

FOR OUR 10:45 A.M. DIVINE WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday in Advent

12/18/2022

WE PRAY: Heavenly Father, You gave Your only Son to be born a man and lay in a lowly manger so that we may enjoy salvation. As we prepare for the birth of Jesus this Christmas, please help us always to be mindful of our baptism and keep Your Word close in our hearts as we await Your second coming, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God with dominion over us forever. Amen.

Please silence all electronic devices in preparation for Divine Workshop.

Today we celebrate the joy of Christmas through the eyes of our children as is our tradition here at Christ the King. Our Sunday School teachers share the story of Christmas using the symbolism of the familiar red and white candy cane, a tradition used to celebrate our Savior's birth that goes back as early as the 17th century.

PASTORAL GREETING INVOCATION

ALL children – including visitors – are invited to join the children up front as they explore the gospel of Christmas and the familiar candy cane.

OPENING HYMN

LSB 379

O Come All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him,

Born the King of angels;

Refrain

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord.

2. Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God,
Glory in the highest;
Refrain

INTRODUCTION TO A CANDY CANE CHRISTMAS

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16

HYMN

LSB 366

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to all,
From heav’n’s all-gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav’nly music floats
O’er all the weary world.

Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

3 All you, beneath your heavy load,
By care and guilt bent low,
Who toil along a dreary way
With painful steps and slow:
Look up, for golden is the hour,
Come swiftly on the wing,
The Prince was born to bring you peace;
Of Him the angels sing.

4 For lo, the days have come to pass
By prophets seen of old,
When down into the circling years
Came Christ as was foretold.
His word of peace shall to the earth
God's ancient promise bring,
And all who take this gift will hear
The song the angels sing.

The children explore the story of a German choirmaster in the 1670s.

THE CANDY CANE PRAYER

Christmas is coming, soon it will be here.
Lord, we do ask you to hear our prayer.
Let the choir's music ring with your blessing.
Help them love you and show they care.

We praise you, Father, for all you give us –
Health, food, and shelter – all things you share.
Thank you for Jesus, the gift of salvation.
Thank you for caring and hearing our prayer.

The story continues with the inspiration for the candy cane.

HYMN

The First Noel

- 1** The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

- 2** They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

- 3** And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. [Refrain]

- 6** Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made heaven and earth of naught
And with his blood mankind hath bought. [Refrain]

We learn about the shepherds in the Gospel of Luke 2:8-12:
And there were shepherds who were living out in the fields
nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the
Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around
them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them 'Do not
be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the
people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;

He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign unto you; You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

HYMN

LSB 364

Away in a Manger

1. Away in a manger
No crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus
Lay down his sweet head
The stars in the sky
Look down where he lay
The little Lord Jesus
Asleep on the hay
2. The cattle are lowing
The poor baby wakes
But little Lord Jesus
No crying he makes
I love thee Lord Jesus
Look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle
'Til morning is nigh

Learning more about our **Good Shepherd**.

Psalm 23: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He restores my soul.

Isaiah 40:11: He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart; He gently leads those that have young.

Luke 15:3-7: Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he

finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine persons who do not need to repent.

HYMN

LSB 363

Silent Night

1. Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace
2. Silent night, holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia
Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born
3. Silent night, holy night
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

Matthew 1:20: An angel of the Lord appeared to [Joseph] in a dream and said 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a Son, and you are to give

Him the Name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.

THE VIRGIN MARY HAD A BABY BOY

1. The Virgin Mary had a baby boy
The Virgin Mary had a baby boy
The Virgin Mary had a baby boy
And they say that His name is Jesus

He come from the glory
He come from the glorious kingdom
He come from the glory
He come from the glorious kingdom

2. The angels sang when the baby was born
The angels sang when the baby was born
The angels sang when the baby was born
And they say that His Name is Jesus

He come from the glory
He come from the glorious kingdom
He come from the glory
He come from the glorious kingdom

3. The shepherds came when the baby was born
The shepherds came when the baby was born
The shepherds came when the baby was born
And they say that His Name is Jesus

He come from the glory
He come from the glorious kingdom
He come from the glory
He come from the glorious kingdom

Psalm 18:2: The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.

HYMN

LSB 370

What Child is This?

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

- 2 Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!

- 3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Isaiah 1:18: Come now, let us reason together,' say the Lord.
'Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow.'

HYMN**LSB 361***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. For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above
While mortals sleep the angels keep their watch of
wondering love
O morning stars together, proclaim thy holy birth.
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to men on
earth.
3. 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.

The meaning of the candy cane's red stripes.

HYMN**LSB 357***O come, O come Emmanuel*

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel

2. O come, O come, Thou Lord of might
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the law
In cloud, and majesty and awe

The peppermint flavor is special, too.

Psalms 51:7 David says, "Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me and I will be whiter than snow.

CANDY CANE CHRISTMAS SONG (*Tune "O Come Little Children"*)

See candy canes hang from the bright Christmas tree.

A shepherd's staff or a J we can see.

The sweet candy cane shows the world of God's love,

The birth of our Savior come down from above.

The white says he's pure. From all sin he is free.

The red stripes are signs of his suffering for me.

The sweetness, God's Word and salvation we gain.

We show God our love with the sweet candy cane.

HYMN DURING OFFERING

LSB 393

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

1 Infant holy,

Infant lowly,

For His bed a cattle stall;

Oxen lowing,

Little knowing

Christ the child is Lord of all.

Swiftly winging,

Angels singing,

Bells are ringing,

Tidings bringing:

Christ the child is Lord of all!

Christ the child is Lord of all!

2 Flocks were sleeping,
Shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory,
Heard the story,
Tidings of a Gospel true.
Thus rejoicing,
Free from sorrow,
Praises voicing,
Greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!

OFFERING PRAYER

THE PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

ALL: Amen, Amen, Amen.

Conclusion of the story of the candy cane

Come On Ring Those Bells

1. Everybody likes to take a holiday
Everybody likes to take a rest
Spending time together with the family
Sharing lots of love and happiness

Refrain

Come on ring those bells
Light the Christmas tree
Jesus is the King
Born for you and me
Come on ring those bells
Everybody say

Jesus, we remember this Your birthday

2. Celebrations come because of something good
Celebrations we love to recall
Mary had a baby boy in Bethlehem
The greatest celebration of them all
Refrain

CLOSING HYMN

LSB 387:1–2,4

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
2. 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 the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

RECESSIONAL

Officiant: Pastor Randy Boelter

Music Director: Bruce Slinger



DECEMBER 2022

Sunday, December 18th

Good morning! We join together for our Fourth Sunday in Advent, and in our Divine Service this morning, we see how John the Baptizer pointed to the power of God which was present in our Lord Jesus Christ. That power is still at work within us in Jesus by Word and Sacrament and



by the power of God's Holy Spirit. In this way, Jesus is born in each of us today. Come again and worship the Christ with us again as we celebrate His taking flesh in the form of a child born in Bethlehem of Judea.

Remember in Your Prayers:

Jean Geffert- who has begun her move to the American House on Common Road.

Jim Geffert, Karen Besler, Kathy Geffert, Faith Bowen and Meg Oster- all making progress in their recoveries.

Pastor Jim Elsner- Auburn, IN, who is recovering from a serious injury sustained in a recent fall.

Jane Parke – recovering from a broken arm.

Clifford Popp and Judy Piche- in convalescent centers receiving daily care.

Julia Hingst- who is at home continuing her recovery.

Those treated for cancer: Tom Harms, Roy Koeppe, Lisa Zimmermann, Shiela Rice, Keith Josefiak, Eric Hingst and Bob Davis.

All who travel this Christmastide.



That one and all will worship and make the Lord Jesus the center of their Christmas Celebrations this year.

Life Quotes

“Unlike Christmas ornaments, each baby is a unique life never to be replicated in all of history. Each life brutally snuffed out by abortion will leave the world a lesser place for it.” Bradley Mattes, president of Life Issues Institute – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org



Altar Guild

Serving with the Altar Guild for the month are Pam Zimmer and Betty Gade



Cold Weather Clothing Donations



As the winter season is approaching and you start to pull out the cold weather gear, would you please consider donating any unused jackets, coats, hats and gloves to a few local non-profits in the area? Near the stairwell in the middle of the church, there are several boxes to leave the items. We plan on dropping items off as the boxes fill. Any questions, please reach out to Doug Bohannon at 586-703-6133. Thank you!

One Week Ago Today:

8:15 Service: 32
10:45 Service: 55
Communion: 41
Bible Classes: 16
Midweek Services: 48



Reminder: Christmas Eve: 5 PM (With Holy Communion) and 10 PM (No Communion) Both candlelight services.

Christmas Day ONE SERVICE at 10:45 A.M. with Holy Communion.

The Lutheran Hour Topic for next Sunday: "A Shoot from the Stump" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. A shoot springs forth from the stump of Jesse. Is it a sign of hope--or a threat? (Isaiah 11:1) Tune in to *The Lutheran Hour* every Sunday on WDFN (1130 AM) at 6:30 A.M., WRDT (560 AM) at 7:30 A.M. and at Noon, XM Satellite Family Radio Dial 170 at 1:00 P.M. or RealAudio on the internet at www.lhm.org.



Stewardship Corner



The very beginning of Jesus' life on earth revealed episodes of giving. At the birth of Jesus, shepherds from the field went to the birthplace to give praise to God and to worship the newborn king. The shepherds said, "Let 's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened" and they went "praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told" (Luke 2:15-20). Later Magi came and they ". . . opened their treasures and presented [Jesus] with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh" (Matthew 2:11).



DECEMBER 2022 - FINANCIAL PROGRESS

Envelope & Plate Receipts Only

Week #	2022	2021
1	\$ 26,391	\$ 7,571
2		
3		
4		
Month-to-Date Total	\$ 26,391	\$ 7,571
Year-to-Date Total	\$ 296,994	\$ 309,568

1-1-1 Missions Update

MTD	YTD
\$ 29	\$ 1,158

\$80 for 80 Years

MTD	YTD
\$ 8,000	\$ 41,670

