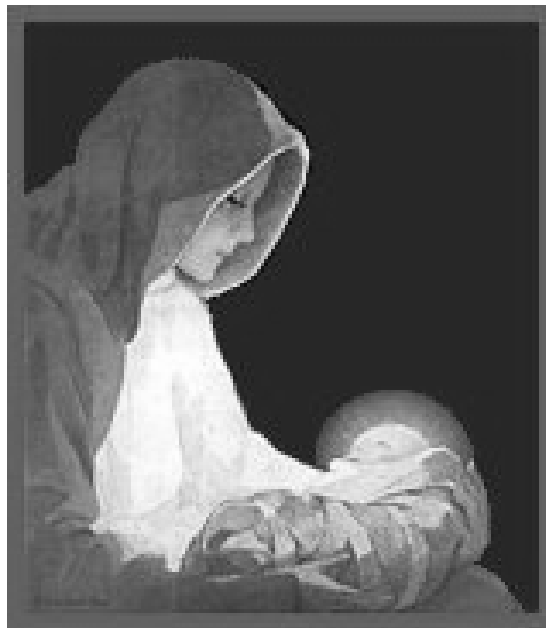


St. Paul Lutheran Church

Christmas Day ~ 2010



"Proclaim the Royal Birth"

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mr. Michael McEnroe, President
Rev. Michael Roehl, Pastor

Mrs. Eileen McEnroe, Organist
Miss Suzannah Miller, Organist

Christmas Day Service – December 25, 2010

Pre-Service Christmas Music and Anthems

The Opening Prayer by the Pastor

Hymn by the Congregation - "Joy To the World!"

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing (repeat)

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy (repeat)

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow, far as the curse is found (repeat)

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love (repeat)

Pastor: *In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

Congregation: (Spoken) **Amen**

Song of Invocation (Sung to the tune of "Oh Come All Ye Faithful")

The Lord God be with us, and with all His children
Oh come let us lift our spirits unto the Lord
With hearts rejoicing, thanks to Him we render
With joy we come before Him, in gratefulness implore Him
With thankful hearts adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, on this holy occasion let us first draw near and confess with true and open hearts our many sins, mindful that it was our transgression that made necessary our Lord's incarnation.

All: *O most merciful God, we confess to You all of our many sins. We have sinned against You in what we have thought, in what we have said, and in what we have done. Yet You have given Your only begotten Son to die for us.*

Have mercy upon us we pray, and for His sake grant us forgiveness for all our sins. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, cause us to know your will truly, and to obey it willingly; so that by Your grace, through faith, we may finally come to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor: Upon this your confession I, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, and as His called servant, assure you that Jesus Christ has paid the full penalty for your sins, and that your forgiveness is complete – your own personal possession through faith in Jesus as your Lord and Savior. May such faith forever be found in the hearts of each of us. **ALL: “Amen.”**

The Collect by the Pastor: Grant, Almighty God, that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in human flesh may gladden our hearts, who through sin were held in the bondage of darkness and despair. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. **ALL: “Amen.”**

Hymn by the Congregation -#715- "Where Shepherds Lately Kneel" (*Brown Hymnal Supplement*)

Pastor: The Lord God be with you.

Congregation: And bless also you.

Pastor: As the Lord Jesus once came in love and great poverty to be born in a manger in Bethlehem

Congr: So now He comes to us in the richness of His Word.

Pastor: As Jesus once came from heaven to earth to live with man in love

Congr: So now He comes in the Word, to give light to the world.

Pastor: As He came to heal, to forgive, and to save

Congr: So now He comes to rescue, to comfort, to love.

Pastor: Let us bless the great name of the Lord.

Congr: Let us sing with our hearts the great songs of His Word.

Pastor: Let us celebrate His birth.

Congr: And tell of His coming to the ends of the earth.

Pastor: As He came to save us sinners in the depths of our need,

Congr: Help us also, O Lord, to give our life in love to You and to our neighbor.

Pastor: Lord of heaven and earth, You have forgiven us all our sins.
As we see also the great spiritual need of others, increase our
faith, love, and courage that we might be bearers of the true
peace, light, and comfort that You alone can provide.

Congr: **So let it be . Amen.**

The Reading of the Gospel (Luke 2:1-14)
With selected verses of "From Heaven Above"

All: From heav'n above to earth I come
To bear good news to ev'ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will say and sing:

Pastor: *And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city.*

All: To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child, of lowly birth,
Shall be the joy of all the earth.

Pastor: *And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.*

All: This is the Christ, our God and Lord,
Who in all need shall aid afford;
He will Himself your Savior be
From all your sins to set you free.

Pastor: *And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.*

All: Give heed, my heart, lift up thine eyes!
What is it in yon manger lies?
Who is this child, so young and fair?
The blessed Christ-child lieth there.

Pastor: *And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.*

All: Welcome to earth, Thou noble Guest,
Through whom the sinful world is blest
Thou com'st to share my misery;
What thanks shall I return to Thee?

Pastor: *And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."*

All: Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled,
Within my heart, that it may be
A quiet chamber kept for Thee.

Pastor: *And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."*

All (Please Rise): My heart for very joy doth leap,
My lips no more can silence keep;
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
That sweetest ancient cradle-song:

Glory to God in highest heaven,
Who unto us His Son hath given!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

The Confession of Faith (A Christmas Creed)

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Who sent His Son to become my Savior;**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, my Lord,
The long-promised Messiah, Who came as foretold,
Being conceived by the Holy Ghost,
Born of the virgin Mary.
Announced by the angels,
Worshipped by the shepherds,
Adored by the Wise Men,
Who lived to suffer, die, and rise again,
to free me from all sin,
from death,
and from the power of the devil;**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost,
Who has brought me to faith in my Savior,
And by whose continuous work in my heart,
I rejoice in my salvation
Walk in Christ
Show forth His praises
And will one day live and reign with Him in all
eternity. Amen.**

The Pre-Sermon Hymn - "Oh Come, All Ye Faithful"

- 1) Oh come all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!
Oh come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him Born the King of angels;
Oh come let us adore Him, Oh come let us adore Him,
Oh come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!
- 2) Highest, most holy, Light of light eternal
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father, now in flesh appearing.
Oh come let us adore Him... Christ the Lord.
- 3) Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God In the highest!
Oh come let us adore Him... Christ the Lord. Amen.

The Christmas Day Sermon by the Pastor
"Proclaim the Royal Birth"

Text: Isaiah 52:7-10 (Printed on the back page of this folder)

The Offertory ("Create In Me")

Create in me a clean heart Lord, and make my spirit right within
Cast me not from Thy presence Lord; take not Thy Spirit nor Thy Word.

Restore to me the joy and peace of Thy salvation and Thy love
Uphold me with Thy Spirit free; A clean heart, Lord, create in me.

The Offering

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) To Thee my heart I offer,
O Christ-child sweet and dear;
Upon Thy love relying,
Oh, be Thou ever near!
Take Thou my heart and give me Thine
And let it be forever mine,
O Jesus, holy, undefiled,
My Savior meek and mild. | 2) Let me be Thine forever,
O Christ-child sweet and dear;
Uphold me with Thy mercy
And be Thou ever near.
From Thee I gladly all receive,
And what is mine to Thee I give.
My heart, my soul, and all I own:
Let these be Thine alone. |
|--|--|

The Christmas Prayer followed by the Lord's Prayer

The Closing Hymn "Christ the Lord to Us is Born" (Red Hymnal 86)

Christ the Lord to us is born, Hallelujah!
On this joyous Christmas morn, Hallelujah!
Of a virgin lowly, He, the King most holy, Born this day to save us.

Prophesied in days of old, Hallelujah!
God has sent Him, as foretold, Hallelujah!
Of a virgin lowly, He, the King most holy, Born this day to save us.

Conquered lies the Evil One, Hallelujah!
God has saved us through His Son, Hallelujah!
Of a virgin lowly, He, the King most holy, Born this day to save us.

Grace divine, be with us still, Hallelujah!
Keep us from all harm and ill, Hallelujah!
For the sake of Jesus, Who from sin now saves us,
Grant to us Thy mercy.

Grant us, Lord, a blessed end, Hallelujah!
To our souls Thy comfort send, Hallelujah!
Come to us, dear Jesus, born this day to save us,
Bless us all forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT

Isaiah 52:7-10 *How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸ The voice of your watchmen--they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹ Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰ The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome—To our visitors this morning we offer a warm welcome, together with our thanks for allowing us to share the message and joy of the birth of the Savior with you. Please introduce yourself to the Pastor and join us again. You are welcome here.

Flowers—Please feel free to take your Christmas flowers home with you today or tomorrow, or consider sharing them with a shut-in.

Confirmation and Bible Class—There are no Confirmation or mid-week Bible Classes scheduled this week. Plans call for a return to our regular schedule next Wednesday.

2011 Church Council—As determined by last Sunday's Voters' meeting and the following Church Council organizational meeting, the 2011 Church Council will be: President—M. McEnroe, Vice President—K. Mantz, Secretary—L. Ollenburger, Treasurer—F. Adams, Financial Secretary—G. Miller, and Trustee Coordinator—J. Baumgarten. The new Council is scheduled to be installed next Sunday.

Thank You— *"A warm and heartfelt thank you once again, not only for the generous gifts that you have individually and collectively given to my family and me, but also for the privilege of serving you as your pastor for another year. It is my great joy and delight to bring the message of salvation to you each week, and to offer you the comfort of the gospel day by day. The Lord bless and keep each of you in the year to come." - Pastor Roehl*