Christmas Two
Saturday  January 4, 2020

The Word Made Flesh

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church
700 Pleasure Road + Lancaster, PA
717-394-9607
www.stmatthewwelc.com
St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Lancaster, PA  
Christmas Two  
January 4, 2020 - 5:00 PM

* Indicates please stand as you are able.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

*Confession and Forgiveness  
p. 94

GATHERING

*Greeting  
Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
People: And also with you.

*Prayer of the Day  
Pastor: Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
People: Amen.

WORD  
First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14  
God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.  
Reader: The Word of the Lord  
People: Thanks be to God.
Psalm: Psalm 147:12-20  
Spoken in Unison

12 Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion, who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.
13 God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.
14 God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.
15 God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.
16 God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God’s cold?
17 The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.
18 God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.
19 The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God’s judgments. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God’s plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God’s children and have been promised eternal salvation.

Reader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation  
p. 142

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John
People: Glory to you, O Lord.

*Gospel: John 1:1-18

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.
Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

PEOPLE: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Installation of 2020 Church Council & Officers

*APostles’ Creed*  
Spoken in Unison

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE
*Between each petition the following is said:*

Asst. Min.:  
Hear us, O God,  
People:  
*Your mercy is great.*

Asst. Min.:  
Into your gracious hands we commend all for  
whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
People:  
*Amen.*

*Sharing of the Peace*  
Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.  
People:  
*And also with you.*
MEAL
Preparing of the Table

*Offertory Prayer
Asst. Min.: Let us pray.
Generous God,
you have given us life, this community,
and these gifts of the earth
that become the meal of your grace.
Move in our hearts,
that we might use your gifts
to bring hope and blessing wherever we go,
through Christ our Lord.
People: Amen.

*The Great Thanksgiving p. 144a
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Eucharistic Prayer

*Lord’s Prayer Spoken in Unison
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.
INVITATION TO COMMUNION
Pastor: Love has come: God's love for all people. Come and eat, for Christ invites you.
People: Thanks be to God.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT
You may intinct from the common chalice. If you prefer not to partake of the Sacrament today, you may cross your arms and receive a blessing. We offer gluten-free wafers; please ask the pastor as you approach the rail.

TABLE BLESSING
Pastor: The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
People: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
Asst. Min.: Let us pray.
  Emmanuel, God with us,
you grace us with life and breath
and give us bread for the journey.
Send us out in service to this world that you love,
telling the amazing news of your coming
to be Savior and Lord of all.
People: Amen.

BENEDICTION
Pastor: Grace from God's own heart,
peace from the Child in the manger,
and strength from the Spirit of life
be blessings for you today and forever.
People: Amen.

Asst. Min.: Christ is born!
  Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere.
People: Thanks be to God.
There’s a spot for you at the table!

Dinner after the 5pm worship service
January 4
Olde Hickory Grille
709 Olde Hickory Road
“WINTER BOBCAT DEN”

Look for the “Winter Bobcat Den” in Fellowship Hall. This will be our mitten tree, and these items (mittens, gloves, hats, scarves) will be given to Brecht School to be used as needed through the winter months. Stretchy gloves that fit all sizes of little hands work the best.

We are also collecting zippered sweatshirts with or without hoods, sometimes referred to as “hoodies.” Many children wear these sweatshirts as their outerwear or coats, so the zippered ones are more popular. These can be for boys or girls / sizes 6, 8, 10 / unisex colors like black, blue, tan, gray, red are preferred / plain colors or with logos.

There is also a need for new or gently used coats, boys or girls, sizes 6, 8, 10.

If you have any questions, contact Sheila Charles (717-471-2013).

~~ Brecht Elem. is grades Kdg - 4th~~
~~The bobcat is their mascot~~

Chancel Flowers

Today’s flowers are given in memory of Charles Huffman

GAME DAY FUN!

Do you like playing board games, card games, or putting together puzzles? Game Day is on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 2 to 4pm. Invite your friends to come have fun in the fellowship hall. Questions? Ask Janet Baker.

BROWN BAG & BIBLE—

Wednesdays at 12 noon in Fellowship Hall.
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS
Please email to John Volk john.volk@gmail.com

WEEKLY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Please email Jeff Auer at info@stmatthewwelc.com

COMMUNITY MEAL
Third Monday of the month, 5pm, at Zion Lutheran, East Petersburg.
Prep work on Monday morning at St. Matthew at 9am.
Contact Barb Elsen if you would like to be a part of this vital ministry.

BEFTER BONES, BETTER BALANCE
Dr. Tim Kauffman’s class
(Tuesdays at 12:00 PM)
January classes are on 1/7, 1/14, 1/21 and 1/28 at Grandview UM.

SATURDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP
Dinner after the 5pm worship service on January 4 is at Olde Hickory Grill,
709 Olde Hickory Road, Lancaster

Dear St. Matthew Family...

I am both humbled and grateful for your Christmas gift. It is such a blessing to serve our Lord together and be a part of this church family. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and generosity. With warmest appreciation,

~ Susan Feldmann
JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!
1/7    Chet Gontner
1/8    Terry Tice
1/9    Sarah Jordan
1/10   Judith Birunas
1/13   Betty Sheaffer
1/15   Ned Longenecker
1/17   Debra Nelson
1/23   Lucinda Zimmerman
1/25   Sue Feldmann

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES!
1/26   Peggy & Thomas Atkins
1/27   Linda & Terry Tice

SENIOR NEWS
The St. Matthew Seniors will be on hiatus for the month of January, resuming our programs on Tuesday, February 4th with a return visit by author, Sherry V. Ostroff, presenting how a writer finds the spark which evolves into a novel worthy enough to engage the reader.

Our film, “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood” is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3rd, starring Tom Hanks as Fred Rogers. Both events will be held at 1:30pm in Fellowship Hall.

Circle your calendar and plan to join us in 2020.

~ Kay Gontner
Community Book Club News

We have moved the December date to Tuesday, January 28 at 1:30 pm when we will discuss “The Day the World Came to Town” about 9/11 in Gander, Newfoundland. It’s an uplifting book and an easy read. We hope you will find it interesting as we anticipate Christmas and the generosity of the season.

When 38 jetliners bound for the United States were forced to land at Gander International Airport in Canada by the closing of U.S. airspace on September 11, the population of this small town on Newfoundland island swelled from 10,300 to nearly 17,000. The citizens of Gander met the stranded passengers with an overwhelming display of friendship and goodwill. Over the course of those four days, many of the passengers developed friendships with Gander residents that they expect to last a lifetime. As a show of thanks, scholarship funds for the children of Gander have been formed and donations have been made to provide new computers for the schools. This book recounts the inspiring story of the residents of Gander, Canada, whose acts of kindness have touched the lives of thousands of people and has been an example of humanity and goodwill.

~ Arlene Volk

We Remember in Our Prayers
Jack Bitzer, Nancy Bitzer, Deb Bosch, Mildred Collins, Al Frantz, Linda Fritz, Ginny McCreary, Florence Meily, Shel Merr, Jacqueline Ort, George Resh, Pat Roedel, Bob Sampson, Carolyn Sampson, Virginia Schnupp, Paul Sheaffer, Betty Sheaffer, Charlotte Underkoffler, and Jo Zwally

The January/February/March edition of Christ in Our Home daily devotional is available in the foyer.
The Congregation
The Ministers

Pastor Robin Fero
717-877-3386
email: pastor@stmatthewwelc.com

Church Office
phone: 717-394-9607
Website: stmatthewwelc.com
Email: info@stmatthewwelc.com

Steve Feldmann
Council President
717-472-6642
SFFsstuff@icloud.com

Susan Feldmann
Director of Music/Choir
717-891-4363
email: susanefeldmann@gmail.com

Ann Hossler
Organist/Pianist
717-314-2976
email: annstmathews@gmail.com

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Altar Care for January: Barb Elsen & Kay Gontner
Reader: Dan Mink
Assisting Minister: Brad Charles
Counters: Brad Charles & Barb Elsen

1/4 Saturday
9:00am Lydia’s Closet Distribution
5:00pm Worship
6:00pm After Worship Dinner

1/5 Sunday
8:45am Sunday School Worship
10:00am

1/7 Tuesday
8:30am Bridge Buddies*
12:00pm Better Bones Better Balance at Grandiew

1/8 Wednesday
12:00pm Brown Bag & Bible
6:30pm M.T. Democratic Committee*

1/9 Thursday
7:00pm Chancel Choir

1/11 Saturday
2:00pm Game Day
5:00pm Worship

1/12 Sunday
8:45am Sunday School Worship
10:00am Evangelism Mtg.
11:30am

*Events scheduled for outside groups that use our facility. You are welcome to attend or sign up for all other events on the calendar.

Scripture Readings—January 11-12

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17
Second Sunday of Christmas
Sunday January 5, 2020

The Word Made Flesh

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Prelude:  We Three Kings  
arr. David R. Ledgerwood

Confession and Forgiveness  p. 94

GATHERING

*Gathering Hymn: The First Noel  
ELW #300

*Greeting
Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
People:  And also with you.

*Hymn of Praise  Angels We Have Heard on High  
ELW #289

*Prayer of the Day
*Pastor:  Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People:  Amen.
WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14
God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

Reader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 147:12-20 Spoken in Unison

12 Worship the LRD, O Jerusalem;
   praise your God, O Zion,
   who has strengthened the bars of your gates
   and has blessed your children within you.
13 God has established peace on your borders
   and satisfies you with the finest wheat.
14 God sends out a command to the earth,
   a word that runs very swiftly.
15 God gives snow like wool,
   scattering frost like ashes.
16 God scatters hail like bread crumbs.
   Who can stand against God's cold?
17 The LRD sends forth the word and melts them;
   the wind blows, and the waters flow.
18 God declares the word to Jacob,
   statutes and judgments to Israel.
19 The LRD has not done so to any other nation;
   they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14
In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

Reader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God.
*Gospel Acclamation p. 142
Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John
People:  *Glory to you, O Lord.*

*Gospel: John 1:1-18
John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

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

**SERMON**

*HYMN OF THE DAY:  *Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming  ELW #272*

**Installation of 2020 Church Council & Officers**

*APOSTLES’ CREED Spoken in Unison
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*
PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE
Between each petition the following is said:
Asst. Min.:  Hear us, O God,
People:     Your mercy is great.
Asst. Min.:  Into your gracious hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
People:     Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE
Pastor:     The peace of Christ be with you always.
People:     And also with you.

MEAL
Preparing of the Table

Offertory Music:  Simple Treasures
                  Chancel Choir

Dennis and Nan Allen

*Offering Response:  Love Has Come

ELW #292

*Offertory Prayer
Asst. Min.:  Let us pray.
       Generous God,
you have given us life, this community,
and these gifts of the earth
that become the meal of your grace.
Move in our hearts,
that we might use your gifts
to bring hope and blessing wherever we go,
through Christ our Lord.
People:     Amen.
*The Great Thanksgiving*  p. 144a
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: *And also with you.*
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: *We lift them to the Lord.*
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

*Sanctus*  (Holy, holy, holy...)  p. 144b

*Eucharistic Prayer*

*Acclamation:*

*Lord’s Prayer*  Spoken in Unison

> *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.*

*Invitation to Communion*
Pastor: Love has come: God's love for all people.
Come and eat, for Christ invites you.
People: Thanks be to God.

**Sharing of the Sacrament**
*Please follow the direction of the ushers as you approach the communion rail.*
You may take a small glass for the reception of wine, or you may drink or intinct from the common chalice. If you prefer not to partake of the Sacrament today, you may cross your arms and receive a blessing. We offer gluten-free wafers, please ask the pastor as you approach the rail.

The following hymns will be sung by the congregation as time permits:
Of the Father’s Love Begotten ELW #295
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear ELW #282
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly ELW #276

*TABLE BLESSING*
Pastor: The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
People: Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION*
Asst. Min.: Let us pray.
   Emmanuel, God with us,
   you grace us with life and breath
   and give us bread for the journey.
   Send us out in service to this world that you love,
   telling the amazing news of your coming
to be Savior and Lord of all.
People: Amen.

*BENEDICTION*
Pastor: Grace from God’s own heart,
   peace from the + Child in the manger,
   and strength from the Spirit of life
be blessings for you today and forever.
People: Amen.

*SENDING HYMN: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* ELW #270

Asst. Min.: Christ is born!
   Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere.
People: Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE: Bagatelle on “We Three Kings”*  
John Henry Hopkins, Jr.
“WINTER BOBCAT DEN”

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~ Susan Feldmann
**2020 Church Council and Officers**

Steve Feldmann, President  
Arlene Volk, Vice President  
Barb Elsen, Secretary & Financial Secretary  
John Volk, Treasurer  
Neely Frye  
Dan Mink  
Phyllis Wimer

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS!**

1/7  Chet Gontner  
1/8  Terry Tice  
1/9  Sarah Jordan  
1/10  Judith Birunas  
1/13  Betty Sheaffer  
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~ Arlene Volk

We Remember in Our Prayers

Jack Bitzer, Nancy Bitzer, Deb Bosch, Mildred Collins, Al Frantz, Linda Fritz, Ginny McCreary, Florence Meily, Shel Merr, Jacqueline Ort, George Resh, Pat Roedel, Bob Sampson, Carolyn Sampson, Virginia Schnupp, Paul Sheaffer, Betty Sheaffer, Charlotte Underkoffler, and Jo Zwally

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Council Member in Charge: Phyllis Wimer
Altar Care for January: Barb Elsen & Kay Gontner
Greeter: Judy Miller
Ushers: John & Arlene Volk
Reader: Steve Feldmann
Assisting Minister: Brad Charles
Counters: Brad Charles & Barb Elsen

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