

Ushers: Christmas Day – Please Volunteer to Help
Next Week – Russ Schuld & Justin Draeger

Greeters: Christmas Day – Please Volunteer to Help
Next Week – Richard & Shirley Pfeifer

Announcements

Tuesday, December 25 – Christmas Day
9 am Worship

Wednesday, December 26

Thursday, December 27

Friday, December 28

Saturday, December 29
No Worship

Sunday, December 30
No Bible Class
9 am Worship

Monday, December 31 – Christmas Eve
4 pm & 7 pm Worship with Holy Communion

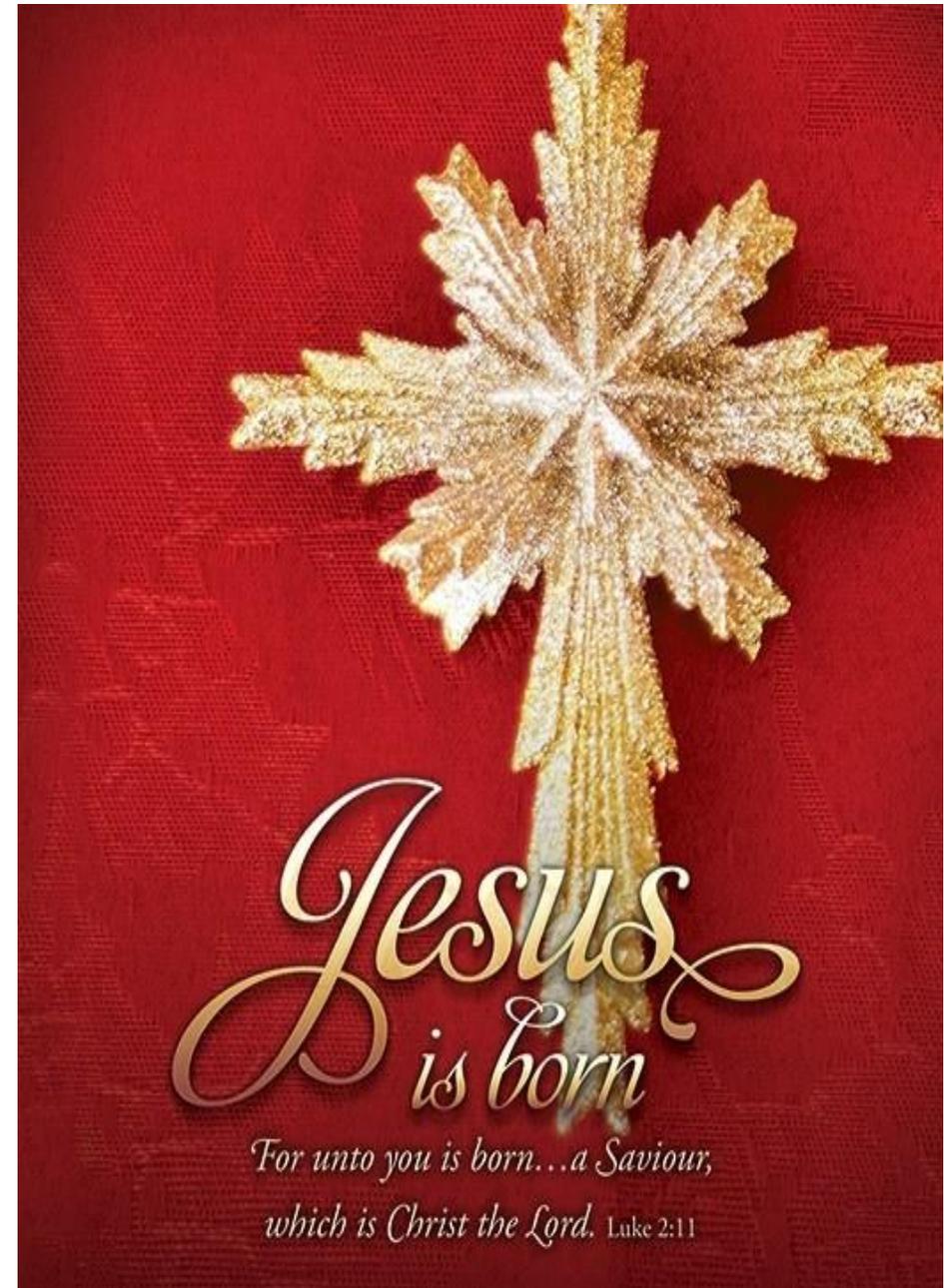
Tuesday, January 1 – New Year's Day
No Worship Service



St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church

Helenville, WI 53137

December 25, 2018 – Christmas Day



Pastor Mark Swanson

Organist: Wendy Winkler

We Welcome You!

We Celebrate the Birth of our Savior King! His kingdom has come just as was promised! We joyfully journey to the manger and exclaim, "What Child is this?!" May our Gracious Father grant you a most blessed Christmas with the joy that is yours of knowing this precious Child of Bethlehem as your Lord and Savior!

Preservice - Mary Did You Know? – Rachel Mortenson

Opening Hymn: 34 – *Now Sing We, Now Rejoice*

INVOCATION:

M: In the name of the Father

C: **Who so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son.**

M: In the name of the Son

C: **Who was wrapped in human flesh in the first Christmas**

M: In the name of the Holy Spirit

C: **Who makes our hearts Christ's manger. Amen**

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

M: Dear Lord, we come to you this Christmas Day confessing our sins. Our hearts often resemble that crowded inn in Bethlehem. We have decorated our homes;

C: **But not our lives.**

M: We have been busy with many things

C: **And have forgotten the One Thing.**

M: We have delighted in the material

C: **And have neglected the spiritual.**

M: We have given presents to many people.

C: **And have forgotten about you.**

M: Forgive us for our worldliness,

C: **Our "busy-ness" which leaves little room for you in our lives.**

M: Remove the clutter in our lives

C: **And make our hearts you home.**

M: Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C: **Amen**

lamb of sacrifice. He came to die and rise again in order that we might live eternally. Firmly implant this good news in our hearts, and fill us with an eager desire to spread the Word concerning what we have heard tonight.

C: May all who hear the message, in every nation under heaven, be amazed and believe what is told them about the child.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

M: You sent Jesus as the Light of the world to drive out all darkness that would rob us of the full life that you intend for us. May the "joy that will be for all people" be our joy. May the "peace on earth to all on whom his favor rests" be our peace. May the treasure that Mary pondered in her heart be our treasure.

C: For today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to us. He is Christ, the Lord. Amen.

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.

Anthem: Rejoice Greatly – Rachel Mortenson

Closing Prayer:

M: God of our salvation, as you have brought us to faith in the Christ Child, so we ask that you would work powerfully also in the hearts of those who do not yet know him or who do not know him in truth. Grant that the world's attention to the Christ Child may not be only a seasonal attraction or a sentimental novelty. Rather, bring sinners to faith that they may see him as the answer to life's problems here and the sure hope of life eternal in heaven with you.

C: **Amen**

Closing Hymn: 61 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Confession of Faith: *We confess our faith in the Christ Child using Martin Luther's Explanation to the Meaning of the 2nd Article.*

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death. All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

Anthem: Hymn 55 – O Come, All Ye Faithful
– Neil Lindemann, Vicki Milbrath, Todd Reschke & Janet Swanson

God's Word For Christmas: What Child is This?

1. Precious is the Child Foretold Isaiah 9:6-7

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. ⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

Hymn of Response 35 – Of the Father's Love Begotten

2. Precious is the Child's Purpose Isaiah 53:5-6

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. ⁶ We all, like sheep, have one astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Hymn of Response 54 – Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

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Hymn of Response 54 – Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

3. Precious is the Child's Blood Shed for Us 1 Peter 1:18-19

For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors,¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Hymn of Response 707 – Peace Came to Earth

4. Precious is the Child We Serve and Share 1 Peter 4:7-11

The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray.⁸ Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.⁹ Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling.¹⁰ Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.¹¹ If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn of Response 50 – Once In Royal David's City

Offering: *(Please remember to sign the Friendship Register.)*
What Child is This? - Rachel Mortenson & Jacob Winkler

Prayer of the Church:

M: Oh gracious and almighty Father, we praise you that you kept your ancient promises by sending your everlasting Son in human flesh.

C: Receive our thanks and devotion, our songs and prayers.

M: You sent Jesus as a lowly child to demonstrate your concern for all, the weak and lonely, the troubled and frightened, the timid and helpless. No one is overlooked by your ever-seeking eyes. No one is excluded from your upholding arms. No one is denied the comfort and help of your outstretched hand.

C: Bless us with a childlike faith in the divine assurance that you love and care for us always.

M: You sent Jesus as the Savior of the world to deliver all from the curse of sin, the power of death, and the torment of hell. He took our place. He was born under the law to set us free. He became the innocent

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