

# 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, 2018 -- 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

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who shines in glory, clothes us in compassion, and bears gifts of mercy for all.

**C: Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise of forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

L: God, wonderful counselor,

**C: we confess that we have turned from your gifts and chosen our own way. We have not made room for you in our hearts or in our world. We have lived in fear; we have not welcomed the stranger; we desire gifts that will not endure. Forgive us our sins, known and unknown, and open us to receive the peace of Jesus dwelling in and among us. Amen.**

L: God's lovingkindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior. We are saved, not by anything we have done, but by God's mercy poured out on us richly. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Through the Spirit living in you, God give you faith to trust Jesus, who is Love born for you, now and always.

**C: Amen.**

### \* The Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

### \* Gathering Song "Angels We Have Heard On High" ELW #289

### \* 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.*

**The First Reading** (Lay Reader)

**Isaiah 9:2-7**

**Psalm Anthem** (Choir) "Hodie Christus Natus" Michael Bedford

**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**

Anthem . . . "O Holy Night" . . . Choir and Soloist, Julia Costello

**Children's Sermon**

**Sermon** "A Birth for All Struggling"

\* **Hymn of the Day** . . . "In a Lowly Manger Born" . . . ELW #718

### \* 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: L: Hear Us, O God,      **C: Your mercy is great.**

**Offering**

**Choir Anthem** . . . . . *“Joy to the World”* . . . . . Keesecker

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

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

L: Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger  
and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us  
around these signs of your love come among us, warm  
us to extend your care among the hungry and all in  
need. In Jesus’ name we pray,

**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** Come to the table where Christ  
meets you. Eat, rejoice, and be glad!

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

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*      **ELW #279**

*“Away in a Manger”*      **ELW #277**

**\* 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: God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near. As you have come among us now, send us out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever.

**C: Amen**

**\* Blessing** (Pastor)

P: God the Creator who delights in you, Jesus the Savior who is born for you, and the lifegiving Spirit who shine on you, † bless you and keep you in hope and peace.

**C: Amen.**

**\* Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ.

**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.*

**Solo . . . "Night of Silence" . . . Kantor . . . Julia Costello, Soloist**

**\* 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.*

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**Serving in our worship this evening:**

Acolytes and Communion Assistants: Samantha Mueller and Grace Litzenberger

Council Communion Assistants: Ken Anderson, Scott Gaun, Cathy Mueller, and Mike Rhine

Lay Worship Assistants . . . . . The Muellers

Greeters . . . . . Jim and Lois Altemose

Altar Guild and Communion Bread . . . Cheryl Mesko, Nancy Moskella, and Barb Naska

Head Usher . . . . . Cheryl Mesko

Counters . . . . . Ken Anderson and Scott Gaun

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 the Altemose and Litzenberger families in memory of Robert 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!

***Our Christmas celebration continues!***

**SUNDAY, December 30-** 10:30 AM Celebrating Christmas and the New Year - Service of Lessons and Carols - NO Sunday School.

## Christmas Flowers 2018

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



Member	In Memory Of	In Honor Of
Dot Peterman	Husband, Ron Peterman Parents, Ruth and Charles Eliassen	
Helen Dungan	Mary and William Dungan Robert Allebach	
Virginia and Kenneth Hager	Son, Dale Hager Friend, Nancy Fox	
Lois and Jim Altemose	Loved Ones	
Jayne and Jim Miller	Elizabeth and James Miller Kathleen and John Sugg	
Ed Xander	Nancy Jean Xander	
Martine King	Parents, Helen and John King Friend, Cheryl Stettler	
Betty and George Kreitz	Parents, Francis and James Sebring, Gail and David Sebring, Florence and Charles Kelson, Cula and Elwood Kreitz	Our Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren
Pat Zion	Paul Capus David Joenk	

Member	In Memory Of	In Honor Of
Becky and Tom Praster	Marjorie and Arthur Praster Alice and Samuel Harman	
Barbara and Ben Naska	Loved Ones	Our Children and Grandchildren
Pastor David Deal		To the Glory of God
Beth Snyder and Family		In celebration of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior
The Mueller Family		Matthew and Samantha's grandparents, Grandma and Grandpa Snyder, Grandma and Opa Mueller
Cheryl and Wayne Mesko		Our Children and Grandchildren



