

# Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

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Pastor David M. Deal 610- 346-8314

## THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Christmas Eve -- December 24, 2014 -- 7:30 PM

### Proclamation of the Birth of Christ

Many years after God created the heavens and the earth,  
when man and woman were formed in God's own image;  
long after the great flood,  
when God set the rainbow in the clouds as a sign of the covenant;  
twenty-one centuries from the time of Abraham and Sarah;  
thirteen centuries after Moses led God's people to freedom;  
eleven centuries from the time of Ruth and the judges;  
a thousand years from the anointing of David as king;  
in the sixty-fifth week as Daniel's prophecy takes note;  
in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad;  
the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the founding of  
the city of Rome;  
the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus;  
in the sixth age of the world, all earth being at peace,  
Jesus Christ, eternal God, Son of the eternal Father,  
willing to hallow the world by his coming mercy,  
was born of the virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea.  
Today is the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, God made flesh.

**CHRIST**  
**THE SAVIOR**  
**IS BORN!**

**WELCOME** to all who are here to worship with us on this holy night! If you are visiting, please sign the guest book in the Narthex.

**PLEASE NOTE:** We will be using the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal for carols and hymns. The asterisk (\*) indicates to please stand if you are able.

### Preparatory Worship - Organist/Pianist

\* **Gathering Song** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" **ELW #283**

### \* Greeting

P: Today Christ is born: Alleluia, alleluia!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

### C: And also with you.

\* **The Prayer of the Day** (Lay Worship Assistant)

*Please be seated after the prayer.*

**Choir Anthem** "Come & Hear the Joyful Singing" Perry & Hopson

**The First Reading** (Lay Reader) **Isaiah 9:2-7**

**The Second Reading** (Lay Reader) **Titus 2:11-14**

**Choir Anthem** "The Snow Lay on the Ground" traditional

\* **The Christmas Gospel** (Lay Reader) **Luke 2:1-20**

**Sermon** "A Miracle Born in the Ordinary"

\* **Hymn of the Day** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" **ELW #279**

### \* The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, The Father, the Almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, The only Son of God,  
Eternally begotten of the Father, God from God,  
Light from light, true God from true God,  
Begotten, not made, Of one being with the Father,  
Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven;  
By the power of the Holy Spirit  
He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
And was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
In accordance with the Scriptures;  
He ascended into heaven

And is seated at the right hand of the

Father. He will come again in glory  
To judge the living and the dead,  
And his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord, the giver of life,  
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
And the life of the world to come. Amen.

**\* The Prayers of Intercession**

Response: P: Lord in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

**\* The Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*After sharing the Peace with those around you, please be seated.*

**Offering**

**Choir Anthem** “Born Today in Bethlehem” John Carter

**\* Offertory Hymn** “What Child is This” ELW #296

**\* Offering Prayer** (Lay Worship Assistant)

L: Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**P: Amen.**

**\* Introduction to Holy Communion - The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**\* Preface for Christmas**

P: ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn,  
shouting:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

**\* Eucharistic Prayer for Christmas** (*Said by Pastor*)

**\* The Lord’s Prayer** (*spoken in unison*)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, On earth as it is in  
heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; Forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those who trespass against us;  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
Forever and ever. Amen.

**\* Lamb of God** (*spoken in unison*)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
Grant us peace.

**\* Invitation to Communion**

The mystery hidden for the ages is revealed for us in this  
meal. Come, behold and receive your God.

**Hymns During Distribution of Bread and Wine:**

“Love Has Come” ELW #292

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” ELW #282

**\* Communion Blessing** (*Said by pastor after all have communed*)

\* **Hymn of Thanksgiving** “Joy to the World” **ELW #267**

\* **Prayer after Communion** (Lay Worship Assistant)

L: We give you thanks, O God, that in this bread and cup of Christ’s very life, you give us food for our journey. As you led the magi by a star, as you brought the holy family home again, guide us on the way unfolding before us. Wherever we go, may our lives proclaim good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

\* **Blessing** (Pastor)

P: May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into new and abundant life.

**C: Amen.**

P: May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you with love and strength.

**C: Amen.**

P: May the Word that angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world.

**C: Amen.**

P: And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always.

**C: Amen.**

\* **Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\* **Candlelight Closing:** *For the lighting of the candles, please wait for the acolyte to extend the candle to the first person seated on the aisle. Extend your unlighted candle to the person with the lighted candle nearest you.*

\* **The Closing Hymn** “Silent Night” **ELW #281**

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 streams from thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

*The Congregation extinguishes the candles and leaves the worship space.*

**Serving in our worship this evening:**

Acolytes and Communion Assistants . . . Corinne Ashmore,  
Sharron Streletz, Steven Streletz, Val McGinn, Lynn Gaun,  
Cheryl Mesko, and Joe Hlavaty  
Lector . . . . . Jessica Lehr  
Lay Worship Assistants . . . . . Tom Gaun and Linda Sauter  
Greeters . . . . . Jim and Lois Altemose  
Altar Guild and Communion Bread: Cheryl Mesko, Linda Sauter  
Head Usher . . . . . Cheryl Mesko  
Counters . . . . . Ken Anderson, Val McGinn  
Organist/Choir Director . . . . . Carolyn Williams  
Parish Secretary . . . . . Ann Wong  
Custodians . . . . . Dianna Streletz and Norma Fox

**Christmas Eve Bulletins** are sponsored by Bob and Nancy Fox in memory of Irene Fox and in honor of Ruth Behm and Andrea Fox.

**The Christmas Eve Food Basket** is given by Lois and Jim Altemose in memory of their parents and Bob Litzenberger.

**THANK YOU** to the Choir Director; Choir; Altar Guild; Worship Assistants; Volunteers who prepared the Sanctuary and provided the greens and Christmas flowers; and all who came to worship tonight!

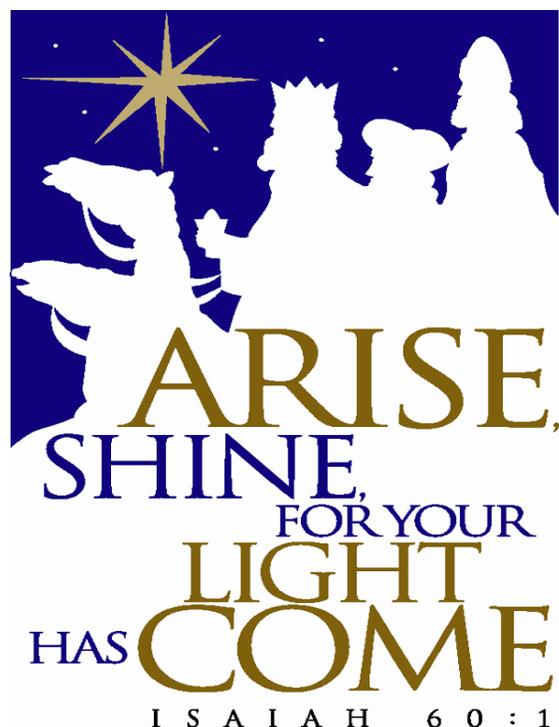
***Christmas celebration continues!***

**SUNDAY, December 28 – First Sunday after Christmas**

No Sunday School!

10:30AM Service of Lessons and Carols, followed by Fellowship - bring cookies and other goodies to share after worship

**2014 offering envelope boxes!** Please take yours if you haven't already done so - they are in the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you!



*Christmas Flowers 2014*

Thank you to the people listed below, who participated in the purchase of the beautiful Poinsettias and cyclamen for Christmas. You have helped to make our church look very festive for this holy Christmas Season. Please remember to take the plants home with you after the service this evening.

Member	In Memory of	In Honor of
George & Betty Kreitz	Our parents, sister, son-in-law, cousin & great granddaughter	Our Children, Grandchildren, & Great Grandchildren
Mary & Helen Dungan	William Dungan & Robert Allebach	
Barbara & Ben Naska	Loved Ones	Our Children & Grandchildren
Valerie McGinn	Sue Kehler	
Helen Ballek	Eddie Ballek & loved ones	
Jayne & Jim Miller	John & Kathleen Sugg & James Miller, Jr.	
Leo & Betty Fox	Our daughter, Nancy L. Hart	
Edward Xander	Nancy Jean Xander	
Rev. David M. Deal	My father, Harold Deal	
Kenneth & Virginia Hager	Our Son, Dale K. Hager	
Norma Fox & Family	Ruth Ann Carr, Clarence Fox & loved ones	
Wayne & Cheryl Mesko	Our loved ones	Our loved ones
Lois & Jim Altemose		My sisters; Phyllis, Kathy & Laura
Mark Harwick	Ruth & Charles Eliassen	
Beth & Luke Snyder	Loved ones	
Dot Peterman	My parents, Ruth & Charles Eliassen, & my husband, Ron Peterman	
Martine King	John & Helen King	
Evelyn Newcomb	Bob & Glenn Newcomb	
Carolyn Williams	Ronald Overdorff	
Ben & Tanya Naska		Our parents & our children
The Mueller Family	Opa & Granda Mueller, Grandma & Grandpa Snyder	