

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAY CREEK
24686 OLD CHURCH ROAD, RED WING, MN 55066
www.immanuel-lcms.org

Pastor: Rev. Lowell Sorenson, 388-4577
Korean Missionary: Pastor Patrick O'Neal

Organist: Sara Sorenson
Acolyte: Jordan Taylor

Christmas Eve Worship Service – 4:00 p.m. December 24, 2009

VISITORS – We welcome you to this house of prayer this afternoon. May you feel at home among friends as we worship together. We invite you to sign your name in the guest book in the back of the church and hope you will return again soon.

Organ Prelude

Choral Prelude: "Behold a Simple, Tender Babe" Southwell/Buszin

Ringin of the Bell

Opening Hymn: #362, "O Sing of Christ"

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P: Beloved in the Lord! Even as we celebrate on this night the birth of Jesus, we are mindful of why we need a Savior. We are sinners. Let us therefore confess our sins unto God our Father.

(Silence for self-examination)

P: Gracious Father:

C: We have sinned against You and our neighbors. We have failed to keep Christ central in our Christmas preparations. We have been frantically preoccupied with the frivolous things of the season while neglecting our neighbors in need. Forgive us, Lord, for our greed and selfishness. Forgive us for our failure to worship You as we ought. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who was born to save us from our

sin, forgive us all our transgressions of thought, word, and deed. And by the power of the Holy Spirit, help us to live a new life in the Lord.

P: Hear and believe the Good News! The Savior is born for you and me. Our heavenly Father has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise: #368, "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Collect of the Day

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: Psalm 98:1-2, 4 (prayed responsively)

P: Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things;

C: His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.

P: The Lord has made His salvation known

C: and revealed His righteousness to the nations.

P: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth,

C: burst into jubilant song with music.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Epistle Titus 3:4-7

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Choral Offering: "A Child Is Born In Bethlehem" Arr. Marie Pooler

Holy Gospel Luke 2:1-20 (KJV)

Responses

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

Apostles' Creedsee back cover of the hymnal

Hymn of the Day: #387, "Joy to the World"

Sermon: "Christmas Through the Eyes of a Child"

Offering

Hymn: #366, "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

Prayer of the Church

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayersee back cover of the hymnal

Benediction

Closing Hymn: #363, "Silent Night, Holy Night"

(During this hymn, individual candles will be lit and the sanctuary will gradually get darker.)

Departing Words (John 1:4-5)

P: In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it. Go in peace.

C: Amen.

Postlude