

TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVANTS

Pastor Steve Lund
Marsha Burke, organist
Doug and Pat Witte, greeters
Rich and Deb Olson, ushers
Austin Wolfe, acolyte
Gary and Mary Weich, communion assistants
Mary Lund, coffee

Altar Guild: Linda Cyboron and Sharon Koeppel
Membership Care: Deb Olson and Marsha Burke
Offering Counters: Doug and Pat Witte

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Offering counters (contact church office)
Membership Care Team (contact Doris Hoffart)

IN OUR PRAYERS

Church family: Linda Sheppard, Brenda Beaudette, Janet Hrouda, Roger Young, Harold Dunlap, Mona Jean Roberts

Friends/family: Kim Alvarez, Jim Cyboron, Diane DeCamp, Allene Johnson, Darrell Knee, Joe Kotalik, Joe Grosserode, Forrest Jamison; Joe Rystrom and Jared and Sau Man Weich in Hong Kong; Msaranga Mandaka Parish in Tanzania



Sunday School Christmas Program
December 22, 2019
Fourth Sunday of Advent

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY IS THE fourth Sunday of Advent. During this season of the four Sundays before Christmas, we have four banners. We began with the banners "Watch," "Prepare" and "Rejoice." Today we add the banner "Behold." The cross/star flame is symbolic of Christ, who was prophesied as the star that would come out of Jacob (Numbers 24:17).

THIS MORNING we celebrate the coming Lord's birth with the Sunday school Christmas program. We thank all the participants: Sunday school class; teachers Judy Carstens and Mary Lund; Steve Jessen and Gary Weich; and Nevin and Tara Peters. A special thank you to the Petersen family for their major part in this year's program!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Don Burke (Dec. 23), Marilyn Nickols (Dec. 25), and Jeff Petersen (Dec. 28).

BURRITOS FOR SALE—see Andersons, Skoglunds, Svitaks, Tara Peters or Mary Weich to purchase.

EVERYONE IS INVITED to Napoli's after the 5:00 candlelight service on Christmas Eve. Let Mary Weich know if you will attend so she can give them a head count for the buffet.

SIGN UP FOR poinsettias on the back table (cost is \$8.50 each).

OFFERING ENVELOPES for next year are in mailboxes in the fellowship hall. Please use them, as they ensure accuracy when counting and recording the offerings. If you did not receive envelopes but would like to, contact the church office.

“Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful” #45

Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him born the king of angels.
Oh, come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest:
Oh, come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: As people called out of darkness, let us now confess our sins and seek mercy from the God of justice and righteousness. God of steadfastness and love,

C: We confess that we love the works of darkness more than your light. We have sought to satisfy our deepest longings through material things of creation rather than through you, our Creator. We are quick to judge others, yet we fail to see our own failings. We ignore the cries of the poor and grow weary of working for justice. Restore us, O God; let your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

(Brief moment of silent reflection and repentance)

P: Hear the glad tidings of God! The Word was made flesh and lived among us. Clothed in our humanity, Jesus Christ is not ashamed to call us brothers and sisters and claims us as beloved children of God through our baptism. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and restored to wholeness; in Him we are free to serve God and our neighbor without fear.

C: Amen.

Call to Worship

P: Arise! Shine! For your light has come. And the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

C: The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

“Joy to the World” #39

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive its King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

No more let sin and sorrow 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, far as the curse is found.

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, wonders of His love.

Benediction

P: Arise! Shine! Your light has come. Your Light is Jesus. Sparkle, because he forgives your sin; shimmer in his grace; and illumine the world, reflecting his light. Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. The Savior of the world has come!

C: Thanks and glory be to God!

P: And all God's people said:

C: Amen!

“Alleluia”

“Go Tell It on the Mountain” #70

Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth.

Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;

Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

Dialog Seven

Sharing of the Peace

Offering/Offertory

“What Can I Give Him?”

What can I give Him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man, I would do my part;

Yet what can I give Him? Give Him my heart.

Prayers of the Church

The Lord’s Supper

Words of Institution

The Lord’s Prayer

The Distribution

Blessing and Closing Prayer

P: Thank you, God, for the gift of your Son, Jesus, the Light of the World. Help us all to live in his light and to display his light in the world.

C: Amen.

P: Darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples.

C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

P: Arise! Shine! For your light has come.

C: Our Light is Jesus! We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

All: **Lord, shine upon all who worship this day, especially the children who lead us. Let them radiate your light through the Gospel message they share. Amen.**

Introduction to Christmas Program/Cast

Statler: Steve Jessen

Waldorf: Gary Weich

Petersen family: Jeff, Connie, Lucas, Riley, Tate, Dagny and Rand

Readers: Isabelle Seagren, Colin Broders, Ethan Wolfe, Delilah Broders, Kyle Broders, Judy Carstens, Mary Lund

Mary and Joseph: Tara and Nevin Peters

Shepherds: Brooks Seagren, Connor Jorgenson, Kyle Broders

Angels: Phoebe Krause, Isabelle Seagren, Delilah Broders

Wise Men: Colin Broders, Ethan Wolfe, Austin Wolfe

Dialog One — Rising Light

Isaiah 60:1-2

Luke 1:68, 78-79

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Fourth Candle—LIFE

We light the fourth candle for God’s gift of life. Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life.” Through faith in His name we have eternal life.

(Four candles are lit as the congregation sings:)

Light the candle as a symbol of the Light that leads the way;

For each candle is a symbol of the hope that’s ours today.

As we strike the match and light the wick, Come, Spirit, shine bright.

Grant that all may see from the darkness Your Gift, Your Truth, Your Light.

R: The holy Child of Bethlehem brings life and light to a world lost in darkness.

C: Forgive us, Lord, when we do not reflect your life and light in our lives. Help us to walk with you in newness of life.

R: Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.

C: All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.

R: I am the door. If anyone enters by me, they will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

C: The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

R: I am the good shepherd.

C: The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

R: Jesus, our Shepherd, laid down his life on the cross and was raised from death to raise us to new life.

C: Advent Lord, we praise you for the gift of eternal life received through faith in your name.

Dialog Two — Glorious Light

Luke 2:1-7

Luke 2:8-14

Luke 2:15-16

Matthew 2:1-2, 10-11

Isaiah 9:2

"Silent Night, Holy Night" #65

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.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;

Glories stream from heaven afar,

Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!

Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

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.

Dialog Three — Shining Light

John 1:9-10, 12

John 1:1-5, 14

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" #41

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;

Yet in thy 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.

Dialog Four — Healing Light

Malachi 4:2

Isaiah 53:4-5

Revelation 21:4

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #60

Hark! The herald angels sing,

"Glory to the newborn King;

Peace on earth and mercy mild,

God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations, rise,

Join the triumph of the skies,

With angelic hosts proclaim,

"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! The herald angels sing,

"Glory to the newborn King!"

Dialog Five — Eternal Light

Daniel 12:3

Philippians 2:14-16

Sunday School: *"Away In A Manger"*

Dialog Six — Reflective Light

Zechariah 6:16

Luke 2:17-20