

Little Children Can You Tell...



Children's Christmas Eve Service
Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church & School

DECEMBER 24, 2012 - 6:30 PM

INVITATION:

CONGREGATION SINGS: *O Come, Little Children*

CONGREGATION SINGS:

O Come, little children, O come one and all,
To Bethlehem haste to the manger so small.
God's Son for a gift has been sent you this night
To be your Redeemer, your Joy and Delight.

CHILDREN SING:

O see in a manger – this strange little bed-
A Child, sweet and gentle; is resting His head,
In swaddling clothes lying so humble and mild,
Yet purer than angels, the heavenly Child.

CONGREGATION SINGS:

Kneel down and adore Him with Shepherds today,
Lift up little hands now and praise Him as they;
Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast,
And join in the song of the heavenly host.

RESPONSIVE PSALM: Psalm 24:7-10

CHILDREN: Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors!

CONGREGATION: And the King of glory shall come in.

CHILDREN: Who is this King of glory?

CONGREGATION: The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.

CHILDREN: Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors!

CONGREGATION: And the King of glory shall come in.

CHILDREN: Who is this King of glory?

ALL: The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory.



CONGREGATION SINGS: *Little Children, Can You Tell?*

CONGREGATION SINGS:

Little Children, can you tell?
Do you know the story well?
Ev'ry girl and ev'ry boy,
Why the angels sing for joy
On this Christmas ev'ning.

CHILDREN SING:

Yes, we know the story well;
Listen now, and hear us tell,
Ev'ry girl and ev'ry boy,
Why the angels sing for joy
On this Christmas ev'ning.

James: Yes, we children do know the story of Christmas well. You, our parents, grandparents, and friends have seen to it that we were brought to church and taught the truth about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Kaitlyn: Now, we hope you will be blessed once again by our telling of the wondrous story of Jesus' birth.

Joshua: But, before we can get to the Christmas story we have to begin at the beginning, the very beginning.

Little Children Can You Tell...

I. About God's Creation-

Pre-school: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
(Genesis 1:1)

Jonathan: For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them. (Exodus 20:11a)

Peter: By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.
(Hebrews 11:3)

Pre-school: Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. (Genesis 1:31a)

NARRATOR: It would be wonderful if the story could end with God's perfect creation. However, the Devil and his followers led a rebellion against God that soon spread to mankind. Adam and Eve chose to listen to Satan and rebel against God and all of mankind has been under the curse of the Law ever since.

Little Children Can You Tell...

II. About God's Judgment-

Kaitlyn: And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (Genesis 2:16-17)

James: The devil was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it. (John 8:44b)

Joshua: Then the serpent (that is the devil) said to the woman, "You will not surely die." (Genesis 3:4a)

Kaitlyn: So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. (Genesis 3:6)

Joshua: Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned. (Romans 5:12)

CONGREGATION SINGS: *All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall* (TLH 369)

All mankind fell in Adam's
fall; One common sin
infects us all;
From sire to son the bane
descends, And over all
the curse impends.

From hearts depraved, to
evil prone, Flow tho'ts and
deeds of sin alone; God's
image lost, the darkened
soul Nor seeks nor finds
its heav'nly goal.

But Christ, the second
Adam, came To bear our
sin and woe and shame,
To be our Life, our Light,
our Way, Our only Hope,
our only Stay.

NARRATOR: Thankfully, God did not leave mankind in his sin. God had a wonderful plan of salvation already in place. However, God did not permit Adam and Eve to remain in the garden. This too was a blessing, so they would not eat of the tree of life and live forever in a world of sin. God wanted them to look forward to His promise of a Savior.



Little Children Can You Tell...

III. About God's Promise -

James: And I will put enmity between you (the devil) and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel. (Genesis 3:15)

Kaitlyn: In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David a Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. (Jeremiah 33:15)

Joshua: For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous. (Romans 5:19)

CONGREGATION SINGS:

Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes (TLH 66)

Hark the glad sound! The Savior
comes, The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne And
ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the prisners to release, In
Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
T' enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim
And heaven's eternal arches ring
With Thy beloved name.

NARRATOR: God's people waited many years for the promise of the Savior to come true. But God was waiting for just the right time for Jesus to come into the world.

CHOIR:

"Were You There?"



Little Children Can You Tell...

IV. About God's Gift-

ALL CHILDREN: "And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn." Luke 2:1-7



CHILDREN/WOMEN CHOIR SING: *Good News*

Good News! Good News! News of great joy!
For unto us in Bethlehem is born now a boy!

Good News! Good News! Joyfully sing!
For unto us in Bethlehem is cradled a King!

Come, come, be of good cheer!
Christ, our Savior, is here!

Good News! Good News! Welcome the
morn! For unto us in Bethlehem,
Lord Jesus is born!

News! News! News of great joy!
For unto all people is born now a boy!

News! News! Joyfully sing!
For Bethlehem's manger now cradles a King!

Come, come, be of good cheer!
Christ our Savior, is here!

News! News! Welcome the morn!
For there in a stable, Lord Jesus is born,
For there in a stable, Lord Jesus,
our Savior is born!



CHILDREN: “And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.” Luke 2:8-14

CHOIR: *See, Amid the Winter's Snow - John Goss, 1870*

CHOIR:

See, amid the winter's snow,
Born for us on earth below,
See the tender Lamb appears,
Promised from eternal years.

REFRAIN: All

Hail, thou ever blessed morn! Hail
redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is
born in Bethlehem.

CHOIR:

Lo, within a manger lies He who built
the starry skies;
He who, throned in height sublime, sits
amid the cherubim.

REFRAIN: All

CHOIR:

Say, ye lowly shepherds say, What your
joyful news today?
Wherefore have ye left your sheep On
the lonely mountain steep?

REFRAIN: All

CHOIR:

“As we watched at dead of night, Lo!
We saw a wondrous light:
Angels singing, 'Peace on earth'; Told
us of the Savior's birth.”

REFRAIN: All

CHOIR:

Sacred Infant, all Divine, What a
tender love was Thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss Down
to such a world as this!

REFRAIN: All

ALL SING:

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child, By
Thy life so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble Thee, In Thy
sweet humility.

Hail, thou ever blessed morn! Hail
redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem, Christ is
born in Bethlehem.

CHILDREN SING: *Little Children, Can You Tell?*

Shepherds sat upon the ground,
Fleecy flocks were scattered round
When a brightness filled the sky,
And a song was heard on high
On this Christmas ev'ning

'Joy and peace!' the angels sang;
Far the pleasant echoes rang;
'Peace on earth, to men good will,'
Hark! The angels sing it still
On this Christmas ev'ning.

CHILDREN: “And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.” Luke 2:15-19

Duet: *Mary, Did you know?"/What Child is This?*



NARRATOR: We must remember, however, that God's Promise and Gift wasn't complete at the manger in Bethlehem. Jesus was sent to be our Savior, so He had much work to do in order to redeem us from our sins.

James: And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:14-15)

Lower Grades: For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)



Peter: For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. (John 3:17)

Kaitlyn: He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. (John 3:18)

Jonathan: For the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. (Romans 6:23)

Joshua: For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God. (Ephesians 2:8)



CONGREGATION SINGS: *Silent Night*

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.

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!

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.



CHILDREN SING: *Little Children, Can You Tell?*

For a little Babe that day
Cradled in a manger lay,
Born on earth our Lord to be;
This the wondering angels see
On this Christmas ev'ning.

CONGREGATION SINGS:

Joy our little hearts shall fill,
Peace and love, and all goodwill;
This fair Babe of Bethlehem
Children loves, and blesses them
On this Christmas ev'ning.

NARRATOR: What else can our children tell us? They've told us of God's perfect creation, man's disobedience, and God's judgment. They've told us about God's promise of a Savior, Jesus and His coming to fulfill that promise to be our Savior. So what's left?

Little Children Can You Tell...

V. About God's Home-

Joshua: Jesus said, In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. (John 14:2)

Kaitlyn: And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. (John 14:3)

James: By faith Abraham dwelt in the land of promise as in a foreign country... for he waited for the city with foundations, whose builder and maker is God. (Hebrews 11:9-10)

NARRATOR: Now we too look forward to that heavenly home Jesus has prepared for us. And while we wait for His return, Jesus would have us tell others about His love and salvation. Our children have told us once again of our Savior's wondrous birth. Now, who can we tell?

ALL CHILDREN:
THANKS BE TO GOD FOR HIS INDESCRIBABLE GIFT!
(2 Corinthians 9:15)

Offering of our thankful hearts.

**CHRISTMAS PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER
BENEDICTION**



CONGREGATION SINGS: *Joy to the World*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.



Announcements on back cover

A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL

who are present this evening. May the joy of the Good News of our Savior's birth remain in your hearts and lives throughout the coming new year.

THANK YOU: to our children this evening for telling us the Good News of God the Father's great gift of His Son to all of mankind. Jesus is the only Savior for all people.

THANK YOU to our narrator, Tim Bank, to our choir; to our organist/pianist, Mrs. Karen Schaser; to our pianists, Mrs. Rachel Greve, Ms Schulz, to our flautist Ms. Rachel Schaser, to our Duettists David & Eric Dreyer; and to Mr. Matt Schaser for formatting/designing this evening's Christmas Program Booklet.

YOU ARE INVITED to continue your Christmas worship with us tomorrow morning in our Christmas Day Song Service at 10:00 a.m.

PARTICIPANTS:

Pastor: Mark Bernthal • **Teacher:** Jennifer Ohlmann

Organist/Pianist: Rachel Greve, Karen Schaser, Pam Schulz

Choir Director: Gail Schaefer

Children's Choir Director: Jennifer Ohlmann

Narrator: Tim Bank

Eighth Grade: James Schaser

Seventh Grade: Kaitlyn Brandle, Joshua Gerbitz

Second Grade: Peter Bank, Jonathan Brandle

Pre-school: Grant Ehle, Jonah Greve, Seth Greve

**Peace Thru Christ Lutheran
Church & School**

Church/Office (608) 233-2244

Parsonage (608) 442-9986

3232 West Point Rd. Middleton,

Wisconsin 53562

middletonlutheran.org