

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, 2019 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 Music - Organist/Pianist

*** Confession and Forgiveness**

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, Love from the beginning,

Word made flesh, Breath of heaven.

C: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sinfulness before God and one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

L: Merciful God,

C: we confess that we are not perfect. We have said and done things we regret. We

have tried to earn your redeeming grace, while denying it to others. We have resisted your call to be your voice in the world. Forgive us, loving God. Give us your righteousness, the strength to put aside our failures and the courage to try again. Amen.

L: Dear people of God, hear the good news:

Christ the Savior is born!

You are loved and forgiven in the name of Jesus, who has come among us. You are freed from proving that you deserve to be loved, because God's love is given to you as the most precious gift of all. Rejoice in this love and share it with the world.

C: Amen.

*** The Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

*** 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** (Assisting Minister)

Please be seated after the prayer.

The First Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

Choir Anthem

“On Christmas Night”

Paul Manz

The Second Lesson

Titus 2:11-14

* **Christmas Gospel Proclamation** *“Angels We Have Heard On High” (verse 1)* **ELW #289**

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

* **Christmas Gospel Proclamation** *“Angels We Have Heard On High” (verse 3)* **ELW #289**

Sermon *“The Light has Come to Bring Good News to All”*

* **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: 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** (*Assisting Minister*)

*** 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** “Love has come: God’s love for all people. Come and eat, for Christ invites you.”

Distribution of Communion: All baptized Christians are welcome at our celebration of the Lord’s Supper. Small children and those who have not previously received the Sacrament are welcome to come forward for bread and a blessing. Gluten-free bread and grape juice are available for those who request them. Please follow the directions of the ushers.

Hymns During Distribution of Bread and Wine:

“Away in a Manger” **ELW #277**

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear” **ELW#282**

- * **Communion Blessing for All** (*Said by pastor after all have communed*)

* **Prayer after Communion** (*Assisting Minister*)

* **Hymn of Thanksgiving** “Joy to the World”

ELW #267

* **Blessing** (*Pastor*)

* **Dismissal**

P: Christ is born! Go tell it everywhere!

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.*

Serving in our worship this evening:

Presiding Minister Rev. David M. Deal

Assisting Minister Rev. Donna T. Deal

Organist/Choir Director Carolyn Williams

Acolytes and Communion Assistants: Addyson

Mammana an Grace Litzenberger

Council Communion Assistants Tom

Gaun, Scott Gaun, Mark Harwick, Kathy Hlavaty

Greeters Jim and Lois Altemose

Altar Guild and Communion Bread Mark

Harwick, Nancy Moskella, Barb Naska

Head Usher Ben Naska

Counters Mark Harwick and Scott Gaun

Parish Secretary Ann Wong

Custodian Dianna Streletz

The 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 29 - 10:30 AM Celebrating Christmas and the New Year - Service of Lessons and Carols - NO Sunday School.