: Keith L. Vieregge

Congregation:

1. Of the Father's love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the Source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.

Choir:

3. This is He whom seers in old time
Chanted of with one accord,
Whom the voices of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the long expected;
Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.

Choir:

2. Oh, that birth forever blessed,
When the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the Savior of our race,
And the babe, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face
Evermore and evermore.

Congregation:

4. O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing.
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him;
And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Ev'ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.

Stand

Congregation:

5. Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unending praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore.

Sit

HOMILY PASTOR FABRIZIUS

Stand

CAROL CONGREGATION

Joy to the World

LSB 387: The congregation may sing from the hymnal

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759, adapt.; Setting: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods,
rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love.

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 CHOIRS

See in Yonder Manger Low

Text: Edward Caswall, 1814-78, alt.; Tune: John Goss, 1800-80; Setting: John A. Behnke, b. 1953

Congregation:

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!"

All 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!"

All 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!"

Congregation:

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!"

Postlude

BWV 729 – J. S. Bach

In Dulci Jubilo

The offering will be received at the door.

Plan Ahead to Attend the Christmas Divine Services:

CHRISTMAS EVE DIVINE SERVICE AT 4:00
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT DIVINE SERVICE 8:00 P.M.
CHRISTMAS DAY DIVINE SERVICE AT 9:30 A.M.

NEW YEAR'S EVE CONFESSIONAL SERVICE AT 5:00 P.M.
NEW YEAR'S DAY DIVINE SERVICE AT 9:30 A.M.

EPIPHANY DIVINE SERVICE HELD ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 AT 7:45 AND 10:30A.M.

Special Thanks to...

Cherub/Seraph Choirs: Elizabeth Bender, Mary Bender, Felicity Daleiden, Elias Giordano, Greta Hartwig, Gabriel Hermanson, Ethan Krueger, Meghan Krueger, Lydia Schneider, Ruth Schneider

Academy/Cantate Choirs: Jacob Bender, Sarah Bender, August Christopherson, Autumn Christopherson, Tabitha Daleiden, William Daleiden, Clint Duessler, Wesley Giordano, Beatrice Hermanson, Edith Hermanson, Amber LaFore, Savannah LaFore, Zoë LaFore, Kathleen Larson, Rachael Ligrow, Sarah Ligrow, Evan Plichta, Julia Plichta, Emily Schlueter, Talitha Schneider, LinNa Sun, Benjamin Volquardsen, Olivia Volquardsen, Kali Welch

Senior Choir: Soprano – Lily Ficken, Verla Gatchell, Maggie Gehlbach, Susan Gehlbach, Rebecca Gierach, Lisa LaFore, Savannah LaFore, Sharon Martin, Sarah Riemer, Rebekah Torkelson; Alto – Beth Boehringer, Angela Christopherson, Louise Johnson, Kayla Kütemeier, Lynn Leider, Sharon Murphy, Mary Ellen Nitzsche; Tenor – Cherí LaFore, Larry Martin, Matthew Voss, Alec Welch, Kerry Welch; Bass – Andrew Bender, August Christopherson, Tyler Haga, Randy Kirk, Keith Kunkel, Jason Petersen

Instrumentalists:

Violin – Ernest Brusubardis IV and Sarah May; Viola – Pamela Kirk;
Bassoon – Megan Braunschweig; Flute – Kayla Kütemeier
Preservice Music: Violin – Ruth and Lydia Schneider; Cello – Elisabeth and Talitha Schneider;
Oboe – Beth Boehringer

Academy, Cantate, Cherub and Seraph Choirs Director: Katherine May

Senior Choir Director: Rev. Peter C. Bender

Piano and Organ: Katherine May and Jordan Fischer

Liturgist and Preacher: Rev. Dr. Karl F. Fabrizio