

St. Luke's Saxonburg
310 West Main Street
724-352-2333
Stlks.com

9:30

Sunday, December 18, 2016

PRELUDE *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming - Mark Hayes*

THE GATHERING

Welcome/Announcements/Meet and Greet

Invocation

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

SOLO *Lift Up Your Eyes*

Lift Up Your Eyes

Congregational part:

The musical score is written on four staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/2 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Lift up your eyes and see the light sur - round you;
with ra - diant hope, il - lu - mi - nate the night.
Lift up your voice and sing, let earth and heav - en ring,
lift up your eyes and see the ev - er - last - ing light.

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LITANY

L: During Advent, we remember the light that shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.

C: Sorrow may last for the night, but joy comes in the morning.

L: For all who face the sting of loss, God's Word speaks:

C: Sorrow may last for the night, but joy comes in the morning.

L: For all who wrestle with the unknown of tomorrow, God's Word speaks:

C: Sorrow may last for the night, but joy comes in the morning.

L: For all who battle the questions that arise in the silence, God's Word speaks:

C: Sorrow may last for the night, but joy comes in the morning.

L: This morning we light four candles. When the darkness of life feels overwhelming, the first candle ignites our hope in God's unfailing truth. When the chaos of life seems all-consuming, the light of the second candle reveals the Prince of Peace. When humanity responds with senseless acts and hurtful words, the light of the third candle radiates God's command to love as we have been loved. The fourth candle reminds us that no matter what our circumstance, there is joy in the coming of Christ who opens our eyes to the everlasting light.



Offering *Jesus, Our Emmanuel*

Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Jesus, our Emmanuel.

We need Your presence more than we could ever tell,

Jesus, our Emmanuel.

(repeat)

Prayer and Dismissal of Children

Gathering Song *Bring Forth the Kingdom*

You are the salt for the earth, O people;

Salt for the kingdom of God!

Share the flavor of life, O people;

Life in the kingdom of God!

Refrain:

Bring forth the kingdom of mercy,

bring forth the kingdom of peace:

Bring forth the kingdom of justice,

bring forth the city of God.

**You are a light on the hill, O people;
Light for the city of God!
Shine so holy and bright, O people;
Shine for the kingdom of God!
(refrain)**

**You are a seed of the word, O people;
Bring for the kingdom of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice;
Grow in the kingdom of God!
(refrain)**

**We are a blest and a pilgrim people;
Bound for the kingdom of God!
Love our journey and love our homeland;
Love is the kingdom of God!
(refrain)**

Song of Praise *He Came Down*

**He came down that we may have hope
He came down that we may have hope
He came down that we may have hope
Hallelujah forevermore.**

**He came down that we may have peace
He came down that we may have peace
He came down that we may have peace
Hallelujah forevermore.**

**He came down that we may have love
He came down that we may have love
He came down that we may have love
Hallelujah forevermore.**

**He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
Hallelujah forevermore.**

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Prayer of the Day

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

L: Let us pray. . . .

C: Amen.

Response *Emmanuel*

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us; his name is called Emmanuel.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25

L: The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew, chapter one.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,”

which means, “God is with us.”²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

L: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Today's readings: Isaiah 7:10-16, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, Romans 1:1-7)

Message

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

The Prayer of Confession

C: Gracious God in Heaven, we bow before You to confess to You that we have sinned and done that which is evil in Your sight. We have walked in pride, we have not been as thankful, or forgiving as You would like us to be. Help us to show forth the fruits of Your Spirit, the love, joy and peace that You have shown to us. And forgive us for all our wrong doing, even those stubborn habits that we struggle with, for we pray this in the Name of Jesus our Lord, Amen.

L: In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
To those who believe in Jesus Christ
he gives the power to become the children of God
and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Musical Offering

Intercessory Prayers

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

The 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

L: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
In the Name of the Father, the Son ✝ and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Closing Song *Joy to the World (ELW 267)*

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Joy to the World - Marth Sherrill Kelsey*

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK: *Isaiah 52:7-10, Psalm 2,
Hebrews 1:1-6, John 1:1-14*

Attendance on Sunday, December 11, 2016

8:15	31	St. Luke's Lutheran Church
9:30	13	310 West Main Street
10:45	56	Saxonburg, PA 16056 724-352-2333
Kings Kidz	5	stlukechurch@consolidated.net
Nursery	2	
Total	107	

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