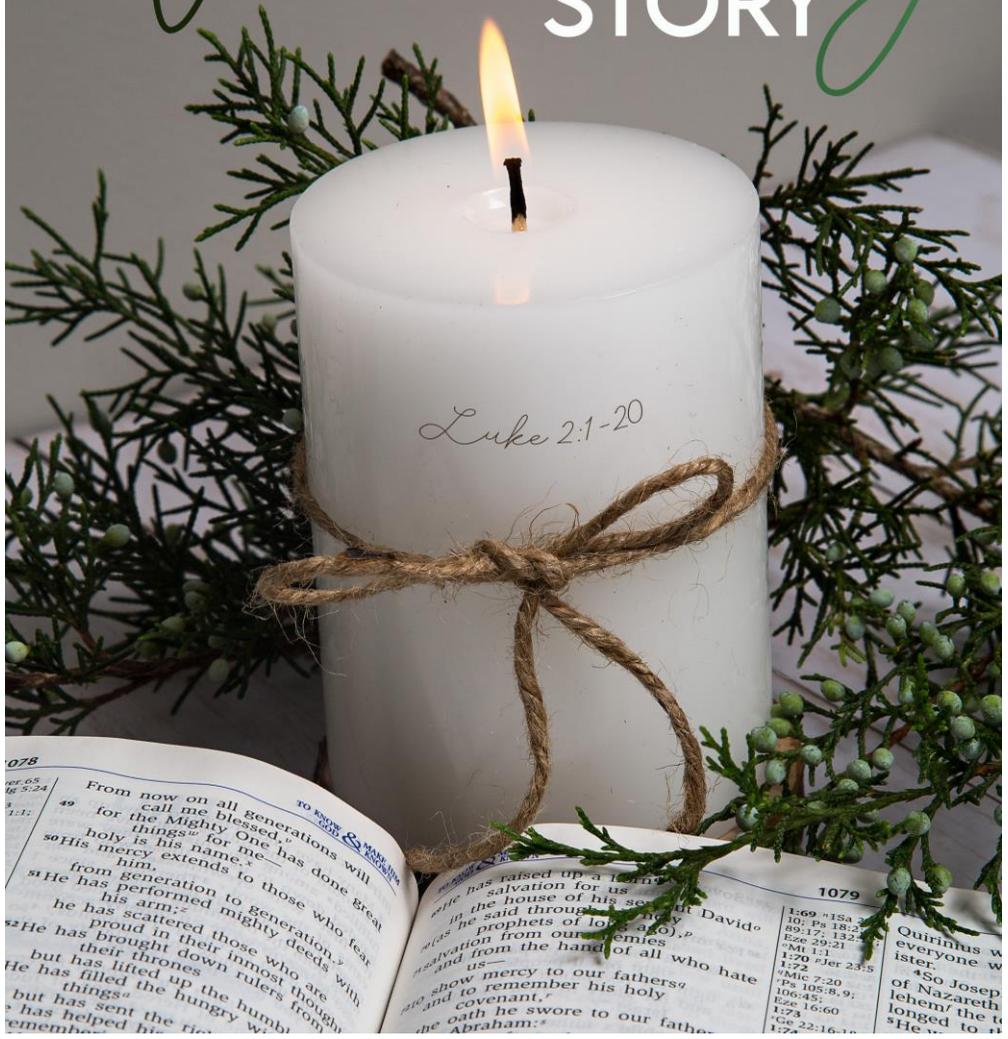


THE

Nativity

STORY



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND STUDENT CENTER

Rev. Marty Marks
Rev@godwithusilc.org

511 Russell Road
DeKalb, IL 60115

December 24, 2020
3:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. in person
7:00 p.m. Facebook Live Service

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Theme for Worship: On this evening we gather to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus the Christ. We'll join together in singing, hearing His Word and receiving His gifts. We'll reflect on the "spirit" of Christmas past, present and future recognizing the it is His Spirit that reveals the blessings and meaning of the birth of the Christ.

*The 7:00 service will be broadcast on Christmas Day at 10:30 a.m. on WLBK 1360 AM.

Pre-Service Music 🎵

Radio Announcement (7p.m.)

Words of Welcome

🎵 "Silent Night, Silent World"

--C-J Motisi

Opening Hymn 🎵 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

--LSB 379 vs. 1& 3

**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***

Refrain: **O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O 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: *Refrain***

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

- P** The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;
- C** **On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.** (*Isaiah 9:2*)
- P** For the grace of God that brings salvation
- C** **Has appeared to all people.** (*Titus 2:11*)
- P** Jesus Christ is born!
- C** **Alleluia! Amen!**
- P** On this holy night, we come to adore You, O Christ.
- C** **With devotion in our hearts, with praise on our lips, with joy in our souls, we worship You, Lord Jesus Christ.**
- P** Praise be to You, Father, for sending Your Son.
- C** **Praise be to You, Jesus, for becoming one of us.**
- P** Praise be to You, Holy Spirit, for creating living faith within us.
- C** **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. ³You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

♪ “On Christmas Night All Christians Sing”

--LSB 377 vs. 1 & 4

**1 On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring,
On Christmas night all Christians sing
To hear the news the angels bring,
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King’s birth.**

**4 All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night,
All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night:
“Glory to God and peace to men
Now and forevermore. Amen.”**

The Second Reading

1 John 4:7-16

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love

one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

A This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

♪ Before the Marvel of This Night

--C-J Motisi

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1-14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C Glory to You O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. ⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise to You O Christ.

Sermon Hymn ♪ "Angels We Have Heard on High"

--LSB 368

1 Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains. *Refrain*

refrain: **Gloria in excelsis Deo.**
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*

The Message: "The Spirit of Christmas Past, Present and Future" --Rev. Marty Marks

Nicene Creed

☐ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Offering

(An offering plate is available in the narthex; pates will not be passed during the worship service. Immanuel is excited that we now have the ability to accept offerings through online giving. Families can easily give one-time or set up as recurring gifts. Simply make a secure donation via electronic check by visiting www.ImmanuelDeKalb.com. If you choose to set up a recurring gift, you will be prompted by email to create your own online donor account to manage your gifts.)

Celebrating His Birth in Song

♪ “Away in a Manger”

--LSB 365

1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

♪ “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

--361 vs. 1 & 4

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.

4 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!

♪ “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

--LSB 358 vs. 1, 13 & 15

1 “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:

13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.

15 Glory to God in highest heav’n,
Who unto us His Son has giv’n!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

♪ “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

--LSB 393

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!**

Prayer of the Church

P Father, with joy and wonder we gather around the manger on this night as we recall how great is Your love for us, sending Your Son into our world wrapped in our flesh as a tiny child to forgive our sins.

C Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift.

P Jesus, on this night we recall how great is Your love for us. You gave up heaven to live on earth as one of us, and one with us, to forgive our sin.

C Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift.

P Holy Spirit, on this night we recall how great is Your love for us, gathering us together through the waters of Baptism and nourishing our faith through the Word and by the body and blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sin.

C Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift given, received in faith, and kept unto life eternal.

P Gracious Lord, we pray that we not shut the Lord Jesus out of our hearts, but be ever ready to welcome Him as He comes to us still today, while awaiting the Last Day when He comes as a thief in the night, not born in our flesh but to resurrect all flesh and to make all things new. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Everlasting Lord, we pray that we see Jesus not only as the baby of Bethlehem, but also honor Him as the Christ of the cross and recognize the majesty of the King of kings and Lord of lords, both humbly adoring and proudly proclaiming Him as our King and Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Renewing Lord, let the Good News of Christmas inspire a renewing of hope, faith, joy, wonder, and witness in our hearts, our homes, in this congregation, and in the Church throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Comforting Lord, we lift up all those who lack joy this Christmastime due to afflictions spiritually, mentally, and physically. We lift up those who request our prayers, and those we name in our hearts (*time for silent prayer*). We also pray for a speedy and effective solution to the current pandemic. May those who suffer from the disease find healing, those treating the disease find success and protection and may those affected by its side effects receive your presence and a return to normal. Grant that the hope and promise found in a Savior born for them will give peace in times of trial. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through the Savior born for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift. Amen.

Candle Lighting

(The Pastor will light a solitary candle from the Christ Candle and hand it to an usher, who in turn lights the candles of the first person in each row at the center aisle. The flame is passed along to each person in the row. Please tip only unlighted candles. In light of Covid considerations, please attempt to make this a "touchless process." Parents should determine if it is appropriate for their child to hold a lighted candle. After all have received the flame, the service continues.)

♪ "Silent Night"

--LSB 363

--Christel Springmire; soloist

(Christel Springmire will sing first verse in German @ 3p.m. service)

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,
Heav'nly 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.

The Candles are Extinguished

The Benediction

Silent Prayers

Announcements

Closing Hymn ♪ "Joy to the World"

--LSB 387

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 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,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

4 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.

TODAY'S PARTICIPANTS – December 24, 2020		
Altar Guild: Carolyn McQuillan & Jackie Hanson		
	3:00 p.m.	7:00 p.m.
Musicians	Linda Conrad; <i>organist</i> C-J Motisi; <i>pianist, vocalist</i> Christel Springmire; <i>soloist</i>	Linda Conrad; <i>organist</i> C-J Motisi; <i>pianist, vocalist</i>
Preacher	Pastor Marty Marks	
Acolyte	Heather Allen	Chloe Marks
Lay Reader	Cindy Kozumplik	Yvette Lubbers
Radio Narrator	---	Tammy Tiggelaar
Sound Operator	Doug Nelson	
Videographer	---	Krista Marks

THIS WORSHIP SERVICE WILL BE BROADCAST AT 10:30 CHRISTMAS MORNING;
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE BROADCAST EACH SUNDAY AT 10:30 A.M. ON WLBK 1360.

Poinsettias Adorn our Altar today in celebration of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Poinsettias have been donated by the following:

Helen Deschler Rita Goodwin “*A new life through Christ*”
 Norman & Marion Gilbert Bruce & Diane Griffith Dorothy & Lawrence Knudson
 Peg Kousoulas The Marks Family Carolyn McQuillan
 Ken & Pat Moeller Robert Sackse Merle Sawyer Linda Sons

In loving memory of:

“*Virginia and Louis Coulombe and Cathy Peterson,*” by their loving family Russ and Shannon Coulombe
 “*My husband Bob and my brother Peter Lemcke,*” by Ursula Sarver
 “*Our parents,*” by Dennis & Jane Schroeder
 “*Our daughter, Megan Eckardt,*” by Gary & Holly Gresholdt
 “*Bob & Wilma Meyer, Dick Meyer and Roger Horcek,*” by Jean Scoughton

Radio Broadcast: “To the glory of God and in loving memory of my husband, and our father, Richard Buehler,” by Cheryl, Jeremy, Matthew & Shawn.

TO BE A SPONSOR: Contact the office to reserve a date.

Cost: \$45 Flowers.
 \$225 One-hour radio broadcast of the church service; \$125 Half-sponsorships are also available.
 Make your check out to Immanuel, with a notation on the memo line saying, “flowers,” or “radio.”
 These checks may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office.

OPEN FLOWER SPONSORSHIPS: January 3,10,17,31; February 7,14,21; March 14; April 18.

OPEN RADIO SPONSORSHIPS: January 3,10,17,24. February 7,21,28; March 21; April 4,18.

Rev. Marty Marks, Pastor 815-501-3951; rev@godwithusilc.org

Linda Conrad, Angela Pringnitz, Music Coordination

C-J Motisi, Adult Choir Director, LCMS certified Lay Minister cj.cmssc@gmail.com 630-664-8005

Carolyn Panozzo, Pre-School Director, 815-756-6669 (o); LittleLambs@godwithusilc.org

Darlene Hillman, Office Manager, 815-756-6669; office@godwithusilc.org

Carla Siddall, secretary, carlas@immanueldekalb.com

CHURCH PHONE: 815-756-6669; 756-6675; **Fax:** 815-756-9585