

LAMB OF GOD

LUTHERAN CHURCH



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December 24, 2022

Christmas Eve

Today's theme:
A Savior Born to Change The World

Welcome, guests! God's love welcomes you—no matter who you are or where you come from— and so do we. We believe that Jesus Christ is the true Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death, and triumphant resurrection he saves all sinners even without our help. Jesus Christ makes us special people, right with God and ready for life!

We learn this from the Bible, God's authentic message of grace and guidance for us. Whether you are a first-time guest or a curious observer with little religious background, we are delighted to share our worship with you. Please come back and worship with us again.

Children's "My Worship Notes" are included in another document. They can be used by children of any age to keep notes during the service.

If you would like to know more about Lamb of God, visit our website www.lambofgodlafayette.com

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Lamb of God is a congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod WELS (www.wels.net) est. 1850

A SAVIOR BORN TO CHANGE THE WORLD

Families cherish their Christmas traditions. Year after year, they decorate the tree with the same ornaments, play the same music, bake the same Christmas cookies. Without asking, family members know when they will open presents. If you try to change your family's Christmas traditions, you just might pick a fight! When it comes to family Christmases, people generally don't like things to change. Because our celebration of Christmas is so steeped in unchanging traditions, it might be easy for us to miss that the Nativity of the Son of God meant radical change for the world. The birth of the Christ child meant that nothing in the world would ever be the same. We even divide history into the events that occurred "Before Christ" (BC) and after "Anno Domini" (AD), Latin for "Year of our Lord." Christmas traditions are wonderful. But make no mistake about it. Christmas is all about change. The Lord God came to change the world by becoming part of the world. Because we are part of the world, that means Christmas changes us too. This Christmas Eve, we see how

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Ah, dearest Jesus, holy child, prepare a bed, soft, undefiled, within my heart, made clean and new, a quiet chamber kept for you. Amen.

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols

The pattern of these services has become familiar because of similar services held each year in the chapel of King's College, Cambridge, England. First scheduled in 1918, the King's service is held at 3:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve and is broadcast all over the world. Entitled *A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols*, the event includes a traditional set of nine scripture readings and several hymns sung every year by the congregation. Additional service music, much of it based on well-known Christmas carols, is offered by the world famous Choir of King's College. In the King's service, the individual lessons are read by members of the choir and by representatives of the civic, chapel, and university communities. The reader ends each lesson by saying, "Thanks be to God."

The traditional order of service follows with its traditional readings and hymns. Where anthems normally occur, several hymns have been suggested: the first hymn is known by most congregations.

Solo voice will sing stanza 1, congregation is invited to sing stanzas 2-4

Once in Royal David's City

CW 343



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and
3 And our eyes at last shall see him through his own re -
4 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble with the ox - en



cat - tle shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
deem - ing love, for that child, so dear and gen - tle, is our
stand - ing by shall we see him, but in heav - en, set at



man - ger for his bed: Mar - y was that moth - er
cra - dle was a stall; with the poor and mean and
Lord in heav'n a - bove, and he leads his chil - dren
God's right hand on high. Then like stars his chil - dren



mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
on to the place where he is gone.
crowned, all in white, his praise will sound.

Bidding Prayer

Dear people of God, in this Christmas season, it is our duty and delight to hear again the message of the angels and, in heart and mind, to go to Bethlehem and see this thing which has come to

pass, which the Lord has made known to us—the Christ Child lying in a manger.

Let us read and learn in Holy Scripture the story of the loving purposes of God from the first days after our fall into sin to the glorious redemption brought to us by this holy child.

But first, let us pray for people all over the world who would delight with us to know the good news of Jesus Christ and who would join with us in singing his praises. Let us pray for the people of the Greater Lafayette area and for all those in our own congregation.

And, because this would please our Lord, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who are sad, the lonely and the unloved, and the elderly and the little children. We especially remember all those who do not know the Lord Jesus, those who do not love him, and those who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

Finally, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us in heaven, who live in greater light than we, that multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, who died in faith, and who live before the throne of God and praise him each day in his temple. We confess that we are united with them as we are united with one another.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Be seated

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

CW 331 sts. 1-2, 7, 13



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come to bear good
2 "To you this night is born a child of Mar - y,
7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes, and see what
13 Ah, dear - est Je - sus, ho - ly Child, pre - pare a



news to ev - 'ry home; glad ti - dings of great
cho - sen vir - gin mild; this lit - tle child of
in the man - ger lies. Who is this child, so
bed, soft, un - de - filed with - in my heart, made



joy I bring, where - of I now will say and sing:
low - ly birth shall be the joy of all the earth.
young and fair? It is the Christ Child ly - ing there.
clean and new, a qui - et cham - ber kept for you.

First Lesson

Genesis 3:8-15

The Seed of the woman will crush the serpent's head.

⁸Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

¹⁰He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

¹¹And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

¹²The man said, "The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this,

“Cursed are you above all livestock
and all wild animals!

You will crawl on your belly
and you will eat dust
all the days of your life.

¹⁵And I will put enmity
between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;
he will crush your head,
and you will strike his heel.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

CW 350

Second Lesson

Genesis 22:15-18

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.

¹⁵The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time ¹⁶and said, “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore.

Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, ¹⁸and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Savior of the Nations, Come

CW 301

Third Lesson

Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7

The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.

²The people walking in darkness
have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness
a light has dawned.

⁶For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

⁷Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne
and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it
with justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the LORD Almighty
will accomplish this.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Joy to the World

CW 353

Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9

A Branch from the stump of Jesse will bear fruit.

¹A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

²The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—

³and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,
or decide by what he hears with his ears;

⁴but with righteousness he will judge the needy,
with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.

He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth;
with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

⁵Righteousness will be his belt
and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

⁶The wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard will lie down with the goat,
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;
and a little child will lead them.

⁷The cow will feed with the bear,

their young will lie down together,
and the lion will eat straw like the ox.
⁸The infant will play near the cobra's den,
and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest.
⁹They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

What Hope! An Eden Prophesied

CW 304

Fifth Lesson

Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel Gabriel announces to Mary the birth of a son.

²⁶In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

²⁹Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. ³¹You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

³⁴“How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”

³⁵The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

³⁸“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

CW 328

St.1 - choir; st.2 men; st.3 women; st.4 all

Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

¹In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ²(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.)

³And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

⁶While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born,

⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The choir will sing Hymn 365 - please follow along with the text in your hymnal

Lord, You Were Rich beyond All Splendor

CW 365

Seventh Lesson

Luke 2:8-20

The shepherds go to the manger.

⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

¹⁶So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

CW 345

Eighth Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi are led by the star to Jesus.

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶“ ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.’”

⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the

star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

What Child Is This

CW 344

Stand

Ninth Lesson

John 1:1-14

St. John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave

the right to become children of God— ¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

CW 338

*st.1 choir; st.2-3
congregation*

Acolytes will come to your row and light the candle nearest the center aisle. Please then light the candle next to you until all the candles are lit in the pew. When all the candles are lit, the lights will be dimmed. Remember to tip the unlit candle and leave the lit candle vertical.

Please stand

Prayer

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who

lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Blessing

May he who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with such joy that comes from the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the T Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

Amen.

337 Silent Night, Holy Night

CW 337 sts. 1-3



1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
at the sight. Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
love's pure light ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face



Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
heav'n - ly hosts — sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy

peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Text: tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885; Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848
 Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787-1863
 Text and tune: Public domain

Be seated

Pastor Horn will usher you out. Please deposit the candles in the box behind the last row of chairs on your way out of church.

Please join us tomorrow morning as we celebrate the Festival of Christmas Day 10:30am.

OFFERING [If you wish to give an offering you may do so on our website, lambogodlafayette.com and click GIVE in the upper right corner or text any dollar amount to 84321 to give or mail a check to the church—1893 E 600 North West Lafayette, IN 47906] or you may scan this QR code:



Serving at Worship

Pastor Paul Horn
Vicar Jonah Schlomer
Pianist: Liz Schmidt

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 22nd - Open Forum and potluck lunch after worship
Watch for a SignUp Genius to go out in January for the potluck lunch. Stay for an open forum with the leadership team and Pastor Horn as we look at ministry opportunities for 2023. They seek your input and ideas. All are welcome!

FAMILY BIBLE HOUR—SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:15 - Will resume Sunday January 8th

Pre-K—8th Grade—Bible history stories, apologetics, crafts, games, songs and more!

Teens, College Students and Adults—We continue our Bible Study series topic: **Prepared to Answer**

The Apostle Peter encourages us to "be prepared to have an answer..." Have you had a conversation with someone about the Bible, God etc and wondered, "What do I say here..." You're not alone. In this series we'll look at ways to tell stories we already know (and learn new ones!) to answer objections to the Word of God.

Catechism Class—7th & 8th grade - We will resume January 8th

BUNCO— Friday, January 27th

Bunco is a fun and easy game that brings with it an evening of fellowship for the women of our congregation! Haven't played before? NO PROBLEM! We'll teach you! We usually take the first 12 women who sign-up, **HOWEVER**, we can add another table so if we have 16 women who would like to play, we can accommodate you. The more the merrier! **The fun will begin at 7:00pm on Friday, January 27th.**

HELP NEEDED

There are several projects that the leadership team would like to tackle. If you have the skills (or want to learn) and the time to serve, please email the church office loginlafayette@gmail.com

1. Keeping the ditch along 600N clear of garbage
2. Five people willing to be trained in the use of AED, training will be in Jan 2023
3. Remodeling the basement - January 2023
4. Thinning the tree lines - Dec-Jan watch your email for the dates/times

Prayer Requests

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

Keep in your prayers this week: All those in our midst who may be dealing with physical ailments, emotional hurts or the loss of a loved one; for Jim Holmes, Gail Rathgeber, Joan Bonnet, and Bryant Monk, who are experiencing health difficulties; for our Pastors, teachers and staff ministers as they reach the lost sheep of their communities with the Good News of Jesus; for our brothers and sisters in Christ in Ukraine and all those who are suffering in the war in Ukraine; that God grant peace between Ukraine and Russia as well as between the warring nations in Africa; that the Holy Spirit would work in the hearts of all those who join us for worship each Sunday; for all those who are suffering from abuse in the home, that they might seek help; that the Lord grant wisdom to Governor Holcomb, President Biden, Vice President Harris, and the United State Congress; for the current state of our world, that we remember our God is still in charge and will sustain us and give us what we need; that our Lord would give us the means to show the love of Christ as we support our neighbors in need. Pray that the Holy Spirit will bless our outreach efforts as we invite friends, relatives, and neighbors to our Christmas services.

