



St. Paul Lutheran Church

Christmas Eve — December 24, 2022





ST. PAUL CLINTONVILLE

31 North Park St
Clintonville, WI 54929
www.stpaulclintonville.com

Pastor Caleb Rothfuss
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Welcome Guests...

We are honored to have you with us here at St. Paul in Clintonville!

- **Guest Book:** Please sign our guest book near the doors to the worship area.
- **Restrooms:** If you need them, there are bathrooms just to the sides of the main entrance doors.
- **Children:** We are grateful and glad that they are here! If you feel the need to, you can take them to the parent's room or to the back gathering area. Let us know if there are other ways we can help you focus on the Word.
- **Changing Table:** If needed these are in the parent's room and downstairs restrooms.
- **Communion:** guests, please talk with our pastor before coming up for communion so that we can talk about what we believe about it first.

This church is part of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. wels.net



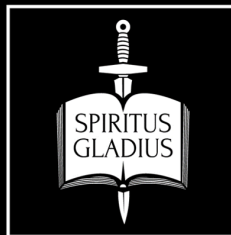
Our Focus Today...

A SAVIOR BORN TO DWELL AMONG US

For centuries on Christmas Day the Church has read chapter one of St. John's Gospel. There, in just a few simple words, Scripture describes the indescribable: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (John 1:14). The word God had spoken in the Garden, promising to send a Savior who was part of mankind, came true. God himself became flesh and blood—to be born under law, to suffer, and to die that he might redeem us.

The Greek word translated "made his dwelling" can also be translated "pitched his tent." That word describes a temporary dwelling place. God came into our broken world to dwell for a time, so that one day we might go to God's perfect home and dwell for all eternity.

Unlike those Christmas Eve shepherds, we cannot see Christ with our eyes. Yet still he dwells among us. For he is the Word made flesh. As we listen to the Word today, we truly are hearing the voice of Christ. As we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we partake of his true body and blood. In Word and sacrament, still today, our Savior dwells among us, feeding our faith, preparing us for our true home.



Vision

Our passion for the Gospel will make us the chosen place of worship in our community.

Mission

We will share the life giving and inerrant Word of God as written in the Bible.

Core Values

We will proclaim the law and the gospel so that all may have eternal life.

The Advent Candles

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light:

On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.

Isaiah 9:2

For 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**

Isaiah 9:6

Christ himself has come down from heaven, has become incarnate
of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and has become fully human.

Isaiah 53:4

He shared in our humanity.

**By his death destroyed the devil and the power of death,
and freed us from fear and slavery forever.**

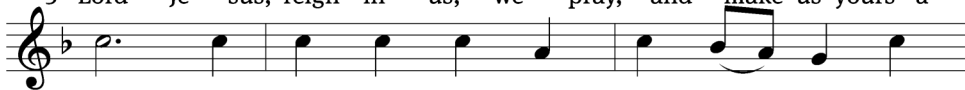
Hebrews 2:14-15

Hymn 381

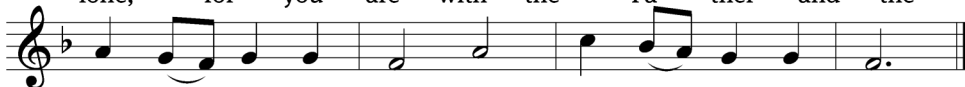
The People Who in Darkness Walked



1 The peo - ple who in dark - ness walked have seen a glo - rious
2 To us a child of hope is born, to us a son is
3 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, the Ev - er - last - ing
4 His right - eous gov - ern - ment and pow'r shall o - ver all ex -
5 Lord Je - sus, reign in us, we pray, and make us yours a -



light; the heav'n - ly dawn broke forth on those who
giv'n, and on his shoul - ders ev - er rests all
Lord, the Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, the
tend; on judg - ment and on jus - tice based, his
lone, for you are with the Fa - ther and the



dwelt in death and night, who dwelt in death and night.
pow'r in earth and heav'n, all pow'r in earth and heav'n.
God by all a - dored, the God by all a - dored.
reign shall have no end, his reign shall have no end.
Spir - it ev - er one, the Spir - it ev - er one.



Antiphons of Advent

The Great O Antiphons of Advent have been cherished for centuries by Christian worshipers. Each one consists of a title given to Christ in the Old Testament and a petition asking him to come and fulfill the Scriptural promise or prophecy.

*"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.
Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and shall call his name Immanuel."*

— Isaiah 7:14

Emmanuel, our king and our Lord, the anointed of the nations and their Savior, Come and save us, O Lord our God.

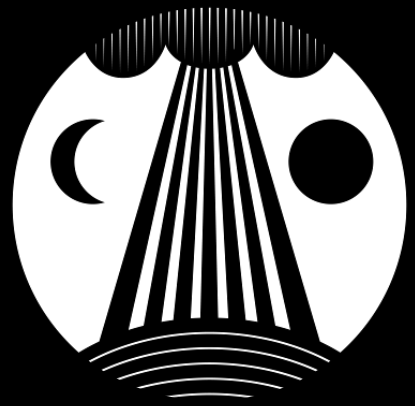
**Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel!**

"And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord."

— Isaiah 11:2-3

O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the most High, pervading and permeating all creation, mightily order all things; come and teach us the way of prudence.

**Oh, come, our Wisdom from on high,
who ordered all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel!**



"...but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins."

— Isaiah 11:4-5

O Adonai and ruler of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the Law on Sinai; come with an outstretched arm and redeem us.

**Oh, come, oh, come, our Lord of might,
who to your tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times gave holy law,
in cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel!**

"There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious."

— Isaiah 11:1,10

O root of Jesse, standing as an ensign before the peoples, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage; come quickly to deliver us.

**Oh, come, o Rod of Jesse's stem,
from every foe deliver them
That trust your mighty pow'r to save,
bring them in victory through the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel!**



*"And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David.
He shall open, and none shall shut;
and he shall shut, and none shall open."*

— Isaiah 22:22

O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and no one can close, you close and no one can open; come and rescue the prisoners who are in darkness and the shadow of death.

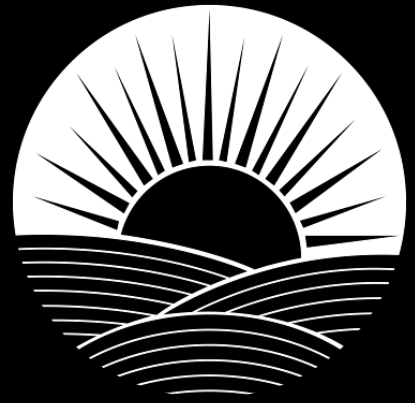
**Oh, come, O Key of David, come
and open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high
and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel!**

*"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great
light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them
has light shone."*

— Isaiah 9:2

O Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting, come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

**Oh, come, our Dayspring from on high
and cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
and death's dark shadows out to flight
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel!**



*"He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide
disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their
spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword
against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore."
— Isaiah 2:4*

○ King of the nations, the ruler they long for, the
cornerstone for uniting all people, come and save us all,
whom you formed out of clay.

**Oh, come, Desire of nations, bind
in one the hearts of all mankind;
Oh, bid our sad divisions cease
and be yourself the king of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel!**

Old Testament Lesson *Numbers 9:15-23*

*God Tabernacled Himself amongst His fallen people, and
he led them.*

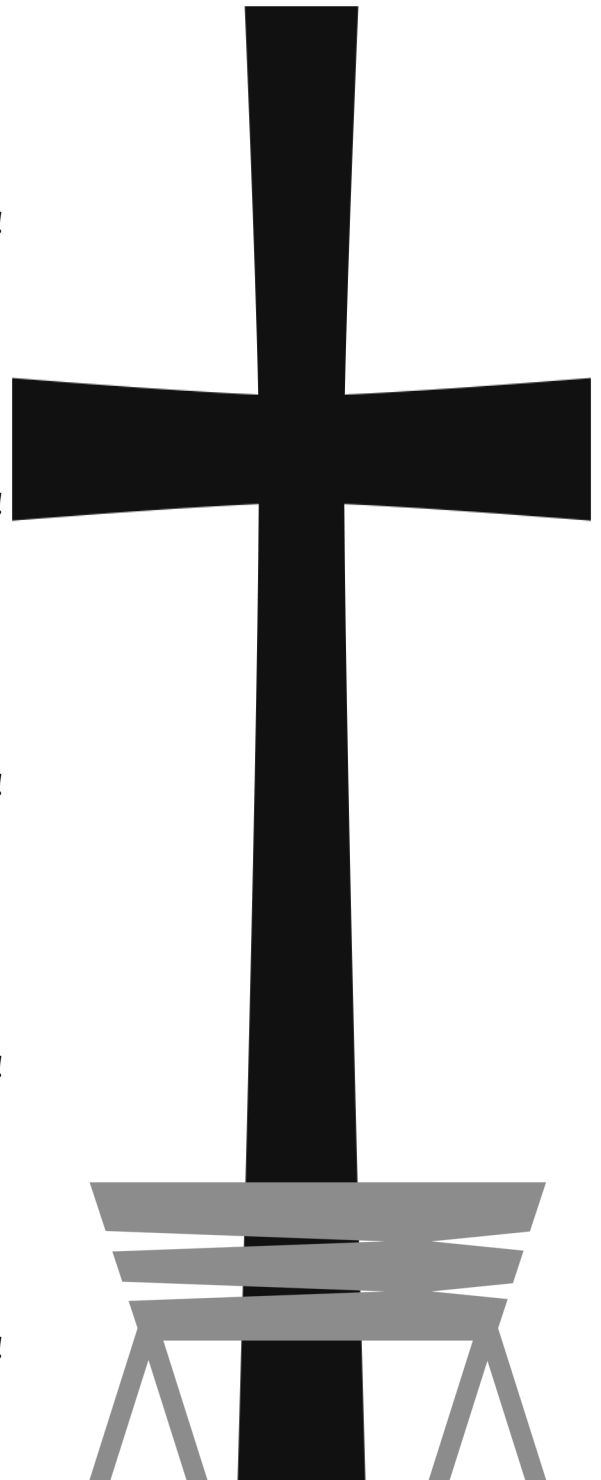
¹⁵ On the day the tabernacle, the tent of the covenant law, was set up, the cloud covered it. From evening till morning the cloud above the tabernacle looked like fire. ¹⁶ That is how it continued to be; the cloud covered it, and at night it looked like fire. ¹⁷ Whenever the cloud lifted from above the tent, the Israelites set out; wherever the cloud settled, the Israelites encamped. ¹⁸ At the LORD's command the Israelites set out, and at his command they encamped. As long as the cloud stayed over the tabernacle, they remained in camp. ¹⁹ When the cloud remained over the tabernacle a long time, the Israelites obeyed the LORD's order and did not set out. ²⁰ Sometimes the cloud was over the tabernacle only a few days; at the LORD's command they would encamp, and then at his command they would set out. ²¹ Sometimes the cloud stayed only from evening till morning, and when it lifted in the morning, they set out. Whether by day or by night, whenever the cloud lifted, they set out. ²² Whether the cloud stayed over the tabernacle for two days or a month or a year, the Israelites would remain in camp and not set out; but when it lifted, they would set out. ²³ At the LORD's command they encamped, and at the LORD's command they set out. They obeyed the LORD's order, in accordance with his command through Moses.



Hymn

The Glory of the Lord

1. The glory of the Lord was there
On Sinai's barren peak.
As smoke and thunder filled the air
All knees and hearts went weak.
And as the fire began to swell
Their speechless mouths did say:
The Lord has come with man to dwell!
Be still, my soul, and pray.
2. The glory of the Lord was there
Within that desert tent
Between the wings of that blest pair
Of angels, humbly bent.
Few eyes could see, few lips could tell
That room's great mystery:
The Lord has come with man to dwell!
Come now, my soul, and see.
3. The glory of the Lord was there
That wondrous, awe-filled night,
When hosts of angels did declare
To shepherds in their fright
With songs no voice could e'er excel
Good news for all below:
The Lord has come with man to dwell!
Haste now, my soul, and go.
4. The glory of the Lord was there
In Mary's warm embrace
Clothed not in thunder now to scare,
But wrapped in peace and grace
Our deepest fears and doubts to quell
Our deepest hurts to heal—
The Lord has come with man to dwell!
Behold, my soul, and kneel.
5. The glory of the Lord is here
Beneath the water clear,
Beneath the bread and wine so dear,
Beneath the word we hear.
They save us from the fear of hell
And life eternal bring.
The Lord has come with man to dwell!
Rejoice, my soul, and sing!



Tabernacled God dwelled among us



New Testament Reading *John 1 selected sections*

God Tabernacled Himself amongst His fallen people

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.

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.

Hymn 338

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing



1 On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to hear the news the
2 When sin de - parts be - fore his grace, then life and health come
3 All out of dark - ness we have light, which made the an - gels



an - gels bring, on Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing to
in its place, when sin de - parts be - fore his grace, then
sing this night, all out of dark - ness we have light, which



hear the news the an - gels bring, news of great joy, news
life and health come in its place; an - gels and saints with
made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry to God and



of great mirth, news of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
joy may sing, all for to see the new - born King.
peace to men now and for - ev - er - more. A - men."

Christmas Eve Prayer

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

He was with God in the beginning.

Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

Through him all things were made;
without him nothing was made that has been made.

In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.
**He was in the world, and though the world was made through him,
the world did not recognize him.**

Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.
**Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name,
he gave the right to become children of God**

Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.
**We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only,
who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another.
**For the law was given through Moses;
grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.**

Oh, come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!



Hymn 345

Hymn 340

Hymn 344

Hymn 337

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

Away in a Manger

What Child is This

Silent Night, Holy Night



Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

¹ Where shepherds lately knelt and kept the angel's word,
I come in half-belief, a pilgrim strangely stirred;
but there is room and welcome there for me,
but there is room and welcome there for me.

² In that unlikely place I find him as they said:
sweet newborn babe, how frail! And in a manger bed:
a still, small voice to cry one day for me,
a still, small voice to cry one day for me.

³ How should I not have known Isaiah would be there,
his prophecies fulfilled? With pounding heart I stare:
a child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,
a child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.

⁴ Can I, will I forget how Love was born, and burned
its way into my heart—unasked, unforced, unearned,
to die, to live, and not alone for me,
to die, to live, and not alone for me?

Away in a Manger

Hymn 340

1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and take us to heaven to live with you there.



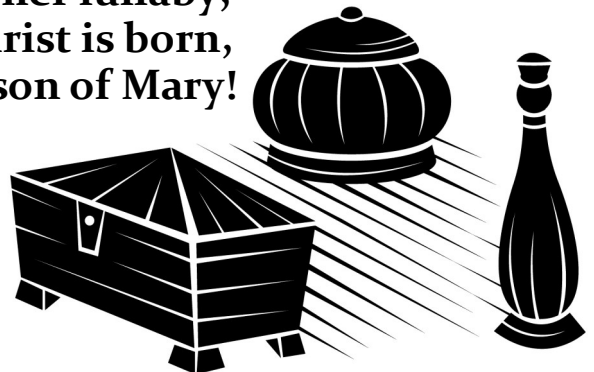
What Child is This

Hymn 344

1 What child is this who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping,
whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

2 Why lies he in such mean estate
where oxen now are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh,
the babe, the son of Mary!

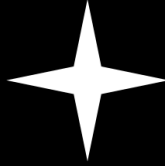
3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary!



Silent Night Holy Night

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 beams from thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

