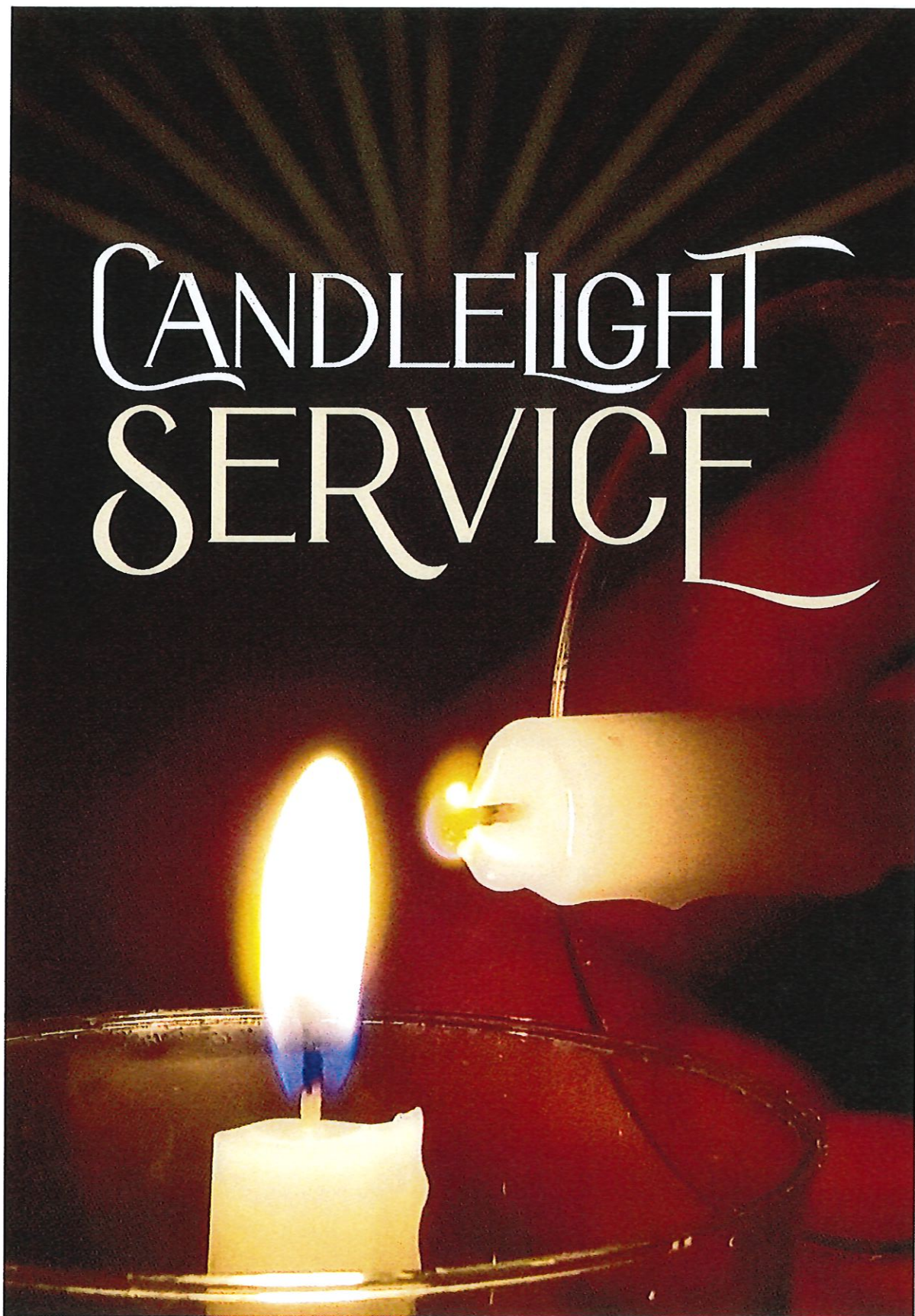


CANDLELIGHT SERVICE





The Nativity of Our Lord

December 24, 2020

6:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

Christmas is the only major Christian festival celebrated in the dark. We are the people who walked in darkness. But we have seen a great Light...this birth we celebrate tonight - Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

Pre-Service

Call to Worship

"Christmas Hallelujah"

Video by Cloverton

Remembrance of Baptism

Stand as you are able and turn to the processional cross. Sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of Baptism.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, (†) one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Amid the darkness of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome the light of God's forgiveness.

Soloist

"Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Solo, Kelsie Templin

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

Confession and Absolution

P God of grace and truth,

C **in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in the darkness. We confess that we have not welcomed the light, and have not trusted the good news of great joy. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the fullness of your love, trusting in the grace of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P The angel said, "You shall call his name Jesus for he will save his people from their sins." With great joy, I announce to you we are forgiven of our sins, in the name of the Father, and of the (†) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.



Processional Hymn - O Come, All Ye Faithful

LSB 379, verses 1,3,4



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;

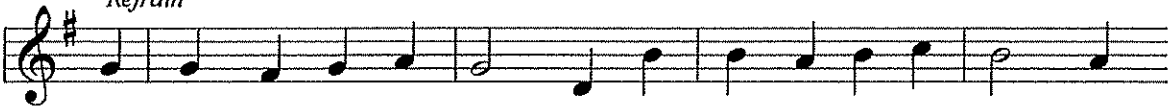


come ye, O come___ ye to Beth - le - hem;
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to Thee___ be___ glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
Glo - ry to God___ In___ the___ high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Greeting

P The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, born of the virgin Mary, be with you all.

C **And also with you.**



Prayer of the Day

P O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10-14

¹⁰Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹"Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be as 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

1 John 4:7-16

⁷Beloved, 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



Gospel

Matthew 1:18-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn: Mary Did You Know

Verse 1

Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would one day walk on water
Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would save our sons and
daughters

Did you know
That your baby boy
Has come to make you new
This Child that you delivered
Will soon deliver you

Verse 2

Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would give sight to the blind man
Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would calm a storm with His hand

Did you know
That your baby boy
Has walked where angels trod
And when you kiss your little baby
You've kissed the face of God
(Interlude)

Verse 3

Oh Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Is Lord of all creation
Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Will one day rule the nations

Did you know
That your baby boy
Is heaven's perfect Lamb
And the sleeping Child you're
holding Is the great I Am

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Christmas Message

"Whoever Gets the Son"

Pastor Scott Henze



Confession of Faith

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.

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- Let us pray for the church throughout the world, that it would share the Gospel with all nations. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** For those who govern and all in authority; for those who work to bring lasting peace to people everywhere. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** For innkeepers and travelers; for those whose needs for food or shelter depend upon the generosity of others; for those struggling with addiction; for those who suffer neglect, and for all who are sick. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** For this assembly; for those celebrating their first Christmas; for those whose joy is diminished by loneliness or loss; for those absent from us; and for those who are far from home. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** Pondering the mystery of your love, we offer our prayers in the name of Christ, the Word made flesh.
- C** Amen.

Gathering of Gifts

"God so loved the world that He gave..." We reflect our heavenly Father's own giving heart with our gifts.



Offertory Prayer

- P** Let us pray: Merciful God, it would have been enough for You to give us the fruit of the earth by which we live. But in this meal, by Your promise, You also give us Yourself. Use what we have gathered here to share Your love with the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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A note about Communion: We are about to receive the Lord's Supper. Before you receive, you might consider the following questions: Do you believe you are a sinner? Do you believe Jesus Christ died for you and shed his blood for you on the cross for the forgiveness of your sins? Do you believe that in the Lord's Supper he gives you his true body and blood for the forgiveness of all your sins and strengthens your faith in him and your love for others? If you are a baptized Christian and share these Biblical truths, please come! Those who have not yet received instruction may come forward for a blessing, crossing their arms over their chest to indicate they are not receiving the elements.

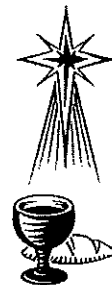
Ushers will release you through the center isle. Please follow the hearts on the floor to receive communion. Hold out your hands as the pastor drops the wafer into your hands. Move to the side to take the wafer. Proceed to the lay Minister to receive the wine by individual cups.

Stand as you are able.

Great Thanksgiving

Preface

- 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.**



Words of Institution

Eucharistic Prayer

- P** ...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Peace of the Lord

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**



The Lord's Prayer

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.

Hymns During Distribution

Bell Choir Anthem & Adult Vocal Choir

What Child Is This

LSB 370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
 2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are
 3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
 own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
 si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall
 lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
 song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar-y!
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar-y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar-y!



Angels We Have Heard on High

LSB 368



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?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;

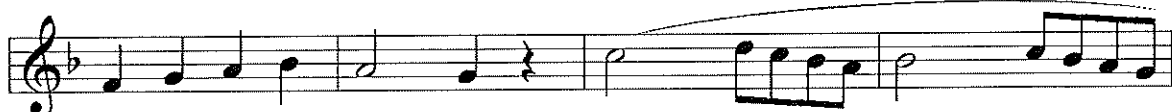


And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain



Glo - - - - ri - a



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



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

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Post Communion Prayer

P Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen Your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on Your grace. May Your Word take flesh in us, that we may be Your holy people, revealing Your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.



Candle Lighting Ceremony



The use of candles in this special service symbolizes that Christ is the light of the world. Each worshiper is given a candle to hold as a reminder that we carry the light of Christ with us everywhere we go—in our work, our neighborhoods, our schools, and our homes.

The candle in the center of the Advent wreath is a Christ candle, symbolizing that Christ is the light of the world. The candle-lighting this evening begins with the Pastor lighting his candle from the Christ Candle. He then lights the ushers' candles. The ushers then share that light across the congregation. (Please be sure to hold lit candles upright. The candle being lit should be dipped into the flame of the lit candle.)

As the light spreads and grows we rejoice that Christ did indeed come into our world. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1:5).

P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined ... Arise, shine; for your Light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the Light of Life."

You are the Light of the World ... Let your light so shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to Your Father who is in heaven.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among all with whom He is pleased!"



Silent Night, Holy Night



Silent Night, Holy Night

LSB 363



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright Round yon
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight; Glo - ries
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light Ra - diant



vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly In-fant, so ten-der and mild,
stream from heav-en a - far, Heav'n-ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
beams from Thy ho-ly face With the dawn of re-deem - ing grace,



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

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The Christmas Collect

P All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of Your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

P God has come into our world in Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. May you now go out into the world with His peace. Have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil, strengthen the sorrowing; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And may Almighty God, the Father, (†) the Son and the Holy Spirit, bless you.

C Amen.



We go out into the world, spreading the light and peace of Christ.

Recessional Hymn

Joy to the World

LSB 387



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
play, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

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Dismissal

P Glory to God in the Highest!

C Peace to God's people on earth!

P As heralds of God's peace, go forth in joy to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

*Ushers will use a snuffer to extinguish your candle as you leave.
Thank-you to the many musicians, ushers, and assistants who gave of
their time and talent this evening!*

*Please join us tomorrow, December 25 for
Christmas Day Service at 10:00 AM*

*Christ
is Born!*

St. Paul Lutheran Church & Preschool

Rev. Scott Henze, Pastor

Mr. Jeremy Becker, DCE, Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Mrs. Kathy Henze, Preschool Director

580 Indian Trace, Weston, FL Florida 33326

Church Office (954) 384-9096 † Office@stpaulweston.org

www.stpaulweston.org

Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Sunday School and Adult Bible Classes: 9:45 AM



Poinsettias on the Altar are sponsored by...

*Gary and Irene Carraway in honor of the wonderful
St. Paul Church and Preschool Staff.*

Nora Dominguez in honor of loved ones.

Larry and Alyce Hall in memory of loved ones.

Yasushi and Linda Kato in memory of Rev. Thomas Malinosky

Dave and Liz Kuhlman

Claire Loftus in loving memory of Joe Loftus

Joseph Low in memory of Joseph H. Low, Jr.

Diane Malm in memory of Rex Malm and Ralph Stoddart

Amy Rodriguez in memory of Henry Hopf and Jose Gallo.

Eugenia Rodriguez in memory of Aruna Mowli.

Ilse Tester in honor of family.

