

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**8618 Church Hill Drive, Lohman, Missouri 65053**  
Pastor David Viles: cell 479-670-2000 Email: [dlviles@gmail.com](mailto:dlviles@gmail.com)  
PH: 573-782-4458 (church office) [www.stpaulslutheranlohman.org](http://www.stpaulslutheranlohman.org)  
Facebook Live: <https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill>

**Christmas Eve**

**December 24, 2024**

**NOTE: Hearing assist devices are available in the narthex for worship services.  
Please see an Usher or Greeter if needed.**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

**\*Gathering Song:**

### Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

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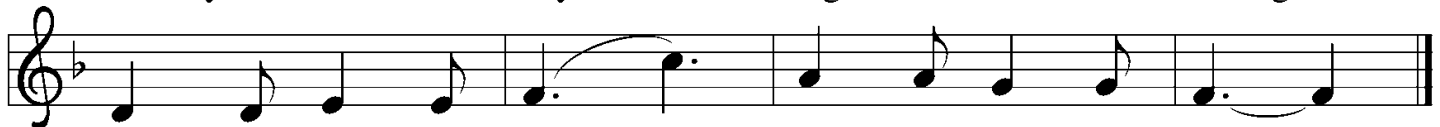
1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;  
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;  
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866  
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

Remembering that Jesus the Christ died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, and was raised on the third day giving us eternal life. We continue with confession and forgiveness.

## \* **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

*Silence for Reflection*

God-with-us,

**C: we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, † forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.

**C: Amen.**

## \* **SHARING THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

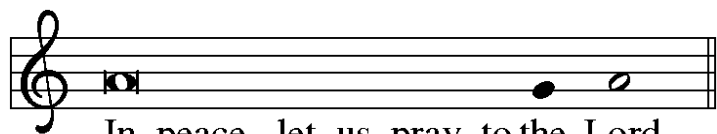
**C: And also with you.**

## **GREETING (Please be seated)**

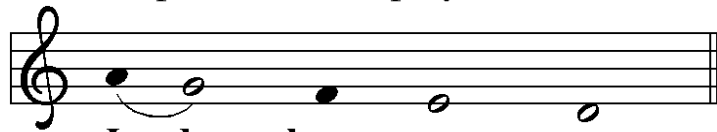
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

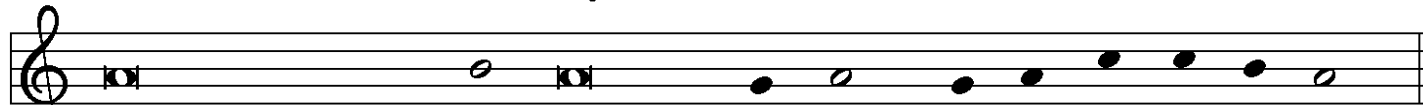
**Kyrie:**



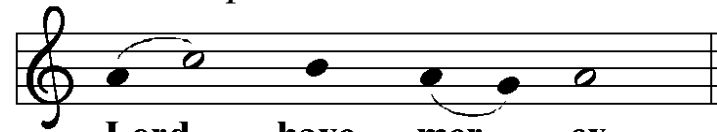
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



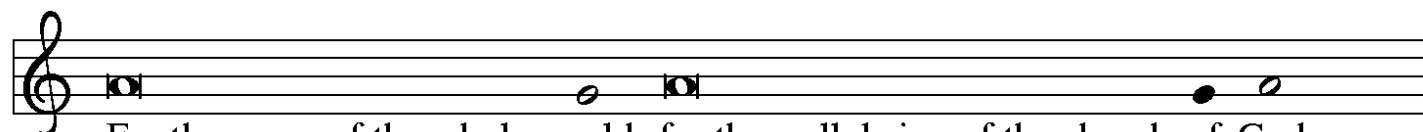
Lord, have mer - cy.



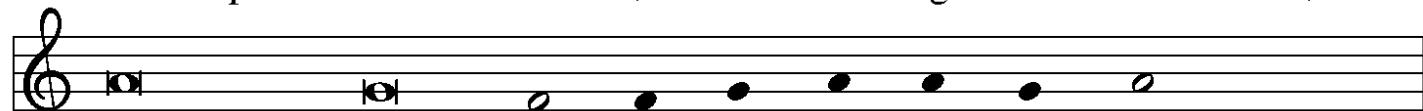
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



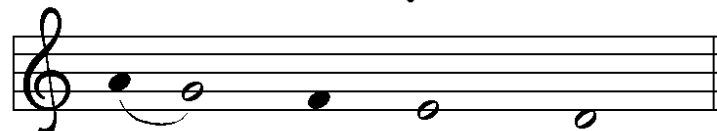
Lord, have mer - cy.



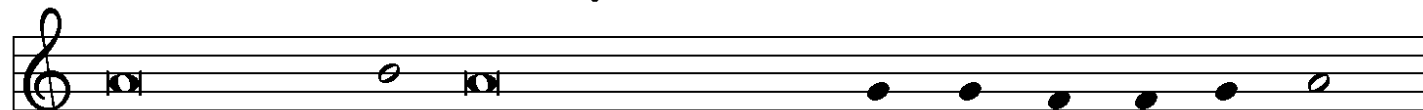
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



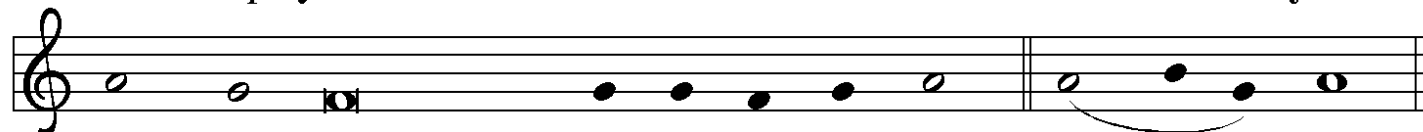
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.


## Hymn of Praise: This is the Feast

*Refrain*    Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and




strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

*Refrain*




This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

**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.

**C: Amen.**

**Special Music: O Holy Night**

**Kathy Meller**

## **WORD**

**The 1st lesson is a reading from Isaiah, the 9th chapter.**

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

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 96** (Read Responsively)

Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD; proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.**

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

**Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king! The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."**

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

**Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.**

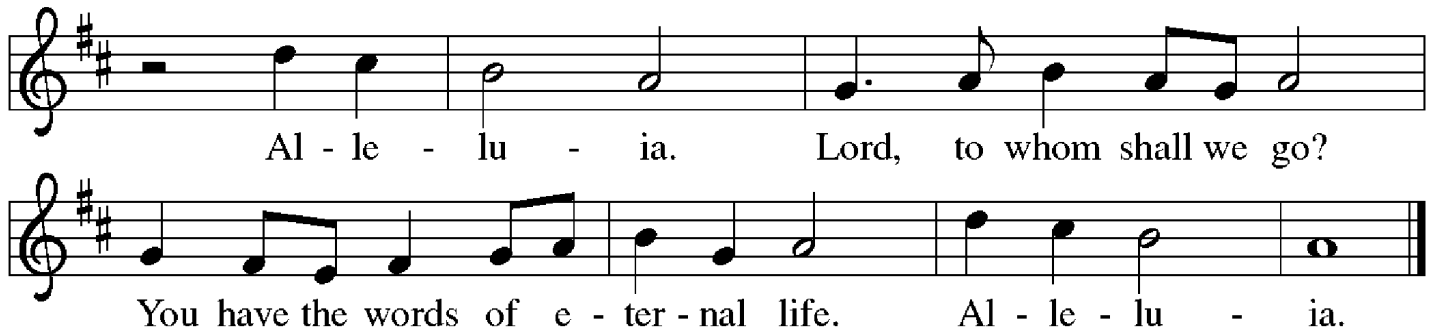
You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

**The 2nd lesson is a reading from Titus, the 2nd chapter.**

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation:**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**\*The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 2nd chapter.**

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

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And 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. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” When 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.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day:

O Little Town of Bethlehem

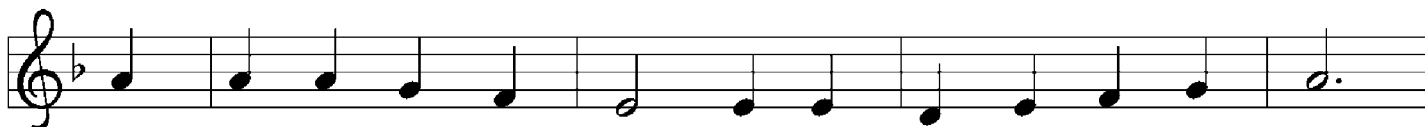
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O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove  
How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!  
O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



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.  
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.



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,  
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;



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!  
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893

Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

**\* Apostle's Creed – Please stand.**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

**\* The Prayers of Intercession:** The congregation's response to "God of grace," is "receive our prayer."

## MEAL

**Offering:** We worship God by giving back a little of what he has first given us. God calls us by the Holy Spirit to care for all of God's people and creation through these gifts.

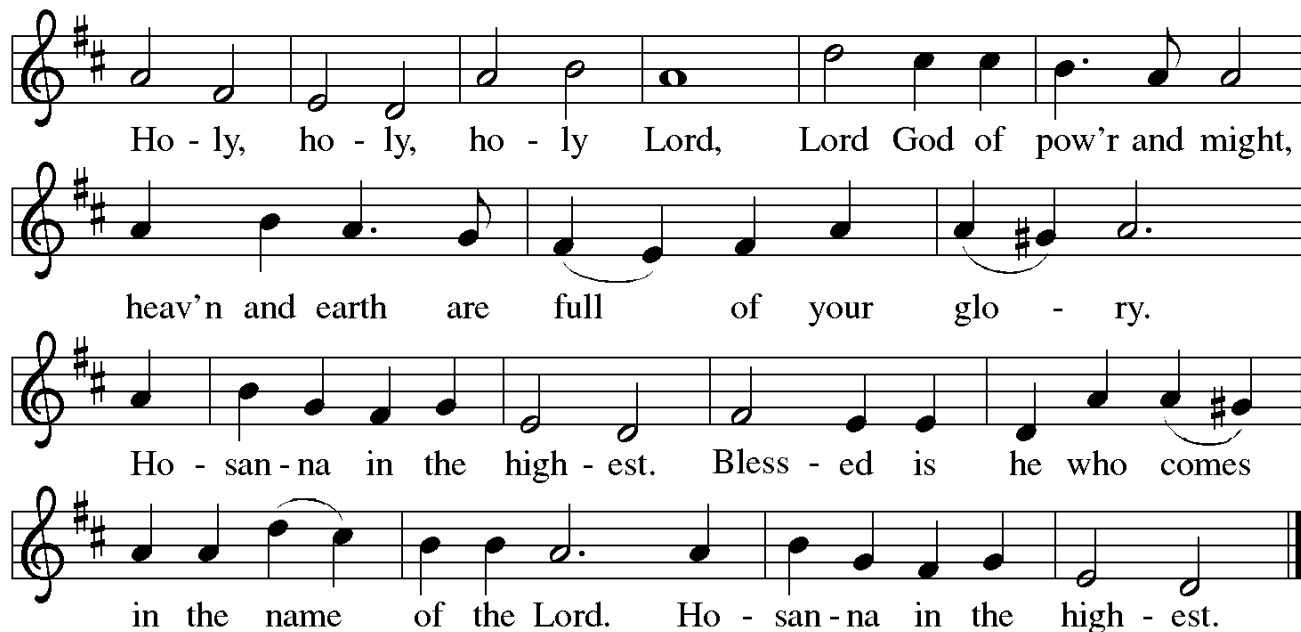
**\*(Please Stand) Offertory: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

**\*Offertory Prayer:** God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

**\*Great Thanksgiving**

**\*Holy, Holy, Holy**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**\* Words of Institution – Eucharist Prayer**

**\*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.**

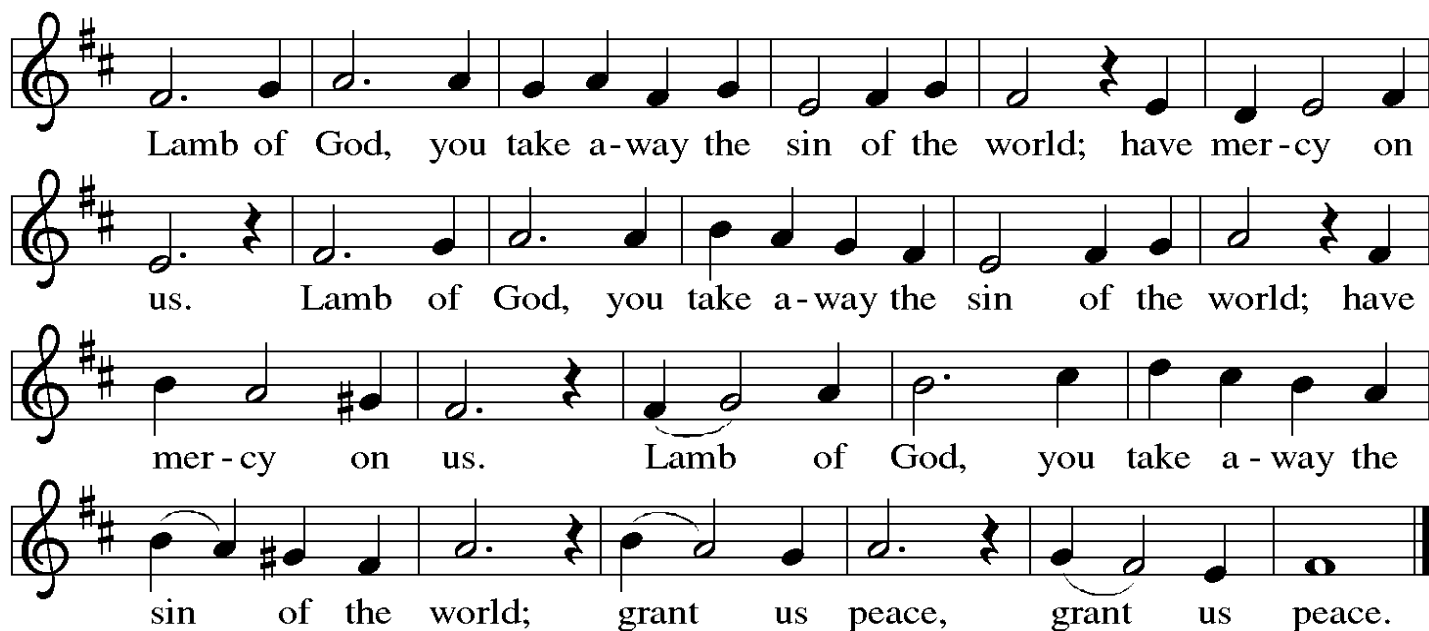
**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

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

Distribution of the Elements



## Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

### \*Blessing after the Meal

Pastor David Viles

**\*(544 verse 1) Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing, worship, thanks, devotion voicing; glory be to God on high! Christ, your cross and passion sharing, by this Eucharist declaring yours the final victory.**

### \*Prayer after Communion:

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## SENDING

### \*Blessing: (Please Stand)

Pastor David

God bless you and keep you, † Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### \*Candle Light Service

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

**1st verse hold lit candle chest high.**

**2nd verse hold lit candle head high.**

**3rd verse hold lit candle over head high.**

**\*Sending Song:**

# Silent Night, Holy Night!

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

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792–1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885  
Music: STILLE NACHT, Franz Gruber, 1787–1863

**P:** Go in peace, Share the light of Christ.  
**C:** Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

Presiding Minister

Organist / Keyboard

Song Leader

Acolyte

Audio / Video Technician

Reader

Communion Assistant

Council

Greeters

Altar Flowers

Pastor David Viles

Zola Finch

Kathy Meller

Madeline Stubinger

Dan Tschirgi

Marie Scheperle

Trish Russell

Volunteer

Jerry and Devin Koestner

Kathryn Linsenbardt

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Christmas Offering** - 1/3 Oaks Indian Center, 1/3 River City Habitat for Humanity and 1/3 to Samaritan Center.

**Doug and Julie Carel** will be celebrating Julie's 70th birthday with a brunch on Sunday December 29th at 11:00 a.m. here at St. Paul's Church. (NO GIFTS) Please let them know if you plan to attend or call/text 573 680-6201 by December 23rd.

**We will receive new members;** John and Debi Berry on Sunday, December 29, 2024. They have been visiting for several months, and we welcome them with glad hearts open arms.

**We are thankful for who proved poinsettias.** A list of those giving is attached on the back page. We are also thankful for blessing of Kathryn Linsenhardt for arranging them on the altar, and keeping them watered.

**The council nominating committee** (Delores Vlach, Kathy Meller, Dan Tschirgi) is seeking three people willing to serve on the Church Council. The work of the Council is vital to help St Paul's meet our purpose and principles as stated inside the front and back covers of our directory. The services needed are for the Council Secretary, Stewardship Committee, and Technology Committee. These positions do receive good support from the church Committee members, making the jobs easier. The Nominating Committee members ask all to prayerfully consider one of these leadership positions and to ask a Committee member or any current Council member the nature of the positions and level of time commitment.

**Annual Meeting** will be January 19, 2025. Thank you to all who have gotten their reports in.

**No Christmas Day service.**

### **Schedule for Online Services:**

Services are at 9:00 a.m. Sunday mornings on FaceBook Live:

<https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsChurchOnTheHill>

All services can be viewed at any time on our St. Paul's website: <http://www.stpaulslutheranlohman.org> just scroll down to the middle section and click on the service of your choice under "In Case You Missed It." Below that is another section for current and past bulletins.

Pastor David Viles