

# Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 610- 346-8500  
Pastor David M. Deal 610- 346-8314

## THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Christmas Eve -- December 24, 2016 -- 7:30 PM



**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

### \* Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High, + one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

P: I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in + Jesus' name.

**C: Amen.**

\* **Gathering Song** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" ELW #270

### \* 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** "Still of the Evening" Parker/Fettke

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

**Psalm Anthem** (Choir) "Still is the Night" Williams/Martin

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

\* **Gospel Acclamation** "O Come All Ye Faithful" (vs 1) ELW #283

\* **The Christmas Gospel** **Luke 2:1-20**

**Sermon** "Peace? Where is It?"

\* **Hymn of the Day** "From Heaven Above" (vss 1-3) ELW #268

### \* 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** "Before the Marvel ..." Carl Schalk

**\* Offertory Hymn** "What Child is This?" **ELW #296**

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

L: God with us:

You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw  
and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and  
wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary  
things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless  
the lives of others in the strength of your holy name.

**C: 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**

Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let every heart receive  
your savior.

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

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

**ELW #279**

"Away in a Manger"

**ELW #277**

"I Am So Glad"

**ELW #271**

\* **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: On this day, O God, you gave us Christ the Son to save us. As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good news for all people. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

\* **Blessing** (Pastor)

P: May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas and always. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

\* **Dismissal**

P: Glory to God in the highest!

**C: Peace to God's people on earth!**

P: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

**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. Children may snap their glowsticks.*

\* **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: Alivia, Charlotte, and  
..... Emma Humphreys and Matthew Mueller  
Council Communion Assistants: Ken Anderson, Lynn Gaun,  
..... Barbara Naska, and Beth Snyder  
Lay Worship Assistants: Tom Gaun, Cathy & Samantha Mueller  
Greeters . . . Jim and Lois Altemose and Grace Litzenberger  
Altar Guild and Communion Bread: Val McGinn, Linda Sauter  
Head Usher . . . . . Cheryl Mesko  
Counters . . . . . Ken Anderson, Barb Naska  
Organist/Choir Director . . . . . Carolyn Williams  
Parish Secretary . . . . . Ann Wong  
Custodian . . . . . Dianna Streletz

**Christmas Eve Bulletins** are sponsored by Ann Wong in loving memory of Nancy Jean Xander, Sue Kehler, and Nancy Fox.

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



**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 25** - Christmas Day - NO Sunday School  
10:30 AM "A Gift of Glory," a Special Communion Service  
for Christmas Day.

**Sunday, January 1, 2017** - New Year's Day - NO Sunday School  
10:30 AM "The Name of Jesus," special Communion Service  
to begin the New Year.



**Christmas Flowers 2015**

Thank you to the people listed below, who participated in the purchase of the beautiful Poinsettias and cyclamens 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
Mary & Helen Dungan	William Dungan & Robert Allebach	
Valerie McGinn	Sue Kehler	
Leo & Betty Fox	Our daughter, Nancy L. Hart	
Shirley Fenstermacher	My sister, Nancy L. Hart	
Edward Xander	Nancy Jean Xander	

Member	In Memory of	In Honor of
Kenneth & Virginia Hager	Our son, Dale K. Hager	
Lois & Jim Altemose	Loved ones	
Pastor David M. Deal	Harold G. Deal, Jr.	
Mark Harwick	Loved ones	
Beth, Luke & Brendan Snyder	Loved ones	
Dot Peterman	My parents, Ruth & Charles Eliassen, & my husband, Ronald Peterman	
Martine King	My parents, John & Helen King, & friends, Cheryl, Bonnie, & Ann	
Carolyn Williams	Evelyn, Virgil & Ronald Overdorff	
Ben & Tanya Naska	John Stachel & Theresa McConnell	
The Humphreys Family	Bill Humphreys	
The Rhine Family	James Rhine	
George & Betty Kreitz	Loved ones	Our children, grandchildren, great grandchildren
Barbara & Ben Naska	Loved ones	Our children & grandchildren
Jayne & Jim Miller	Kathleen & John Sugg	Elizabeth Miller
Faye & Tim Gadwell	Grammie Helen Nicholas	Mimi & Pappy Jim Altemose Grace Helen & Cora Fay
Helen Dungan		Mary Dungan
Wayne & Cheryl Mesko		Our children & grandchildren
The Mueller Family		Opa & Grandpa Mueller, Grandma & Grandpa Snyder

