



December 24th, 2024
Christmas Eve
3:30pm + 5pm Worship

worship notes:

Welcome to our church family today as we rejoice in the presence of the risen Jesus Christ. Today, the music is from the **ELW** hymnal (the words are included in the bulletin). Children’s activity bags are available in the back of the sanctuary. Hearing devices can be found as you enter the sanctuary. An usher will be happy to help! We pray that you will experience God’s redeeming love and grace as you worship with us.

about the readings today:

In winter’s deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus’ birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

St. Peter’s Lutheran Church

418 Sumner Street E, Northfield, MN 55057
Pastor David Weeks

Office hours: Tuesday-Friday 9 am – 2 pm | 507.645.8252
northfieldstp.org | facebook.com/northfieldstp



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

GATHERING

PRELUDE

The Prelude, as the first act of worship, is a time for people to become quiet and focus their hearts and minds for what is to follow, inviting worshipers to transition their busy lives into a sacred space of communion with God and neighbor.

3:30pm “How Great Our Joy”

5pm Carols of the Seasons
Organ Solos

WELCOME + ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” **ELW #283**
(stanzas 1, 3 & 4)
Public Domain

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold Him, born the King of angels! O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!*

*Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation; sing, all ye citizens of heav’n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!*

*Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv’n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!*

CHRISTMAS DIALOG

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world!

C: He is the Light no darkness can overcome.

P: At darkest night we gather to celebrate the great light of our salvation.

C: With the heavenly host we sing. “Glory to God in the highest heaven.”

P: In Christ, God’s Word is made flesh and lives among us.

C: With the shepherds, we will tell of the wonders we have seen and heard.

HYMN

“HARK! The Herald Angels Sing” **ELW #270**
Public Domain

*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 th'angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"*

*Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.
Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.
(silence for reflection)

God of life, **you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.**

Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God’s promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, **you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus’ presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

HYMN

“I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve” **ELW #271**
(stanzas 1, 2 & 4)
text, one license; music, Public Domain

*I am so glad each Christmas Eve, the night of Jesus' birth!
Then like the sun the star shone forth, and angels sang on earth.*

*The little child in Bethlehem, he was a king indeed!
For he came down from heav'n above to help a world in need.*

*I am so glad each Christmas Eve! His praises then I sing;
he opens now for ev'ry child the palace of the king.*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Miss Ann

SPECIAL MUSIC

5pm Men of the Worship Choir “Hasten Now, O Shepherds”
arr Dori Erwin Collin Columbian Carol. ©1996 Augsburg Fortress.

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

SPECIAL MUSIC

3:30pm Solo, Jim Anderson “Welcome to Our World”
By Chris Rice
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5pm Women of the Worship Choir “Poinsettia Carol”
arr. Frederick Frahm
Cuban villancico. ©2023 Augsburg Fortress

SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

HYMN

“Go Tell it on the Mountain” **ELW #290**
(stanzas 1 & 3)
Public Domain

*Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
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. (refrain)*

*Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (refrain)*

GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:1-20

HYMN

“ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH” ELW #289
Public Domain

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; 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; 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; gloria in excelsis Deo.

MESSAGE

Pastor David Weeks

HYMN

“What Child is This” ELW #296
(stanzas 1 & 3)
Public Domain

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!

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!

PRAYERS

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

OFFERING

3:30pm Congregational Hymn “Away in a Manager” ELW #277

Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

5pm Worship Choir “Away in a Manager”
arr. John Ferguson
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OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts
with the song of the angels and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen
us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

THE GOSPEL OF THE INCARNATION

John 1:1-14

HYMN OF LIGHT

“Silent Night, Holy Night!” ELW #281
Public Domain

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 your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

SENDING

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN

“Joy to the World” ELW #267
Public Domain

*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 heav'n and nature sing.*

*Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*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.*

POSTLUDE

3:30pm “Joy to the World”
(From The Christmas Suite Collection)
arr. Cindy Berry
©2009 by Alfred Music Publishing Co.

5pm “Joy to the World”
(From Seven Chorale Preludes for the Christmas Season)
arr. Michael Bedford
©1992 Harold Flammer.



Christmas Eve Altar Poinsettias



Sheryl Kleppe	In memory of her parents
Jolene Manzey	In memory of her parents and brother
Thelma Winter	In memory of loved ones
Diane Boyum	In memory of Skip Boyum
Diane Boyum	In honor of her loved ones
Mary Boyum	In memory of Stan + Arly Boyum
Mary Kay Bougie	In memory of Rev. Erling + Ruth Hansen
Patrick Bougie	In memory Jerome + Joan Bougie
Dale + Linda Ness	In memory of Stan + Doreen Ness In memory of Gil + Jane Tatge
Beth Vivant	In honor of family, especially her mom + dad
Claire Hill	In memory of Joann + Spud Welinski
Claire Hill	In celebration of the 40th anniversary of Steve + Claire Hill
Ramona Pumper	In memory of loved ones



Christmas Eve Altar Poinsettias



Connie Albers

In memory of Carol Bastemeyer,
Leo + Bonnie Albers

Pat + Dennis Kenison

In memory of Don + Darlene Kenison

Pat + Dennis Kenison

In memory of Linda Lindsay

Brad, Amy + Kaelyn Sillanpa

In memory of Russ Roozenboom
(Amy's dad)

Brad, Amy + Kaelyn Sillanpa

In memory of Linda Sillanpa
(Brad's mom)

Nick + Emily Paulson

In memory of Karl Kuchera

Marilyn Finneseth

In memory of Fred + Adeline Westhoff,
Tedd Finneseth

Karen Johnson

In memory of Russell Johnson

Karen Johnson

In memory of Gary Krisel

Dan + Roberta Bonrud

In memory of their parents

Dennis + Janet Hahn

In memory of their parents + sister

Doris Hill

In memory of Gust + Thelma,
Schmeichel parents

Eldon Hill

In memory of Floyd + Julie Hill

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Worship | December 31st

Join us at worship on December 31st - the 1st Sunday of Christmas! We will be featuring some of our bell choir music as well have a Christmas Carol Request Sing-Along. Start thinking of a carol you would like to sing. See you on the 31st!

2024 Estimates of Giving

Thank you to all who have returned their 2024 Estimated Giving card. We would appreciate hearing from more of you in the next few weeks in order for our Church Council to create a 2024 Ministry plan (budget). You can return your Estimate to the church office or the offering plate. Thank you for your prayers and financial support of the ministry of St. Peter's Lutheran.

End of the year...

As 2023 ends on Sunday, we will close our books for 2023 on Wednesday, January 3, 2024. Checks will need to be dated in 2023. Thank you.

Prayer Ministry

Contact the church office to submit names of people to be included in our Sunday prayers. Please provide an update if situations improve or renew request bi-monthly.

Today we pray especially for:

Bob A. (brother of Joyce), Paula B. (daughter of Judy), Bernice C., Tom D. (brother of Julia), Carl E. (friend of Pete & Susan), Angela H. (friend of Doris W.), Donna H. (friend of Karen), Ron H., Daryl K., Tami L., Christopher L. (son of Sonja), Inez N., Nell P. (sister of Diane & Pete), Scott Q. (relative of Carmen), Jaynie R. (daughter of Jeff & Stephanie), Kathy S. (sister of Sheryl), Roya S. (great niece of Pete and Diane), Karen W. (cousin of Carmen, Char), Mark W. (brother of Claire)

(last names are withheld for on-line privacy.)

If you would like a visit or phone call from Pastor David, please contact the Church Office at 645-8252.

Today’s Worship and Fellowship Leaders

Readers: Anika Wierson + Patrick Bougie

Special Music: Soloist, Jim Anderson + Worship Choir

Organist: Richard Collman (5pm)

Music Director/Pianist: Mary Kay Bougie

Ushers: Brian + Mary Peterson

Mary Bleckwehl + Laura Gilligan

Live Stream: Dennis Kenison

Follow along for todays’s readings:



Thank you!

Thank you for all you do to serve Jesus here at St. Peter’s. In addition to giving in worship, you may mail or drop off. your offering, set up auto payment through Vanco or bill pay, or use the included QR code for Vanco.



Kids' Corner

Christmas Eve

We sing joyful songs at Christmas to celebrate Jesus' birth. Who sang the first Christmas carol? Angels!

Use the code to find out the words the angels shared with the shepherds!

" _____ b _____ afrai _____ ... f _____ r see I am
bringing y _____ u _____ d news of _____ r _____ at _____ y for all
the p _____ pl _____: to y _____ u is b _____ rn _____ is _____ ay in
ci _____ y of _____ ."
" _____ l _____ ry _____ d in _____
_____ i _____ s _____." Luke 2:14a

	= G		= H		= O		= T		= D		= E
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