COON VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 24, 2023 ~ 4:00 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

PRELUDE Mary Schultz

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG #283 Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

GREETING

The grace of the child born for us and the joy of the Son given to us be with you all.

**And also with you.**

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

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

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

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

To us a child is born, to us a son is given.

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

Let us celebrate the light of the Lord!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Today we light the four advent candles. The candles of hope, peace, joy and love. We also light the Christ Candle which stands in the center of the other four candles. All the advent candles find their fulfillment in the white Christ candle. Our hope, peace, joy and love are all fulfilled by Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, born in a manger. As we have received hope, peace, joy and love from Jesus, let us turn to the world around us this Christmas Season, share the hope, peace, joy and love we have been given and call all to come to Jesus Christ and be filled with the Spirit of God.

PRAYER:

Let us pray together.

Holy God, **As we see these candles bring light into this place, so bring the light of Christ into our hearts, that we may live and the hope, peace, joy and love of Jesus Christ with all the world. Amen.**

Hymn #715 Christ Be Our Light verse #5

THE PROPHESY

Isaiah 9:2-7

THE CHRISTMAS GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-20

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

PIANO SOLO Jesu Joy of Man’s Desiring Deanna Wichman

SERMON

SERMON SONG #270 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

PRAYERS

*Hear us, O God…Your mercy is great.*

PEACE

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given. And he is named Prince of Peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

HYMN #271 I am So Glad Each Christmas Eve Brian Rude

*Verse 1 sung by Brian Rude; Congregation, please join on verse 2-5*

OFFERING SOLO O Holy Night Mary Schultz

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Good and loving God, **we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. Bless the gifts we offer this day, and let them be a blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all the earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son. Amen.**

THE 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.**

CANDLELIGHTING and STORY OF SILENT NIGHT David Schultz

Silent Night, Holy Night

**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! Shepherd’s quake at the sight;**

**Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia!”**

**Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!**

**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!**

BENEDICTION

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the Magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. Amen. 

RECESSIONAL SONG ELW #267 Joy to the World!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the Good News! **Thanks be to God!**



COON VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

**CHRISTMAS EVE** ~ 2023

**~**Bulletins are in memory of Gordon “Butch” Jacobson from Orrin & Becky Stakston

**~**Bulletins are also in memory of Maline Stakston from Garland & Karen McGarvey

**~**One Poinsettia is in memory of Judy Denison from Ilene Gustofson

All additional poinsettias are in memory of Judy Denison from Pauline Aspenson

**Soloist:** Brian Rude

**Piano Solo:** Deanna Wichman

**Head Usher:** Pat & Kim Cade & family

**SCHEDULE**

**TOMORROW: 9:00am/**Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion

**WEDNESDAY: 9:00-11:00a/**Office Open; **9:30am/**Last day and time to submit offerings for 2023.

**Holiday office hours: Pastor Jim will be off the week of Dec. 26-Jan. 2, (he will be on-call for emergencies). Jamie will be on vacation and the office will also be closed Dec. 25, 26, 28, 29-Jan. 2. The office will be open on Dec. 27 from 9:00-11:00am. In this time if there is an emergency or urgent request, please contact Pr. Jim or Jamie. Thank you for allowing us this time away during the holidays!**

**Offering envelopes are available. They are located on a table in the Dining Room.** Please pick them up for family, friends or neighbors!

**The last day to submit offering for 2023 is Wednesday, December 27th at 9:30am. Thank you for your continued support!**

**Coon Valley Lutheran Church**

[**www.coonvalleylutheranchurch.org**](http://www.coonvalleylutheranchurch.org)

**Interim Pastor:** Jim Scaife

**Office Administrator:** Jamie Thomas, [jamiel@mwt.net](mailto:jamiel@mwt.net)

**Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9:00a-4:00p**

Office452-3772/Cell 317-0007

**Treasurer:** Becky Lusk, [treasurer1005@mwt.net](mailto:treasurer1005@mwt.net)

**Organist:** Mary Schultz

**Indoor Custodian:** Tracy Stellner

**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.

*Word of God. Word of Life.* **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL READING: LUKE 2:1-20**

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 had 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.**

*\*We are always so happy to include you and our CVLC family in our prayers. If you feel your name, or the name of a family member can be removed from this list please contact Jamie.* *Thank you!*

**We remember in prayer:**

**†** *Those hospitalized this past week:* Carl Holte

**†** *Our members whose names we lift up in prayer today:* Corrine Appleman, Beverly Bagstad, Clifford Bakkum, Brian Berg, Richard Brose, Herby Cornell, Jeanne Ebli, Kira Foster, Phyllis Galstad, Jeri Harbaugh, Bonnie Holey, Donna Ihle, Verlin Ihle, Todd King, Mike Kellogg, Jim Knutson, Margaret Lee, Russell Lee, Aaron Leisso, Larry Lichtie, Aaron Marx, Bud Miyamoto, Marianne Myhre, LuEtta Nelson,Romaine Nelson, Sandy Nelson, Cathy Ofte, Lisa Olson, Sandra Onshus, Eunice Quast, Lori Roach, Melanie Role, Ellen Runice, Jojo Satona, Bob Schulze, Mary Schultz, Billie Slater, LaVonne Stendahl, Susan Strangstalien, Joyce Temp, Teri Tomten.

**†** *Our members who are currently in health care facilities & Assisted Living:*

Tip Bagstad, Inez Beck, Rachel Berg, Carl Daffinrud, Evelyn Dahlen, Joanne Fletcher,

Betty Gilbertson, Erma Graupe, Lenore Henley, Carl Holte, Bob Moilien, Irene Nestingen, Annie Olson, Beatrice Olson (Alden), Betty Sanders.

**†** *Those who grieve**:* Family and friends of Judy Denison, Mark Hutson in the death of his mother Frances

**†** *Our members who are currently home bound*

**†** *All those in need of God’s healing and help*

**†** *Family and friends of our members*