

St. Paul's Lutheran Church – Crossroads (ELCA)

PO Box 394, Batesville, IN 47006

Office Phone: 812.934.3970

Pastor Creighton's Cell: 812.655.4616

E-mail: stpauls.crossroads@gmail.com

Pastor Creighton's e-mail: creighton.leptakjr@gmail.com



Sunday, December 30, 2018

First Sunday of Christmas

On this Sunday after Christmas the people of God gather to celebrate the birth of the Word made flesh, Christ our Lord. Luke recounts the familiar story of shepherds and angels; John's gospel tells of the Word that dwells among us, full of grace and truth. The meaning of Christmas is made clear: the light shines in the darkness. We go forth to be bearers of light as we proclaim this good news to all the ends of the earth.



LET YOUR GUARD DOWN,
LET GOD IN,
BE AMONG FRIENDS

WELCOME . . .

We are privileged to have you as our guest in the Lord's house this morning. We pray that the time you share with us will be meaningful for you and that God will bless you through it. If you have a question that is not answered here, please don't hesitate to ask someone around you.

Registry: Please take time to complete the registry/attendance sheet found in the pew in the black folder at the center aisle. It is important to us that we know who is worshipping with us today. Thank you.

Worship: This booklet is our order of worship for today. Hymns are found in the "Evangelical Lutheran Worship" hymnals located in the racks on the back of the pew in front of you. Everything else is printed in this booklet.

. . . WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!



WHOEVER WELCOMES YOU
WELCOMES ME,
AND WHOEVER WELCOMES ME
WELCOMES THE ONE
WHO SENT ME."

MATTHEW 10:40, NRSV

Ministers: The people of St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Crossroads	
Pastor:	Pastor Creighton
Greeters:	Bob and Anita Krieger
Accompanist:	Andrea Westerfeld
Acolytes:	Isabelle Westerfeld and Luke Meyer
Assisting Minister:	Kathy Westerfeld
Reader:	Tara Lay
Communion Assistant:	Larry Siebert
Sound System:	Jordan Meyer
Offering Counters:	Gary Westerfeld and Les Kessens
Altar Committee:	Larry and Ellen Siebert

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG: *Joy to the World*

ELW 267

DIALOGUE

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

By day and night he shines for all to see.

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Jesus is the light of the world.

Jesus is the light of our lives.

Sing to God a new song!

A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.

OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Gracious God of heaven and earth,
you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness—
a beam of light that shines through Jesus.

Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation.

Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life.

Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world
and in our hearts.

Amen.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5, 14-18

Carol: *Christ, Be Our Light*

ELW 715

Second Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

Carol: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ELW 279

Third Reading: Luke 1:26-35, 38

Carol: *Lo, How a Rose E'er blooming*

ELW 272

Fourth Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

Carol: *What Child Is This*

ELW 296

Fifth Reading: Luke 2:8-20

Carol: *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

ELW 275

Sixth Reading: Matthew 2:1-11

Carol: *Your Little Ones, Dear Lord*

ELW 286

Seventh Reading: John 1:1-14

Carol: *Love Has Come*

ELW 292

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

Your Word, Jesus, is truth.

In his light, draw all to the manger

to gather in wonder with the shepherds.

In his light, draw all to the manger

to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.

In his light, draw all to the manger

to sing for joy with the angels.

In the brightness of his life

cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.

It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life. Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

LORD'S PRAYER

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;

and 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.

BLESSING

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

Praise God, all creatures here below!

You are the shepherds telling the story.

We tell it in the streets and across the land.

You are the wise ones worshipping with thanksgiving.

We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.

You are the angels announcing peace.

We live with joy and go now in peace.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Angels We Have Heard On High*

ELW 289

POSTLUDE

We remember in Prayer:

Chris Meyer

Leon Siebert

Aaron Nicholson

Todd Siebert

Art and Karen Salvitti

Marlin and Julia Siebert

Friends and Family of Carol Bergman

Nicole Christie (Receptionist at BMS)

Cheryl Strouse (BMS Principal's wife)

Ryan Westerfeld (Dennis and Andrea's nephew)

Patsy Holdsworth (Friend of Dennis and Andrea)

Michael Gibson (Marilyn Gausman's son)

Melody Briner (Marilyn Gausman's daughter)

Kasey Hester (friend of Marilyn Gausman's son Michael)

Nick and Ivy Gunter and their twins

Ruth Booster (wife of former pastor)

Lois Bastien Brown (Tim Salvitti's grandmother-in-law)

Marie Dierckman (Ginny Low's mother)

Steve Gookins (Friend of Les & Martha Kessens and Dennis & Andrea Westerfeld)
Leonard (husband of Lisa Gausman's friend)
George Lerose (Art Salvitti's brother-in-law)
Stella Long (Marilyn Gausman's sister-in-law)
Tessa Mayer (wife of Wanda Siebert's principal)
Nate McClintic (Spouse of Debbie Mack's co-worker)
Bekah Netherton (daughter of Debbie Mack's friend)
Erin Newcomb (Hauser HS student)
Ronnie Nicholson (Darrell's brother)
Barry Norman (Lisa Gausman's former principal)
Carol Rayve (Karen Salvitti's mother)
Ted Rayve (Karen Salvitti's brother)
Beverly Richardson (Laura Nicholson's mother)
Kristina Salvitti (Art's daughter)
Gary Schopmeyer (friend of Anita and Bob Krieger)
Charlie Seibert (friend of Anita and Bob Krieger)
John Ward (Eunice Sisson's brother-in-law)
Jasmine Westerfeld (Sharon Brown's great-granddaughter)
Melinda Wilson (wife of Ben Wilson)

anyone affected by natural disasters, warfare and violence
all who serve in the military

Honored Members:

Allen and Mary Lou Narwold Bill Westerfeld

Our members at St. Andrew's: Julia Siebert Ruth Thackery

Our Partner Churches: Evangelical Church of the Lutheran Confession in Brazil and
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Smyrna

Today:

The Word of God became flesh to live among us! **Welcome** to our celebration this morning!

Pastor Creighton will be on vacation from December 26th – January 5th. Pastor Jill Kepler Campbell of St. Mark will be available for any pastoral need. You may contact her at the church office (812-934-4246) or on her phone: (859-391-3712).

Devotionals for the winter quarter are available in the narthex. There are large print and youth/family ones as well as regular print.

This Week:

Office Hours – Monday	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Tuesday – Happy New Year	
Wednesday - Choir practice	7:00 PM
Sunday - Sunday School	9:00 AM
Worship Service	10:00 AM

Upcoming Events / Announcements:

It's time to think about signing up for both **Altar Committee and Flowers** for the new year.



From sundaysandseasons.com.

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