

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will not be confirmation on Wednesday, December 29.

Pastor Morris will be on vacation this week, returning for the service on January 2. Please contact Justin or Nalani in case of emergency.

CALENDAR

Dec. 26	Service of Christmas Carols & Scripture	10:15 am
Jan. 2	Sunday School	9:00 am
	Worship	10:15 am

In case of emergency, contact Pastor Cathleen, via text, 608-865-1074, Justin Arndt (608-435-6336) (414-587-6642) or Nalani Bever, To activate the prayer chain, please contact Nalani (608-387-2311)

Additional Contact Information:

Pastor Cathleen: cathleenmorris@go.mccormick.edu

Justin Arndt: arndt.now@gmail.com

Church: wiltonchurch@gmail.com

Nalani Bever: nananib@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.stpaulswilton.com/>

FACEBOOK!! Home page: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Wilton WI



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Wilton, WI

First Sunday of Christmas
December 26, 2021

**Inviting People to
Journey with Christ's Family
in Spreading God's Love and Mercy**

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God "to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God," who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, "let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts." It is Christmas, still.

A SERVICE OF CHRISTMAS CAROLS CELEBRATING CHRIST'S BIRTH

Gathering Song " O Come, All Ye Faithful " ELW#283

OPENING DIALOGUE

L: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

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

L: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

C: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

L: To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever. Amen.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

First Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness
 have seen a great light;
 those who lived in a land of deep darkness —
 on them light has shined.

³You have multiplied the nation,
 you have increased its joy;
 they rejoice before you
 as with joy at the harvest,
 as people exult when dividing plunder.

⁴For the yoke of their burden,
 and the bar across their shoulders,
 the rod of their oppressor,
 you have broken as on the day of Midian.

⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
 and all the garments rolled in blood
 shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

⁶For a child has been born for us,
 a son given to us;
 authority rests upon his shoulders;
 and he is named
 Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷His authority shall grow continually,
 and there shall be endless peace
 for the throne of David and his kingdom.
 He will establish and uphold it
 with justice and with righteousness
 from this time onward and forevermore.
 The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Carol **“ Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming ”** **ELW #272**

Poinsettia Gifts
To the Greater Glory of God

IN MEMORY OF

BY

Carol Osteboe
 Alta & Winnafeld Waege
 Gary Bever
 Elwin Steinke
 Dale Graunke
 Uncle Gary and Uncle Wayne

Bud Osteboe
 Dennis & Sherri Waege
 Barb Bever & Family
 Anita Steinke and Family
 Bev Graunke
 Katie, Emily, and Ann

ELCA Good Gifts
To the Greater Glory of God

Sunday School Teachers:
 Greg Bever
 Justin Arndt
 Lori Arndt
 Nalani Bever

W-ELCA

Confirmation Students:
 Miranda Arndt
 Bria Gruen
 Jayda Leis
 Ava Gruen
 Carlee Niedfeldt

Pastor Morris

Poinsettia Gifts
To the Greater Glory of God

IN HONOR OF

Alrita Ornes

BY

John & Barb Ornes

IN MEMORY OF

Mid (Sullivan) Witt

Dan Sullivan

Ruben VonHaden

Robert Sullivan

Ed Ross, Sr.

Shirley Ross

Ron Ross

Ray Nofsinger

Deb Kroeger

Mark Sapp

Esther Hunt

Other family and friends

Earl & Anita Brandenburg,

Junior & Bonnie Brandau

Carl & Freda Bever

Bill & Ida Brandau

Lipscomb & Mary Louise Baker

Leonard & Galetta Brandau

Herman & Clara Buchholz

Emma & Ferdinand Waege

Alta & Winnafeld Waege

Dale Graunke

Gary Bever

Dean Switz

Phillip Genske

Pamela Eaton

Gordon Ornes

Donna Drews

Patty & Jerry Von Haden

The Ross Family

April Arndt & Luke Kroeger

George and Carolyn Dougherty

Leonard & Dixie Arndt

Karen and John Arzt

Rick & Lori Brueggen

Sharon & Rodney Fick

Smith-Nelson Funeral Home

John & Barb Ornes

Justin & Kirstin Arndt & Family₁₀

Second Reading

Micah 5:2-5a

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;

⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

If the Assyrians come into our land
and tread upon our soil,

we will raise against them seven shepherds
and eight installed as rulers.

Carol

“ O Little Town of Bethlehem “

ELW #279

Third Reading

Luke 1:26-35, 38

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in
Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name
was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And
he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with
you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what
sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid,
Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive
in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be
great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will
give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the

house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Carol " **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing** " **ELW #270**

Fourth Reading

Luke 2:1-7

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Carol " **Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** " **ELW #276**

Fifth Reading

Luke 2:8-16

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a

L: Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

C: **Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.**

OFFERING

Offering plates are located in the Narthex as you enter and exit the church.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Blessing and Dismissal

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

L: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Carol " Go Tell it on the Mountain " ELW #290

Ninth Reading

John:1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Carol “ It Came Upon A Midnight Clear ” ELW #282

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

L: Glory to God in the Highest,

C: **and peace to God's people on earth.**

L: Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

C: **Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

L: Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

C: **Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.**

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 heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

Carol “ Angels, From the Realms of Glory ” ELW #275

Sixth Reading

Luke 2:21-37

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty- four

Carol " What Child is This "

ELW #296

Seventh Reading

Matthew 2:1-11

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have

found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Carol

" The First Noel "

ELW #300

Eighth Reading

Matthew 2:13-18

¹³Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son."

¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

Carol

" Hark The Herald Angels Sing "

ELW #270