

St. Paul Lutheran Church of Catonsville



and on earth peace!

LUKE 2:14

Christmas Eve 7 pm
December 24, 2024

Welcome to the worship of the Newborn King!

Today we greet our Savior and Lord and God wrapped up in baby clothes. He comes not as a judge, not in strength and power but in the lowliness and meekness of His love for us. He comes as one of us, the true God who has become a human being to give us salvation. We join the angels in praising this saving mystery, the Word made flesh, God among us!

Welcome

If you are a guest with us today, we extend a special welcome in the name of Jesus! If you have questions or prayer requests or want to get in touch with us, please sign the guest book in the lobby (or use this QR code) or email or call.



Children's Bulletins are available in the lobby.



St. Paul Lutheran Church and School
2001 Old Frederick Road Catonsville, Maryland 21228
Church: 410-747-1897 School: 410-747-1924
www.stpaulcatonsville.org email: secretary@stpaulcatonsville.org
Pastor Gregory Alms Renata O'Reilly, Organist & Choir Director

Invocation and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Stand

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

C **Amen.**

(The four candles and the Christ candle are lit.)

P In the beginning was the Word.

C **And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.** *(First candle is lit.)*

P And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us;

C **and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.** *(Second candle is lit.)*

P He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

C **Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.** *(Third candle is lit.)*

P The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light;

C **those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.** *(Fourth candle is lit.)*

P In him was life and the life was the light of men.

C **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.** *(Christ candle is lit.)*

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

C **O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Sit

Away in a Manger

LSB 364

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.
But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.
The stars in the sky _____ looked down where He lay,
I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.

Text: Little Children's Book, 1885, Philadelphia

Tune: James R. Murray, 1841-1905

Text and tune: Public domain

Children's Sermon

Away in a Manger

LSB 364

3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,
And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10-14

L A reading from Isaiah, the seventh chapter.

¹Oh ¹⁰Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: ¹¹“Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

1 John 4:7-16

L A reading from First John, chapter four.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him or the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹²training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

LSB 361



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;
While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-93

Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

Text and tune: Public domain

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:1-7

L A reading from the Gospel according to St. Luke.

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

LSB 361

3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;

So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.

No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;

Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-93 Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908 Text and tune: Public domain

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:8-14

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those
with whom he is pleased!"



Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav' n - ly song?



Glo - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - -



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text and tune: Public domain

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:15–20

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Silent Night, Holy Night

LSB 363



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



all is bright Round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight; Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly
Heav'n - ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy



peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820–85

Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787–1863

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon



Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



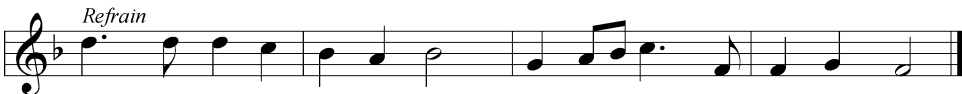
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Refrain
Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven**

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Offering

(An offering plate is available in the narthex. You may also give electronically via the QR code or through our website at stpaulcatonsville.org/donation. If you would like to send in an electronic offering via text, text the dollar amount you would like to give to 410-888-0161.)



Prayer

- L Lord God Almighty, on this most holy night we wonder at the majesty of the birth of Your Son, Jesus Christ.
- C **With joy we greet our newborn King, the Savior of the nations!**
- L Heavenly Father, in the birth of Your Son You have visited and redeemed Your people.
- C **Lead us to welcome our Savior with joy.**
- L On this holy night, O Lord, remember all families, parents and children,
- C **May we all share the light of Christ's love with one another.**
- L Dear God, be with and comfort those who are lonely or sick, recovering or afraid.
- C **May the good news of Christ's birth give them hope.**
- L God of grace, open our ears to hear the glad tidings
- C **that there is born for us a Savior who is Christ the Lord. Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

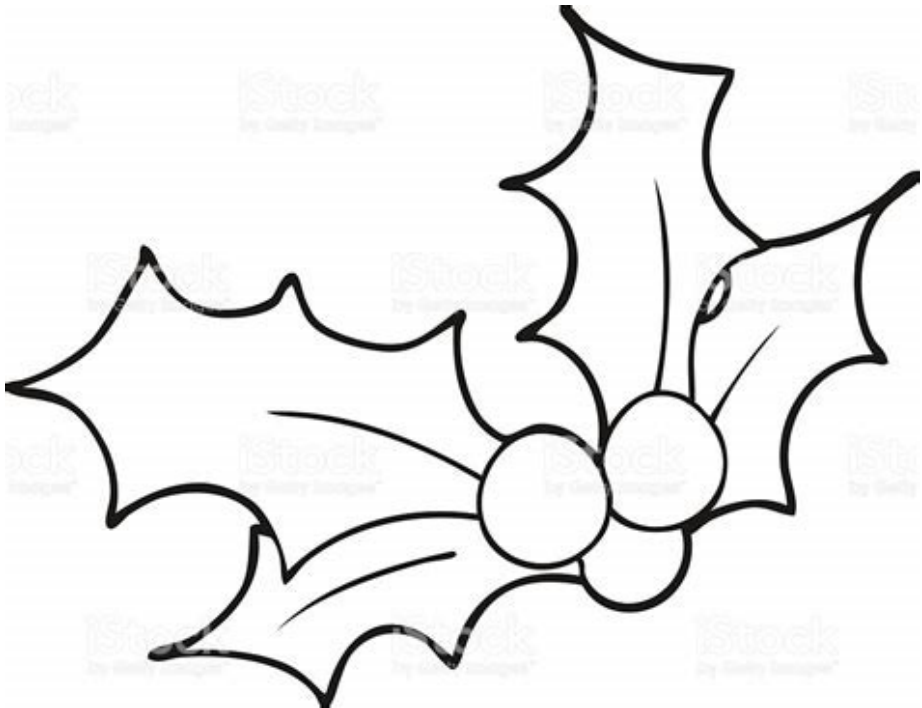
C **Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Benediction

L May the God of peace himself bless and keep you completely, now and always.

C **Amen.**



Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,

2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled When lo, a - bove the earth

3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;



Be - hold, through - out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.

Rang out the an - gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.

And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Text and tune: Public Domain

Postlude:

In Dulci Jubilo: In Sweet Rejoicing

James Vivan

German Medieval Carol (b. 1974)



Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV[®] Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version[®]), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.



Christmas Poinsettias



Poinsettias were donated to
decorate our altar this Christmas by:

Cameron and Vanessa Jones: In honor of their loving parents
Norman and Irene Giguere: In memory of their cousin, Mark Neebe
LaVerne and Jim Kyne: In memory of loved ones
June Harris: To the Glory of God
Steve and Barb Haar: To the Glory of God
Edgar Cohen: In memory of his wife, Anita Cohen
Carolyn Louden: In memory of her husband, Ronald Louden
and her parents John and Audrey Neubert
Janet and Jim Lister: In memory of departed Lister and Thomas family members
Debbie Frech: In memory of her father, Vernon; mother, Dottie
and brother, Donald
Janice Gay: In memory of Her husband John Gay
The Hemmeter's: In memory of Maria Carrillo (aunt of Marcella)
Gordon and Eugenia Blank (grandparents of Jeff)
and Leona Dunwoody (great aunt of Jeff)
Debbie Oldhouser: In memory of her father, E. Curtis Chandler, Jr.
Bill Oldhouser: In memory of his father, Wilson H. Oldhouser, Jr.
John & Karyn Borth: In memory of parents, Ed & Florence Borth
Pastor Greg and Suzanne Alms: In Memory of Paul Alms, father of Pastor,
Henry A. Elling, Martha Elling, Suzanne's parents, John Elling brother of Suzanne,
Walter Hirsch, stepfather of Pastor,
and in Celebration of St Paul Lutheran Church and School
Don Easton and Carol McDaniel: To the Glory of God
Andrea Wellington: To the Glory of God
The St. Paul Women's Guild: In memory of Pat Chinn and to the Glory of God



Join us for worship, a service of Lessons & Carols,
on Christmas Day at 10:00 am.

