

Christmas Eve Worship

December 24, 2021



St. John's Lutheran Church of Parkville

www.stjohnsparkville.org

(410) 665-1234

After hour emergency: (443) 844-9314

Office@stjohnsparkville.org

Text SJPARKVILLE to 22828 to join our email list.

December 24, 2021

**Christmas Eve Worship
(11 am & 7:30 pm)**

TOLLING THE BELL AND WELCOME

PRELUDE

(11 am)

Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head

Brass Quartet

(Arr. © 2017 Ken Young)

(7:30 pm)

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Handbell Choir

(Music: Richard Storrs Willis; arr. Linda R. Lamb © 2003 Alfred Publishing Co., Inc.)

Please stand as you are able.

GATHERING HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ELW 283 (vv. 1, 2)

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

2 For Christ is born of Mary,
and, gathered all above
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king,
and peace to all the earth!

(Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893; Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908; Brass arr. © Lewis R. Redner)

PROCLAMATION

P. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C. **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

P. Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

C. **We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

P. For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C. **In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

P. May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.

C. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE *Love Has Come*

ELW 292 (v. 1)

- 1 Love has come—a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

(Text: Ken Bible; Music: F. Seguin, Recueil de noels composes en langue provencale, 1856; Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna Music)

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION AND PROCESSION

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

ELW 275 (v. 1)

- 1 Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

(Text: James Morngomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts.. 1-3; Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, st. 4; Music: Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879)

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David

called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 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. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock 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, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the 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 bands of cloth and 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 heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what has been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

ELW 275 (v. 4)

- 4 All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ,
the newborn king.

(Text: James Morngomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts.. 1-3; Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, st. 4; Music: Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879)

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

On Christmas Night

ELW 274

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring.
On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring:
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful king's birth. | 2 Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our redeemer made us glad?
Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free,
all for to gain our liberty? |
| 3 When sin departs before his face,
then life and health come in its place.
When sin departs before his face,
then life and health come in its place.
Angels rejoice with us and sing,
all for to see the newborn king. | 4 All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night.
All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God in highest heav'n;
peace on earth, and goodwill. Amen." |

(Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt.; Music: English traditional)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

After each petition Merciful God,
 Receive our prayer.

PEACE The peace of the Lord be with you always.
 And also with you.

We offer each other a sign of God's peace. Afterwards, the assembly is seated.

MEAL

OFFERTORY MUSIC

(11 am) *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* *arr. Robert Lau*
(© 2016 Lorenz Publishing Co.)

(7:30 pm) *Would I Miss the Miracle?* *Adult Choir*
(Text: Pamela Stewart; Music: Douglas Nolan; © 2011 Hal Leonard)

*An offering is gathered for the mission and ministry of God's Church.
Please stand as you are able.*

OFFERING HYMN

What Child is This

ELW 296 (vv. 1, 3)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 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! | 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! |
|---|---|

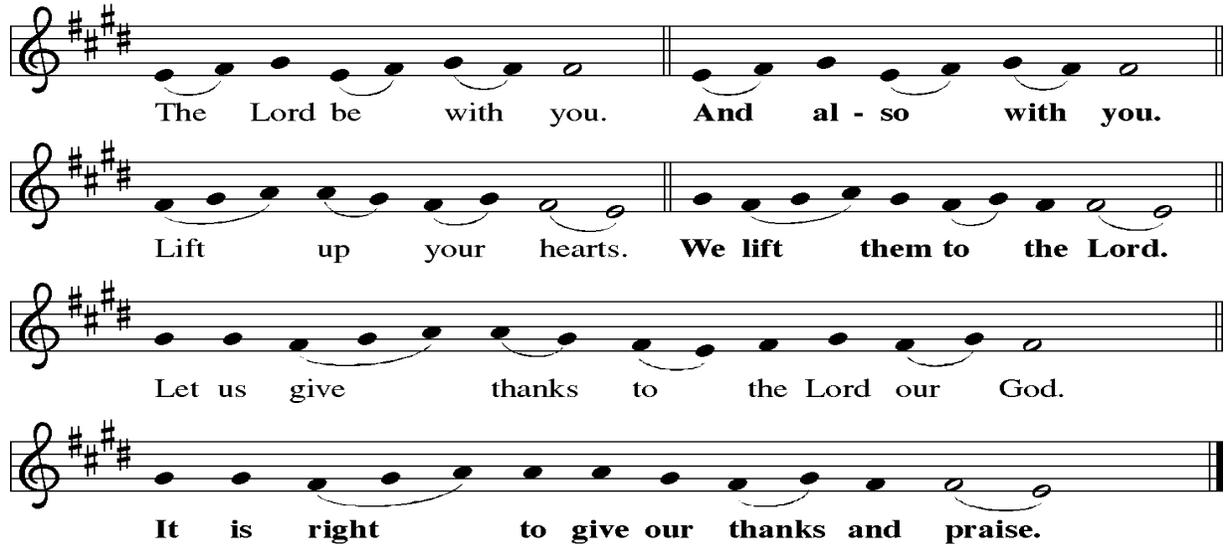
(Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898; Music: English ballad, 16th cent.)

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

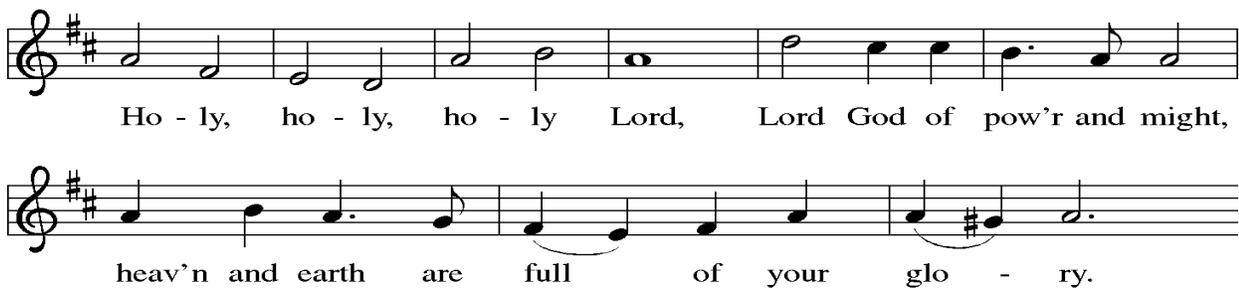
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

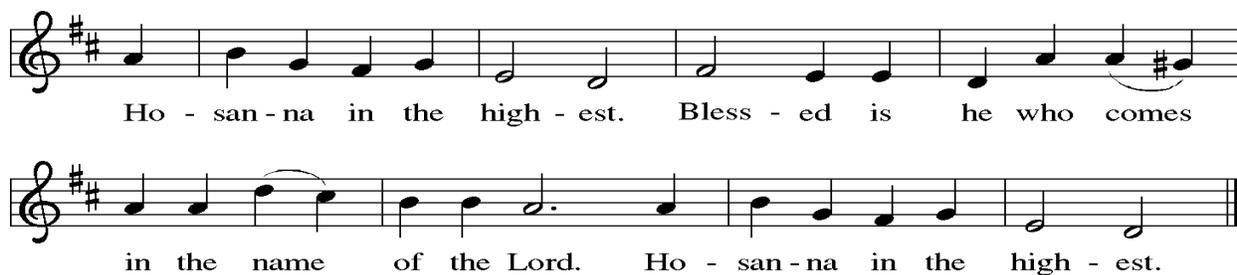
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



EUCARISTIC PRAYER

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he come.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor in yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

Let us pray together.

**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.**

FRACTURE

The breaking of the bread.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

COMMUNION

The body and Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Away in A Manger

ELW 277

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his 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 cradle till 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 fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

(Text: North American, 19th cent.; Music: James R. Murray, 1841-1905)

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

ELW 276

- 1 Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing,
bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child is Lord of all!
- 2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!

(Text: Polish carol, tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt.; Music: Polish carol)

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

ELW 270

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
- 2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*
- 3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

(Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.; Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915)

Please stand as you are able.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

HYMN (*11 am only*)

Silent Night, Holy Night!

ELW 281

- | | |
|---|--|
| 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 your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth. | |

(Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885; Music: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863)

THE CANDLE LIGHTING (*7:30 pm only*)

INTRODUCTION *Candle light is passed by tilting unlit candle over lit one*

SCRIPTURE

JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

HYMN (7:30 pm only)

Silent Night, Holy Night!

ELW 281

- 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.
- 3 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.

- 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!

(Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885; Music: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863)

After the hymn is sung, please extinguish candle.

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful

ELW 283 (vv. 1-3)

- 1 O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the king of
angels:
- 2 The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!
Refrain
- 3 *Refrain*
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord
- 3 Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest: *Refrain*

(Text: attr. John Francis Wads, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; Music: attr. John Francis Wade; brass arr. © 2017 Randy Calistri-Yeh)

We turn to face the Cross.

The congregation remains standing while the candles are extinguished.

DISMISSAL

- A. Glory to God in the highest!
C. Peace to God's people on earth!
A. Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.
C. Thanks be to God!

Announcements

The beautiful flowers gracing our worship service today are given by the Jasinski family in memory of our parents and grandparents, Doris and Lyle Subock and Lena and Andy Jasinski.

- Thank you Altar Guild & Friends for all the time and work you put into the “greening” of our Sanctuary and for all the additional preparations you do for our Christmas Eve Services – you give us a special gift of Christmas beauty!
- A special thanks to the brass players for providing music at the 11 am service.
Alan Meyers, trumpet ~ Julia Christofersen, trumpet ~ Corwin Neat, trombone ~ Chris Jones, tuba
- Please leave your poinsettias until after the 7:30 pm service tonight. If you are unable to pick them up at that time, please call the church office at 410-665-1234 to make arrangements to pick them up.
- The church office will be closed on Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24th
- Join us on Sunday, December 26th at 10 am for our Lessons and Carols Service



We are taking flower dedications for 2022. The dates available are: January 2nd, February 6th and 27th, March 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th, April 3rd, 10th and 17th, May 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th. Contact Rachel Hills at rm_hills@yahoo.com if you would like to sponsor the flowers.

The Busy Bees invite you to participate in their Jelly and Jam Sale. Order forms are on the third floor counter, in the weekly emails, and on the website. You may also contact the church office to place your order.



Social Ministry is participating in the “Food For Thought Program”. With your help, we are providing weekend take home food bags for children in need. This program would not be possible without the help of our congregation and community. **Our greatest need at this time is chicken & tuna salad kits, Chef boyardee single serving meals and pudding cups.**

Those Serving Today	11 am	7:30 pm
Assisting Minister	Claire Miller	Lee Smith
Crucifer	Simon Blazakis (C)	Karli Cappucci (C)
Acolyte (s)	Eva Schwartz-Mitchell	
Lector	Milt Dutcher	Judy Jasinski
Communion Assistant	Milt Dutcher	Judy Jasinski
Ushers	Michelle Akire, Jeannette Dutcher, Tony & Vickie Jasinski, Joan Kraft, Robin Dibley	Vickie & Tony Jasinski, Keith & Lisa Duerling, Sue Addison, Megan Schoenfliess

STAFF

Joseph Lettrich, Interim Pastor	M. Claire Miller, OSSD Deacon
Carol Erpenstein, Church Secretary	Martha Requard, Director of Music

Scott Becker, Sexton



stjohnsparkville



St. John's Lutheran Church Parkville



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May the Blessings of The
Christ Child...

Hope & Peace, Joy & Love...
Fill Your Christmas with Light
And Your Hearts with Joy!