

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Divine Service III LSB pages 184-202

L = Liturgist * = Stand C = Congregation

PRELUDE 8, 9:20, & 10:30 Bells of Peace

Angels We Have Heard on High On This Day Earth Shall Ring

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***HYMN OF INVOCATION**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

LSB 380

1. **Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**
2. **Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**
3. **Hail, the heav'n born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king!"**

INVOCATION AND GENERAL CONFESSION

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: O Wisdom, proceeding from the Most High—

C: I confess that I have not always lived a wise life. I have not followed Your teachings.

L: O Lord, head of all the peoples of the world—

C: My sin has separated me from You. Have mercy on me for your sake, my Redeemer.

L: O Branch of Jesse—

C: I call to You for help, for I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.

L: O Key of David—

C: I deserve to have heaven closed to me on account of all that I have done wrong. Open to me the gates of paradise, for Your holy life has exempted me from condemnation.

L: O Morning Star, Sun of Righteousness—

C: Forgive me for my dark misdeeds. Shine the light of Your love into the depths of my being.

L: O Emmanuel—

C: Come near to me and save me. Amen.

*** THE ABSOLUTION**

C: Amen.

***THE GLORIA PATRI** (Taken from LSB, page 186)

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*** KYRIE**

C: ♫ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

C: ♫ And with Your spirit.

L: Let us pray.

C: ♫ Amen.

THE FIRST READING for the Fourth Sunday in Advent is from II Samuel 7:8-11, 16, page 259:

⁸Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. ¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.'"

L: This is the Word of the Lord

C: ♫ Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING is from Romans 16:25-27, page 951:

²⁵Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

L: This is the Word of the Lord

*** THE ALLELUIA VERSE**

C: ♫ Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*THE HOLY GOSPEL according to St. Luke the first chapter, verses 26-38, pages 855-856:

C: ♫ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name 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 father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵And the angel answered 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 called holy— the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♫ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Sung Creed - (Sung to "From Heaven Above")

With angel choirs we join to raise, To God the Father highest praise,

By whose strong Word all things were made,

The wonders of His love displayed.

**By love God's Son was sent to earth, The child of wondrous virgin birth.
For sinners all, that life He gave,
And rose triumphant from the grave.**

(Children begin to come forward for the Children's Message.)

**The Spirit of the Lord draws near, To sanctify God's people dear.
Where Christ's forgiving pow'r is known,
The wonders of God's love are shown.**

**Most wonderful of all - believe, That life eternal they receive
Who place in Jesus Christ their faith;
With Him they too shall conquer death.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (8:00 & 10:30)

Christina Stackle

HYMN OF THE DAY

A Great and Mighty Wonder

LSB 383

- 1. A great and mighty wonder, A full and holy cure:
The virgin bears the infant With virgin honor pure!
Proclaim the Savior's birth: "To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"**
- 2. The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high,
And cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky.
Proclaim the Savior's birth: "To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"**
- 3. Since all He comes to ransom, By all be He adored,
The infant born in Bethl'em, The Savior and the Lord.
Proclaim the Savior's birth: "To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"**

THE SERMON

"Let it be to Me According to Your Word"

(Luke 1:26-38)

THE OFFERING - *During the offering all worshipers are asked to fill out the blue or ivory cards found in the pew rack. Please pass cards down to center aisle. They will be collected immediately after the offering.*

VOLUNTARY 8, 9:20, & 10:30 Bells of Peace *Still, Still, Still*

***THE OFFERTORY** LSB page 192

✠ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER** (Found in the back cover of the hymnal.)

***THE BENEDICTION**

C: ✠ Amen, amen, amen.

***THE CLOSING HYMN**

O, Little Town of Bethlehem

- 1. O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.**

2. **O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!**

*SILENT PRAYER / POSTLUDE

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY:

Preacher: Pastor Jon C. Furgeson

Liturgist: Pastor Dennis A. Kastens

Organist: 5:00 & 9:20: Kendra Ruesler 8:00 & 10:30: Burnell Hackman

Choir Director: Burnell Hackman, DMM

KFUO AM 850 Broadcaster/Engineer: Wayne Schuessler/Dennis Gerfen

NEWS AND NOTES:

THE 4th SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 24, 2017

TODAY'S EDUCATION HOUR: 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

Adult Bible Class (Lower Commons): Hebrews

Bible Study for 18 - 25 Year Olds (Former Sanctuary Overflow Room)

Women's Bible Class (Office Conf. Rm.): Led by Janice McCreary

Youth Bible Class: led by Christina Stackle, DCE

8th Grade Youth: led by Rick Goodman **7th Grade Youth:** led by Greg Wirtel

PLEASE SILENCE ALL CELL PHONES.

ADULT INQUIRY series begins Jan. 14, with sessions on Sundays, 6-8 p.m. for those desiring to learn about our faith or church membership. Sign-up is posted on the Commons' bulletin board.

2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES available in the Commons.

K - 2 BASKETBALL Register now for 2018 PLAA Sat. morning Basketball Program at Peace for all area K - 2nd grade students. The season begins Jan. 6 - March 2018. Register with Andy Reinitz at plaa@att.net.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY will be meeting the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Thursdays starting in January 2018. To register: <https://www.fpucentral.com/classes/1044973/registration>.

The Lutheran Witness and **Supplement** for 2018 calendar year is \$18.00. There is an envelope in your contribution envelope box if you wish to use it. Please make checks payable to *Peace Lutheran Church*.

FLASH ANNOUNCEMENT

Lutheran Hour Ministries has four 30 minute Christmas specials on Channel 11 (KPLR) **TODAY** (Christmas Eve):

- "Stableboy's Christmas" - 10:00 AM
- "Red Boots for Christmas" - 10:30 AM
- "Little Shepherd Boy" - 11:00 AM
- "The City That Forgot Christmas" - 11:30 AM

YOUTH NEWS: **High School Seniors & Parent's Bible Class** will begin Jan. 7 at 9:15 a.m. Please sign up on the Youth bulletin board if you plan to attend.

NEW MEMBERS received during 2017 will be welcomed at the Jan. 13/14, 2018 services. (New members, details appear in your mail slots.)

GREEN PARK AUCTION poster in the Commons seeks donation items by January 10, 2018. Auction is Friday, February 16, 2018 at Royale Orleans. Tickets are available online now for the event.

GREEN PARK STAY-N-PLAY DATES The dates for the Green Park Stay-n-Plays are Thurs., 1/11, 2/8, & 3/8 (for ages 5 & under). The Baby Playdates are Mon., 1/8, & 3/5 (for ages 2 & under).

2018 USHER SCHEDULES are ready for pick up in the Ushers Room.

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 24, 2017:

Today: 8/9:20/10:30 Worship Service
3:00 Christmas Eve Service w/Comm
5:00 Christmas Eve Service w/Comm
10:00 Candlelight Service
Mon: **Christmas Day—Office Closed**
9:30 Worship Service w/Comm
Tue: PRESCHOOL CLOSED
9:00 Quilters
Wed: PRESCHOOL CLOSED
Thu: PRESCHOOL CLOSED
Sat: 5:00 Worship Service
Sun: 6:00 New Year's Eve Worship w/comm