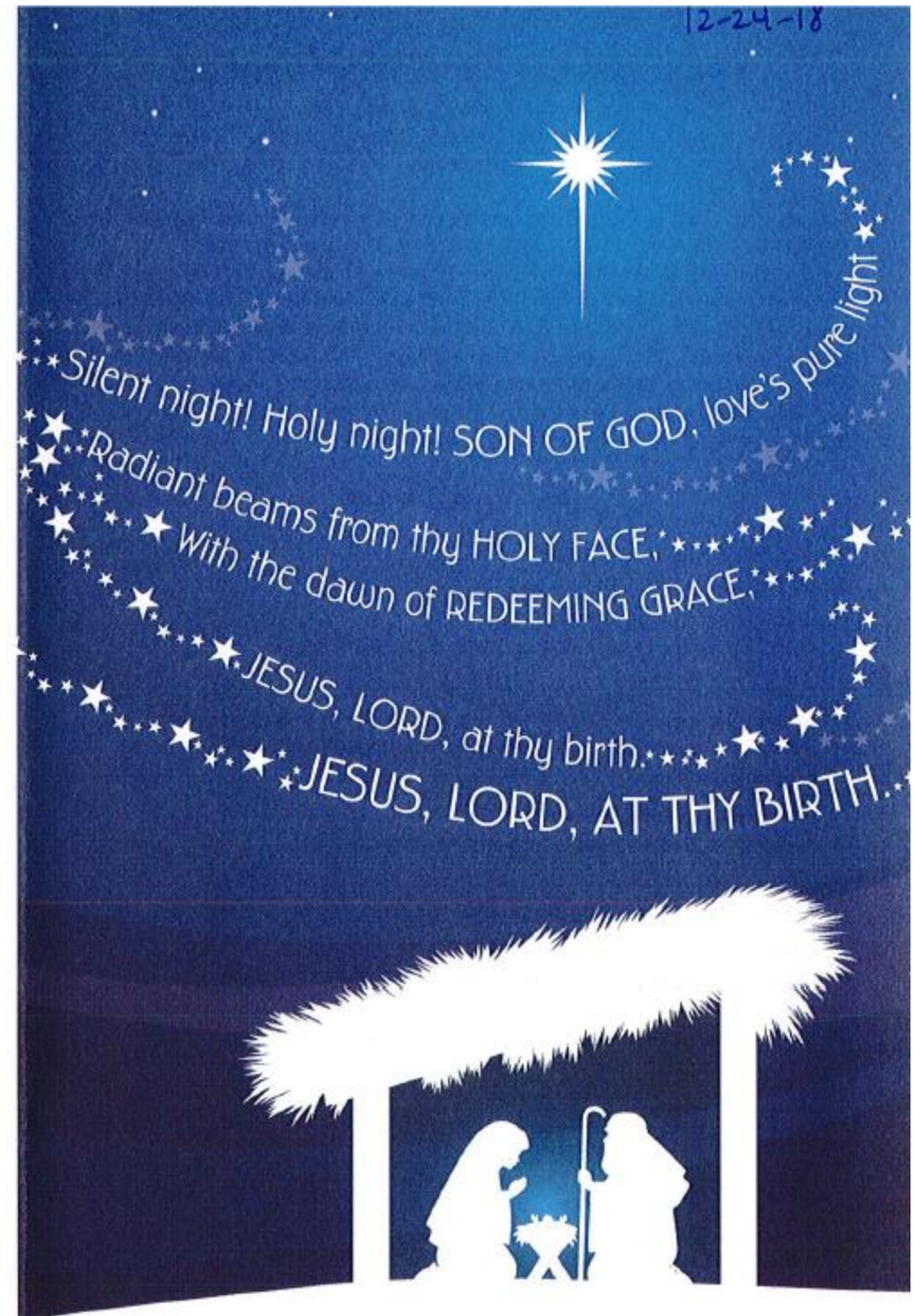


SERVING THE LORD IN OUR WORSHIP SERVICE:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Giles Zimmer
Elder: Jim Wyffels
Acolyte: Elizabeth Manthe
Soloist/Flute: Kelli Lenz
Piano/Organist: Cindy Wood

Please join us tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. for our Christmas Day Worship service. Also, please join us each Sunday morning for 9:00 am worship with fellowship at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School at 10:15 a.m. and Adult Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24, 2018
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Waseca, MN

This evening (in this service of light) we remember and celebrate the coming of the Christ Child in the flesh, who is truly our Savior from sin and their deadly consequences. He is described in the book of John with the words, "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" (John 1:4-5). He accomplished all that was necessary for our salvation with His suffering and death upon the cross. And now He has left the important task of spreading this message of salvation and light unto us (as we symbolize with the spreading of light at the end of the service). May the true joy of Christ's coming be with you this evening, and always!

The Order of Worship

- P: In the beginning was the Word
C: **And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**
- P: Through Him all things were made;
C: **And without Him nothing was made that has been made.**
- P: In Him was life, and that life was the light of men.
C: **The Word became flesh and lived for a while 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.**
- P: Who is this Word, the light of the world?
C: **The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**
- P: Who is He?
C: **The One born of the Virgin Mary, who lived, died, and rose for my salvation.**
- P: Who is He?
C: **Jesus Christ, my Savior and Lord!**

The Hymn of Joy: #380 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7

The Epistle Lesson: 1st John 4:7-16

Senior Choir: "Candlelight Christmas Canon"

The Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:1-20

The Sermon Hymn: #367 "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Sermon: "A Stable Lamp Is Lighted" (Matthew 1:18-25)

The Offering (Music w/flute: Oh, Come, Little Children)

The Prayers

The Candlelight Ceremony:

The pastor will light his candle from the altar candles, the assistants will light their candles from the pastor's candle, and they will then light the candle of the worshipper in each pew nearest the aisle. (It is requested that no lit candle be tipped to avoid dripping wax.)

The Candle Lighting Hymn: #363 stanzas 1 -2 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

(The organist will play through it once, and all who desire may sing the first stanza in the original German. We will then all join in singing the first and second stanzas in English.)

~~Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute, hochheilige Paar. Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar.
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh, Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.~~

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.

Silent Night! Holy Night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly host sing, Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

The Christmas Prayer

The Benediction

The Closing Hymn: #363 stanza 3 "Silent Night, Holy Night"

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.

(The candles are extinguished. Please keep the protectors on the candles, and place them in the box at the rear of the church as you leave. Thank you.)

Exiting Music: "Breath of Heaven" (Sr. Choir Ladies)
