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Midweek Advent Evening Prayer Service Carols for the Newborn King November 30, 2016

"Evening Prayer" is based on the historic service called "Vespers." Christians gather at the end of the day to raise their voices in thankful praise and prayer. The "Service of Light" portrays the comforting and ever-present light of Christ as daylight disappears.

#### **BELLS / WELCOME**



- M Lord God, we thank you for this day of grace now drawing to a close. Stay with us and warm our hearts with your forgiving love in Christ. May your Word keep our faith burning brightly that we may walk in the light of your presence through the darkness of this world. Come and bless us as we worship you: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## LET MY PRAYER RISE BEFORE YOU

Psalm 141



- M Let our prayers be acceptable in your sight. Come and help us in time of need that we may sing your praise in holy joy now and forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

#### LESSON

Titus 2:11-14, Bible page 1201

M The Lord will come again in glory. The Spirit and the Church cry out: Come, Lord Jesus, come.

**From Heav'n Above to Earth I Come** (*The hymn will be sung as part of the sermon.*)

**Hymn 38** 

## From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

- 1. God came down to earth.
- 2. We now can go up to heaven.

SONG OF MARY





## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY** (3:30 pm)

**O Come, O Come Immanuel,** *Lutheran Elementary School Junior Choir* 

## LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

- M In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- M For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:
- C Christ, have mercy.
- M For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- M For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:
- C Lord, hear our prayer.

- M For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:
- C Lord, hear our prayer.
- M For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:

## C Thanks be to God.

**M** In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.

C Amen.

## LORD'S PRAYER

С

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

HYMN 8

## Come, O Precious Ransom Come

## **PRAYER FOR PEACE**

- M Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us also from the fear of our enemies that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis



**ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

**PRESIDING MINISTER** Pastor Jeffrey Bonack

**ORGANIST** Carol Nelson

# **CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2016**



SOEL Christmas Program: Thursday, December 15, 5:30 pm

Lutheran Elementary School Christmas Services: Thursday, December 22, 5:00 and 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Services: 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, and 10:30 pm

Christmas Day Traditional Services: 7:45 and 9:15 am with Holy Communion

Christmas Day Contemporary Service: 10:45 am with Holy Communion (no Bridge service)

New Year's Eve Service: 5:00 pm with Holy Communion

New Year's Day Traditional Service: 7:45 and 9:15 am

New Year's Day Contemporary Service: 10:45 am (no Bridge service)

\*\* There will be no Wednesday worship services on December 21 and 28.

CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS! Saturday, December 10, 9:00 am

Children age 3 through 12 are invited to enjoy a Christmas message, singing, crafts, games, and puppet show from 9:00 am until noon in the Trinity Café and Gym. The children are asked to bring a non-perishable food item as their ticket for the event. Parents may stay and assist if desired. Register by going online at stpaulmuskego.org/Christmas-for-kids-registration or by completing the back of your Connection Card.

## MIDWEEK ADVENT MESSAGE SERIES

3:30 and 7:00 pm; soup supper 4:30 to 6:30 pm

## CAROLS FOR THE NEWBORN KING

If there is anything that calls our attention to the fact that Christmas is coming, it is the music that surrounds us during this season. Music has always been an integral part of human societies. It is used to express strong emotions, "to soothe the savage breast," to stir up soldiers for battle, and even to draw lovers closer to each other. The great hymns of Christmas take us to the center of our faith in Christ. Join us for the

remaining two hymns we will be taking a closer look at as we prepare for the birth of our Savior:

## December 7 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

This beloved song echoes the fact that the angels sang of One who deserves the highest praise and One who should dwell in every heart.

# December 14 Come, Your Heart's and Voices Raising! Hymn 42

The shepherds' uplook and outlook encouraged Paul Gerhardt to write this greatly loved Christmas carol as he grieved over the tragic loss of his wife and three of his children. He found assurance in God's gift of eternal life in Jesus, knowing that his family was safe in their Savior's arms.

## ST. PAUL'S LIVING NATIVITY

This Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (December 2-4) the birthplace of baby Jesus will be found on the grounds of St. Paul's, bringing the Christmas story to life through narration and live characters, as well as the anticipated variety of barn animals! In addition, guests are invited to linger over Christmas refreshments and join in Christmas carols.

After many hours of decorating and preparation, we are pleased to provide the Living Nativity as a neighborhood event to mark the Christmas season. The 15-minute outdoor presentation is repeated

three times each hour from 6:00 to 9:00 pm on Friday and Saturday and from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on Sunday. All 7:00 pm shows will be signed for the hearing impaired. This event is free for the whole family.

Contact Outreach Coordinator Sally Wallner at <u>swallner@stpaulmuskego.org</u> or (414) 218-5197 for more information.

You may also pick up a poster and/or postcards in the lobby to take to your place of business or share with your family and friends.





Hymn 61