

- PARTICIPANTS -

- Preacher:** Pr. Matthew V. Moss
Liturgist: Pr. Matthew P. Johnson
Organist: Jacquelyn Magnuson
Choir: St. John's Adult Choir
- Soloist:** 3pm—Joy Koosman
5pm—Alexandra Meyer
- Processionals:** 3pm—Bradley Kruse (crucifer)
Eric Toelle (candlebearer)
5pm—Samantha Brustuen (candlebearer)
- Acolytes:** 3pm—Isaac Vogt & Sam Vogt
5pm—Jordan Brustuen
- Worship Assistants:** 3pm—Greg Christopher
5pm—Tom Eversman
- Ushers:** Tom Gardner, Ray Kaiser,
Don Kalk, Davey Kulberg
- Altar Guild:** Julie Mazurowski and Brenna Koehler

- ANNOUNCEMENTS -

CHRISTMAS DAY – Tomorrow, Wednesday, December 25: 10:00 am
Festival Day Divine Service with Lord's Supper

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK –

Thursday,	December 26:	The Feast of St. Stephen, Martyr
Friday,	December 27:	The Feast of St. John
Saturday,	December 28:	The Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Tuesday,	December 31:	The Eve of the Name of Jesus
Wednesday,	January 1:	The Circumcision of Our Lord
Monday,	January 6:	The Epiphany of Our Lord

PUBLIC SCHOOL CATECHESIS will resume on
Wednesday, January 8, at 6:00 pm.

*Your pastors and staff wish all of you a most
blessed Christmas*

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Christmas Eve 2019



THIS LITTLE CHILD, OF
LOWLY BIRTH, SHALL BE
THE **JOY** OF ALL THE
EARTH.



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
† Christmas Eve—The Nativity of Our Lord †
December 24, 2019 (3:00 & 5:00 pm)

VERSE: Alleluia. *The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you." Alleluia.* (Psalm 2:7)

PRAYER: *O Lord, through Your angels you bid poor shepherds of the field not to fear but rejoice that Christ the Savior was born. Drive away all fear from our hearts and stir up in us this true joy, that, though here on earth we may be despised, miserable, poor, and suffering, we may nevertheless be comforted and rejoice that we have Your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who for our sake became man, that He might defend us from death and every evil. Amen.*

Prelude:

† † †

- A Festival of Lessons and Carols -

Entrance Hymn:

LSB 376

Once in Royal David's City

[All Rise]

v.1 solo

v.2 choir

v.3-5 congregation

[Note: The processional cross reminds us that our Lord came into this world to take on our flesh and die for our sins; the white candle placed in the Advent wreath reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world who came to bring us out of darkness into his marvelous light]

The Invocation & Invitation to Prayer:

M(inister): In the Name of the Father and the Son † and the Holy Spirit.

P(ople): AMEN

M: Beloved in Christ, be it this Christmas Eve our care and delight to prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels; in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem . . . These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words which Christ himself has taught us:



WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR ALL THOSE WHO MADE OUR CHURCH SO FESTIVE FOR THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON.

Thank you to Mike & Janine DeSplinter and Joe & Brenna Koehler for their donations towards the purchase of the Christmas trees, and to Deb Koehler and Phil Koehler for getting and setting up the trees.

AND TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THE POINSETTIAS:

Ryan & Sarah Bahr and Family in memory of Edwin Kothrade Jr. (Papa)
Given in memory of Bill Cahlander by his loving family
Myron & Kathy Cooper in memory of mother Dorothy Cooper
Larry & Marcy Dalchow in memory of Len Dalchow
Rick & Lois Foggia in loving memory of Virginia Foggia, Nathan Foggia,
and Ray & Ellen Hidde
Mark & Denise Franz in memory of Joyce & Charles Franz and in
celebration of Christmas
Mike & Theresa Gaffer in celebration of Jesus, the Word who became
flesh and dwelt among us
Scott & Jill Gehl in memory of Robert & Viola Fuller and William Gehl
Darlean Goskey and Family in memory of Lyle Goskey
Ray & Lori Kaiser and Family in memory of fathers and grandfathers
John Kaiser, Sr., and Ray Kinzler
Don & Linda Kalk in memory of Carl Kalk
Ed & Sally Kemna in memory of grandsons Nathan Schilling and
Billy Harper
Glen, Pam, & Garrett Kothrade in memory of our fathers and grand-
fathers, Edwin Kothrade and David Werner
The Kulberg Family in celebration of our Savior's Birth
Nancy (Kothrade) Miller in memory of Edwin & Georgia Bursch
Nancy (Kothrade) Miller in memory of Charles & Lois Kothrade
Tom Parduhn in memory of Victor Parduhn
Mary & Mark Pruhs in memory of Helen Wenzl and Bud & Doris Pruhs
Paul & Diane Radintz in celebration of our Savior's birth
Russ & Sue Reznecheck in celebration of the birth of our Savior
Jack & Marcia Schalo in memory of loved ones
DJ, Nichole, Danny, Naomi, & Diana Schilling in memory of Nathanael
Schilling
Paul & Gayle Schlueter in memory of Daniel
Grandma Sandy Scott in memory of Megan Johnson



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE ALTAR GUILD
FOR DECORATING THE CHURCH



† Chrismons †

"Chrismons" speak of our Lord Jesus Christ. The word "Chrismon" combines two words--Christ and monogram (a sign formed by the combined initials of a name).

All Chrismons are made of either white or gold or a combination of the two colors. White, the liturgical color for Christmas, suggests the innocence, purity, and perfection of our Savior. In our culture, it is also a color of joy. Scripture often uses white to portray purity and equates it with light to denote completeness (see Isaiah 1:18, Mark 9:3, Revelation 20:11).

Gold symbolizes the glory and majesty of God (see Exodus 25:11 ff., Revelation 1:13-16, Revelation 21:18-21).

Our Chrismons include some twenty-one different designs symbolizing various aspects of our Lord's person and work. The crosses of different types always remind us of our Lord's sacrifice; stars having either six points (the six days of creation) or five points (representing the human nature of Christ) or even eight points (representing baptism); the triangles and entwined circles represent the Trinity; crowns represent the Lordship of Christ; the fish was an ancient symbol for Christ (each letter in the Greek word for "fish", "ichthus", represented a word: "I"--Jesus, "Ch"--Christ, "TH"--God's, "U"--Son, "S"--Savior). Various Greek letters decorate some of the Chrismons including the letters "IHS" which are the first three letters of the Greek word "IHESOUS" (or, Jesus), "XP" which are the first two Greek letters in the word "XPISTOS" (or, Christ ["X" is a "ch" sound in greek and "P" is our English "r"]), "A" and "O" or "alpha" and "omega" (the first and last letters in the Greek alphabet).



P: (see inside back cover of LSB for the text of the Lord's Prayer)
OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN . . . FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM AND THE POWER AND THE GLORY FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN.

M: *The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life, and unto the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.*

P: **AMEN.**

Hymn: LSB 358 (v.1-2 & 4-6, v.3 choir)
From Heaven Above

Meditation

The Offering *While by our Sleeping Flocks We Lay (V. Glaser)*

First Lesson: Genesis 3:1-15
(The woman's Seed will crush the serpent's head)

Carol: LSB 375 (v.1-3, 6)
Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

Second Lesson: Genesis 22:15-18
(God's blessings will come through Abraham to all the world)

Carol: LSB 387 (v.1 & 4)
Joy to the World

Third Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7
(The people walking in darkness see a great light)

Carol: LSB 377 (v.1 & 4 all; v.2 men; v.3 women)
On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

Fourth Lesson: Micah 5:2-4
(The glory of Bethlehem)

Carol: LSB 361 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*
v.1-2 congregation
v.3 choir
v.4 congregation
v.5 congregation (all rise):

**O Gracious Father, Lord of all, Our praise and thanks we give;
Lord Jesus Christ, God's only Son, Who came for us to live;
O Holy Spirit with them, One God, forever blest!
This Christmas Eve we praise Thy Name, our God!
in Thee we rest.**

Fifth Lesson: Luke 1:26-38
(The angel Gabriel visits Mary)

Carol: LSB 356
The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Sixth Lesson: Matthew 1:18-25
(The angel Gabriel visits Joseph)

Carol: LSB 546
O Jesus, So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild

Seventh Lesson: Luke 2:1-7
(Jesus is born in Bethlehem)

Carol: LSB 365
Away In a Manger

Eighth Lesson: Luke 2:8-16
(The shepherds visit the manger)

Carol: LSB 368
Angels We Have Heard on High

Carol: LSB 369
Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

Ninth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12
(The Wise Men come to worship the newborn King of the Jews)

Carol: LSB 370
What Child Is This

Tenth Lesson: John 1:1-14
(The mystery of the incarnation)

All rise; the Gospel is carried out into the congregation symbolizing the Lord's incarnation—the Word in the flesh dwelling in our very midst, among us personally. Following the reading of the holy Gospel, candles are lit from the Christ candle and carried out into the congregation to symbolize the Light of Christ shining in this dark world through His Church.

Hymn: LSB 382
We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth

Collect for Christmas Eve:

M: The Lord be with you.

P: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

M: Let us pray. O God, because you once caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant that we who have known the mystery of that Light here on earth may come to the full measure of its joys in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

P: **AMEN.**

Blessing

M: The Almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and keep us.

P: **AMEN.**

Closing Carol: LSB 363 (v.1 men, v.2 women, v.3 all)
Silent Night

Postlude: