

Lighting of the Candles

*In a moment, the ushers will light their candles from the Christ Candle. They will light candles from the aisles.
As you light your candle, please hold the lit candle upright, and tip unlit candles to light.*

Prayers of the Church

L: God of grace,

C: Receive our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Reading

John 1:1-5, 14 and 1 John 1:5

Silent Night, Holy Night

V1. 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.

V2. 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!

V3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Extinguish Candles

Benediction

L: Let us go from this place proclaiming that we have seen the glory of God, believing there is light that shines in the darkness, which darkness shall not overcome. And may the love of the Father, the joy of the Holy Spirit and the peace of Christ be with you this Christmas and always.

C: Amen.

Joy To The World / Unspeakable Joy

V1. Joy to the World! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King. Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

V2. Joy to the world! The Savior reigns; let all their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
Joy, unspeakable joy!

Chorus An overflowing well; no tongue can tell!
Joy, unspeakable joy! It rises in my soul, never lets me go!

V3. 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!

Chorus

Sending

L: Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

C: Thanks be to God.



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

DECEMBER 24, 2024

4:30 P.M.

FIRST ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

501 N. Burlington Ave. Hastings, NE 68901

402-463-1329 | info@firststpauls.org

 @firststpauls

Pastor Joel Remmers, Senior Pastor
Pastor Chad Power, Associate Pastor

Prelude
Welcome | Announcements | Greeting
Children's Sermon
Cherub Choir

**"5 Little Candles"
"Jesus was His Name"**

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, Let Nothing You Dismay.

V1. God rest ye merry gentlemen, let nothing you dismay.
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas Day;
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

V2. From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same;
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy!

(Repeat first verse.)

Confession

L: Merciful God, always with us, always coming:

C: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season. Forgive us, God. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us. Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his coming. Amen.

Reading

Luke 2:1-7

L: In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus.

C: He decreed that all the world should be registered.

L: Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David.

C: He went to Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house of David.

L: He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

C: She gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Joyful Noises

"Great Things"

Reading

Luke 2:8-14

L: In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them:

C: "Do not be afraid; for see I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people; to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger."

L: Suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying:

C: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Hope was Born that Night

V1. Tonight I can see a star shine and its splendor fills up the sky
It's the same that appeared and the wise men revered, When hope was born this night

V2. Out upon the snowy fields, There's a silent peace that heals
And it echoes the grace of our Savior's embrace Because hope was born this night

Chorus: Glory to God in the highest, Peace on Earth, good will to all men
Let all of the world sing the chorus of joy because hope was born this night

V3. I can hear the Christmas bells ring as softly as a church choir sings
It's the song used to praise the ancient of days, When hope was born this night

V4. There are angels in this place and my heart resounds with the praise
Like a shepherd so scared, I'll rejoice and declare, That hope was born this night

Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Gloria, Oh Gloria

Gloria, Gloria, Oh Gloria, Gloria, Gloria

I know hope was born this night
Because Christ was born this night

Reading

Luke 2:15-20

L: When the angels had left them, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us."

C: They went with haste and found Mary, Joseph and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.

L: But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

Opening Prayer

L: Almighty God,

C: You have brought us together tonight to celebrate your great love for us, demonstrated in the gift of your beloved Son. Open our eyes to the light of Christ, which shines in the darkness of a world broken by sin. Bring us into the wonder of your presence, so that we may hear the good news of great joy that is Jesus. Amen.

Hallelujah

V1. He is here, the Saviour has been born.
The one we've waited for, surrounded by our praises.

V2. He is here, the promise of the King,
to You our lives we bring, let Your glory be revealed.

Chorus Joy to the world, peace to all who love Him.
The Saviour has been born and all of heaven smiles.

Glory to God, we bring an offering to You;
join with all the angels singing, "Hallelujah!"

Repeat V1, V2 & Chorus

Ending Hallelujah! Allelu, Hallelujah! Allelu, Hallelujah! Allelu,
Hallelujah! Allelu.

Gospel Reading

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

Offering

Organ Offertory

Matthew 2:1-2, 11-12

Pastor Joel Remmers



The staff of First St. Paul's wishes the congregation and visitors a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We are truly blessed to serve you and with you, as United, we live God's will. We look forward to where God will lead us in 2025.

Dates to Remember

December 31st: Gifts and Offerings you would like credited to 2024 should be to the Church Office, Attn: Megan by 5:00 p.m. or may be placed in the offering plate during services on December 28th & 29th.

January 1st: Office will be closed.

January 1st: No Ichthus

January 8th: Wednesday Evening Ichthus resumes.

Emergency Numbers During the Holidays

Pastor Joel Remmers (402) 984 - 6866

Church Office (402) 463 - 1329

Thank you to our Worship Volunteers

Ushers: Liz Schroeder, Eric & Jessica Walston, Blake Treat and Robert Willicott

Acolyte: Paetyn Fitzke

Worship Assistant: Pastor Chad Power

Musicians: Robin Schilling, Emma Schroeder, Angie Buhr, Marty & Angie Pinkerman, Jeff Morris and John Bonham

Media Team: Darrin Nienhueser and Lisa Diecker

Choir Directors: Kim Remmers and Kristen Janda



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