

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH and ACADEMY

Sussex, Wisconsin

January 5, 2022 – 6:45 p.m.

Epiphany Choral Divine Service

Featuring the Senior Choir
of Peace Lutheran Church

Preservice Music

In dulci jubilo – Jean Langlais

As with Gladness Men of Old – arr. Allen Mahnke

To Shepherds as They Watched by Night – arr. Raymond Haan

CAROL CHOIR

Lullaby Jesu

Text: Traditional Polish Text and Carol; Setting: Peter C. Bender, b. 1961

Lullaby, Jesu, my Pearl, my dear one:
Lullaby, Jesu, sweet, precious Son.
There up above you angels are singing:
They, too, do love you, O Jesu mine.

Lullaby, Jesu, like stars Your eyes
Lullaby, Jesu, now hush Your cries.
Round You the kind beasts and birds are standing:
They, too, do love you, O Jesu mine.

Lullaby, Jesu, my Flow'r of beauty;
Lullaby, Jesu, mother shall rock You.
Near You the shepherds in awe are kneeling:
They, too, do love You, O Jesu mine.

HYMN CONGREGATION AND CHOIR

O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; Translation: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941; Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

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.

INVOCATION, SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come.

CAROL CHOIR

From the Night of Ages Waking

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926; Tune and setting by K. Lee Scott, b. 1950

Wake up, O sleeper;
rise up from the dead,
and Christ will give you light.
“I am the light of the world;
those who follow me
shall not walk in darkness,
but shall have the light of life.”

From the night of ages waking
morning comes to heart and mind,
day of grace in splendor breaking,
mists and shadows fall behind;
in the brightness of His glory
Christ the Light of life has shined.

Christ in light immortal dwelling,
Word by whom the worlds were made;
Light of lights, our dark dispelling,
Lord of lords in light arrayed;
in the brightness of His glory
see the Father’s love displayed.

Choir:

Risen Lord in radiance splendid,
 Christ has conquered Satan's sway;
 sin and shame and sorrow ended,
 powers of darkness flee away;
 in the brightness of His glory
 walk as children of the day.

Congregation may join choir:

Light to lighten ev'ry nation,
 shining forth from shore to shore,
 Christ who won the world's salvation
 now let all the earth adore;
 in the brightness of His glory
 Light of life forevermore.

SECOND READING**Micah 5:2-5***A Ruler Shall Come Out of Little Bethlehem***CAROL CHOIR*****O Bethlehem***

Text: Carl Schalk, 1929-2021; Tune: Traditional Basque Carol; Composer: Carl Schalk 1929-2021

- | | |
|--|--|
| <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>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>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>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> |

THIRD READING**Luke 1:26-38***The Angel Gabriel Announces the Conception of the Son of God***CAROL CHOIR*****Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love***

Text: William How, 1823-1897; Tune: Carl Schalk 1929-2021; Setting: Jonathan Kohrs, b. 1963

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
 Name all other names above,
 Unto which must ev'ry knee
 Bow in deep humility.</p> | <p>3. Jesus! Name of priceless worth
 To the fallen of the earth
 For the promise that it gave,
 "Jesus shall His people save."</p> |
| <p>2. Jesus! Name decreed of old,
 To the maiden mother told,
 Kneeling in her lowly cell,
 By the angel Gabriel.</p> | <p>4. Jesus! Name of mercy mild,
 Given to the holy Child
 When the cup of human woe
 First He tasted here below.</p> |

5. Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved
Burst their fetters and are saved.

6. Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

FOURTH READING

Luke 2:1-16

St. Luke Records the Birth of Christ as the Savior of All People

CAROL CHOIR

Who Are These That Earnest Knock

Text: Henry Lettermann, 1932-1996; Setting: Walter L. Pelz, b. 1926

Who are these that earnest knock, Seeking some safe haven,
These in lonely streets that walk, Weak and heavy laden?
Joseph and the virgin mild, Seeking shelter for the Child
Yet unborn but near. Let me ready room for Him,
I will take the Christ Child in, Humbly pay Him welcome.

Who is this that docile lies In a lowly cradle?
Who is this that dignifies This rude common stable?
Christ, the ever-living Lord, By the angel hosts adored,
Come to meet His death. O Redeemer of my sin,
Oh, how great Thy love has been, To be born to save me!

Who are these that silent stand, Filled with holy wonder?
Proselyte and pilgrim band, Thousands without number,
Shepherds, sages, saints whose eyes see the newborn sacrifice
With discerning faith. All unworthy, yet make me
One who sees His majesty, One who kneels adoring.

CAROL CONGREGATION

To Shepherds as They Watched by Night

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; Tune: adapted Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621 "*Musae Sioniae*," VI, 1609

1. To shepherds as they watched by night
Appeared a host of angels bright;
Behold the tender Babe, they said,
In yonder lowly manger laid,

3. Oh, then rejoice that thro' His Son
God is with sinners now at one;
Made like yourselves of flesh and blood,
Your brother is th' eternal God.

2. At Bethlehem, in David's town,
As Micah did of old make known;
'tis Jesus Christ, your Lord and King,
Who doth to all salvation bring.

4. What harm can sin and death then do?
The true God now abides with you.
Let hell and Satan rage and chafe,
Christ is your Brother – ye are safe.

5. Not one He will or can forsake
Who Him his confidence doth make.
Let all his wiles the Tempter try,
You may his utmost powers defy.

6. Ye shall and must at last prevail;
God's own ye are, ye cannot fail.
To God forever sing your praise
With joy and patience all your days.

FIFTH READING

Matthew 2:1-12

The Wisemen Are Led by the Star to Worship the Christ Child

CAROL CHOIR

How Bright Appears the Morning Star

Text and Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; Chorale Setting: J. S. Bach, 1685-1750

How bright appears the Morning Star,
With mercy beaming from afar;
The host of heav'n rejoices.
O Righteous Branch, O Jesse's Rod,
Thou Son of Man and Son of God,
We, too, will lift our voices.
Jesus, Jesus,
Holy, holy, yet most lowly,
Draw Thou near us,
Great Immanuel, come and hear us!

Though circled by the hosts on high,
He deign'd to cast a pitying eye
Upon His helpless creatures;
The whole creation's Head and Lord,
By highest seraphim adored,
Assumed our very nature.
Jesus, grant us,
Thro' Thy merit to inherit
Thy salvation;
Hear, O hear, our supplication!

HYMN CONGREGATION

As with Gladness Men of Old LSB 397

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt.; Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872; Setting: *Service Book and Hymnal*, 1958

1. As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led by Thee.

3. As they offered gifts most rare
At Thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.

2. As with joyful steps they sped,
Savior, to Thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before
Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

4. Holy Jesus, ev'ry day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

5. In the heav'nly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
Thou its sun which goes no down;
There forever may we sing
Alleluias to our King.

SERMON

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: **I a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER

PREFACE, PROPER PREFACE, AND SANCTUS

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, ever more praising You and saying saying:

SANCTUS *sung from Setting 3*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, Blessed is He,
Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father...

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE AND AGNUS DEI *sung from Setting 3*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright” **LSB 395**

“Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning” **LSB 400**

“O Savior of Our Fallen Race” **LSB 403**

THANKSGIVING AND POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

C: **and His mercy endures forever.**

Following the Collect

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

Following the Benediction

C: **Amen.**

HYMN TO DEPART

LSB 888

“O Gladsome Light, O Grace”

Special Thanks to Our Musicians

Senior Choir: Soprano – Carol Bender, Verla Gatchell, Maggie Gehlbach, Susan Gehlbach, Katie Laubenstein, Gabrielle Ligrow, Sharon Martin, Sherry Prowatzke, Kara Rhode, Sarah Riemer; Alto – Beth Boehringer, Angela Christopherson, Hannah Hardenbrook, Louise Johnson, Laura Laubenstein, Sharon Murphy; Tenor – Rev. Gary Gehlbach, Cheri LaFore, Caleb Ligrow, Elijah Ligrow, Larry Martin, Kerry Welch; Bass – Andrew Bender, Randy Kirk, Keith Kunkel, Cole Petersen, Jason Petersen

Bassoon: Megan Braunschweig (*also composer of introductions for “O Savior of Our Fallen Race” and “O Gladsome Light, Of Grace”*)

Trumpet: Paul Riemer

Senior Choir Director: Rev. Peter C. Bender

Organ: Katherine May