



HIS NAME IS WONDERFUL

== *Isaiah 9:6-7* ==

St. John's Sunday School Christmas Service
THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
December 17, 2023

HIS NAME IS WONDERFUL!

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 327

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Congregation

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

2. O come, O Root of Jesse, free your own from Satan’s tyranny; from depths of hell your people save, and give them vict’ry o’er the grave. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

3. O come, O Dayspring from on high, and cheer us by your drawing nigh; disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death’s dark shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

4. O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav’nly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

RECITATIONChildren

SONG “Christmas Praise”..... Children

NARRATION Mr. Wachholz

RECITATION Children & Teachers

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

P: To you this day is born a Savior. Hallelujah!

C: Which is Christ the Lord. Hallelujah!

P: Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be born in the flesh. Bless those who have gathered here to worship him at his birth. May all here who lovingly think on the wonder of Jesus’ birth be filled with the light of his glory. Through the same Jesus Christ,

your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, world without end.

C: Amen.

(Congregation sits)

SONG: “*Light the Advent Candle*” Congregation

1. Light the Advent candle--one: Now the waiting has begun; We have started on our way, Time to think of Christmas day. Candle, candle burning bright, Shining in the cold winter night; Candle, candle, burning bright, Fill our hearts with Christmas light.

2. Light the Advent candle--two: Think of humble shepherds, who Filled with wonder at the sight Of the child on Christmas night. Candle, candle burning bright, Shining in the cold winter night; Candle, candle, burning bright, Fill our hearts with Christmas light.

3. Light the advent candle--three: Think of heavenly harmony; Angels singing “peace on earth” At the blessed Savior’s birth. Candle, candle burning bright, Shining in the cold winter night; Candle, candle, burning bright, Fill our hearts with Christmas light.

4. Light the Advent candle--four: Think of joy forevermore; Christ Child in a stable born, Gift of love that Christmas morn. Candle, candle burning bright, Shining in the cold winter night; Candle, candle, burning bright, Fill our hearts with Christmas light.

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

SONG “*His Name Is Wonderful!*” Children

Part I. WONDERFULLY FORETOLD
Prophecies of the Savior’s Birth

Pastor: Wondrous, amazing, and true is the fact that for many, many centuries before Christ’s birth, God revealed His coming. The complete story of Jesus’ life is plainly foretold in the Old Testament. It awes us with the wonders of God’s ways!

Congregation: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

P: Ever since our first parents, Adam and Eve, fell into sin, the world has been in need of a Savior. Therefore, already in the Garden of Eden God promised this Savior, saying in Genesis 3:15:

C: I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.

P: To the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, who lived about 2,000 years before the Savior was born, God said in Genesis 22:18:

C: And through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed.

P: Through Moses, God promised in Deuteronomy 18:15:

C: The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him.

P: About 800 years before the birth of the Christ, Isaiah prophesied in Isaiah 7:14:

C: Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

P: Later, in spirit envisioning the fulfillment of this promise, this same prophet rejoices with words recorded in Isaiah 9:6:

C: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

P: In Isaiah 53:4-5, the suffering and death of our Redeemer is foretold. Jesus would come into the world to suffer and die for our sins—so that we can live with Him in Heaven.

C: He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

P: In Micah 5:2, the Prophet even foretold the exact town where the Savior would be born. Centuries before the birth of Christ he wrote:

C: But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.

HYMN 343 “Once in Royal David’s City”

Congregation

1. Once in royal David’s city Stood a lowly cattle shed, Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for his bed; Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

2. He came down to earth from heaven Who is God and Lord of all, And his shelter was a stable, And his cradle was a stall; With the poor and mean and lowly Lived on earth our Savior holy.

3. But our eyes at last shall see him Through his own redeeming love, For that child, so dear and gentle, Is our Lord in heav’n above, And he leads his children on To the place where he is gone.

4. Not in that poor, lowly stable With the oxen standing by Shall we see him, but in heaven, Set at God’s right hand on high. Then like stars his children crowned, All in white, his praise will sound.

II. WONDERFULLY GIVEN!

SONG “A Little Light Was Born” Children

RESPONSIVE RECITATION Teachers & Children

NARRATION Mr. Wachholz

SONG “The Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-7) Older Children

RECITATION PreKs

Mary placed him in a manger. Luke 2:7

Sweet little baby boy
Rests His tiny head
In a manger full of straw.
This is Jesus’ bed.

SONG “We’ll Call Him Jesus” Children

HYMN 496 “Jesus, Name of Wondrous Love”

Congregation

1. Jesus! Name of wondrous love, name all other names above,
unto which must ev’ry knee bow in deep humility.
2. Jesus! Name decreed of old, to the maiden mother told, kneeling
in her lowly cell, by the angel Gabriel.
3. Jesus! Name of priceless worth to the fallen here on earth for the
promise that it gave, “Jesus shall his people save.”
4. Jesus! Name of wondrous love, human name of God above;
pleading only this, we flee helpless, O our God, to thee.

NARRATION Mr. Wachholz

RECITATION Luke 2:8-14 Older Children

SONG: “Jesus Is His Name!” Children

HYMN “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” Congregation

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!

III. WONDERFULLY PROCLAIMED!

RECITATIONS with Powerpoint Older Children

(Congregation stands)

THE CHRISTMAS CREED Congregation

I believe in God the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth, who sent
His Son as my Savior on Christmas Day;
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
announced by the angels,
worshipped by the shepherds,
adored by the Wise Men,
who lived to suffer, die, and rise again,
to free us from sin, death, and the power of the devil;
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
who has brought me to faith in the Christ of Christmas
and by whose continuous work in my heart
I am ever led to lay before the feet of Christ
the treasures of my love
and live under Him as my King,
both now and forevermore. Amen.

(Congregation sits)

THE OFFERING

Piano & Trumpet Selections Sunday School Students

(Congregation stands)

THE PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung) Congregation
(Melody "*Away in a Manger*")

Our Father in heaven, all praise to your name!
Your kingdom among us, your will done the same
By mortals and angels. Come, Lord reign alone:
Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.

The bread that we yearn for provide us each day;
As we forgive others, our sins take away;
In times of temptation, to lead us be near;
From evil deliver your children most dear.

For yours is the kingdom; o'er all things you reign.
And yours is the power; all things you maintain.

To you be the glory, resounding again
From all of creation, forever. Amen.
(Congregations sits)

IV. WONDERFULLY PRESENT IN THE LIVES OF HIS CHILDREN

LITANY with PowerPoint

Pastor: Today we cannot go to Bethlehem and see the infant Redeemer cradled in his lowly manger.

Congregation: But in a sense we *can* see Him; we can claim Him as our own *by faith*.

P: We cannot stand with the shepherds who were the first to hurry to the manger bed.

C: But we can share in their joy over their newly found Redeemer. We can share in their joy *by faith*.

P: We cannot mingle with the choirs of heaven as they sing their praises to the newborn King.

C: But we can use our voices to worship our infant Redeemer with our *own* hymns of praise.

P: We cannot join the Wise Men as they followed the wonderful star that led them from the East to the little town of Bethlehem and the Savior boy.

C: But we can be led by the same Father in heaven to find our Savior in the bless-ed pages of our Bibles.

P: In His Word, our wonderful Redeemer has promised that He will be with his children to the end of the world.

C: He will guide us, bless us, and keep us in his care.

P: The tiny Babe of Bethlehem came into the world with a purpose to fulfill. Jesus came to suffer and die for our sins.

C: We will live with him eternally. Jesus will come again and take us to be with him in paradise!

NARRATION Older Child

EXCLAMATION All Children

(Congregation stands)

SONG: “His Name Is Wonderful!” . . . Congregation & Children

His name is Wonderful, His name is Wonderful,

His name is Wonderful, Jesus, my Lord;

He is the mighty King, Master of everything,

His name is Wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.

He’s the great Shepherd, the rock of all ages,

Almighty God is He;

Bow down before Him, Love and adore Him,

His name is Wonderful, Jesus, my Lord!

(Congregation sits)

THE BENEDICTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU to our accompanist and other instrumentalists today! Donna Kuenn, piano; Lauren Zietlow, organ; Matt Kath, bass flute; Jennie Utke, flute; Victoria Wachholz, violin.

THANK YOU PARENTS FOR SHARING YOUR

TALENTED SUNDAY SCHOOLERS PreK: Ella Wachholz, Anna Wachholz. Grades 1-6: Grant Wolsdorf (tambourine), Jaxon Wohlsdorf (recorder), Ashlyn Weisensel (recorder), Molly Utke (piano), Wally Wohlsdorf (trumpet), Makaila Weisensel (clarinet).

A GIFT FOR YOU! This year’s weekly Sunday school devotions have been about the many names of Jesus, and thus, we chose “His Name Is Wonderful” for today’s SS Christmas Service. At the end of today’s service, the SSers will be giving you a bookmark as you leave church. The bookmarks highlight names of Jesus. Merry Christmas from the Sunday School!

RECESSIONAL HYMN 519

“There Is A Redeemer” Congregation

1. There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God’s own Son, precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One. Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

2. Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names, precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain. Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

3. When I stand in glory, I will see his face; there I’ll serve my King forever in that holy place. Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

CCLI: 21383367

One License: 722228

EMMANUEL & ST. JOHN’S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

WEDNESDAY ADVENT DEVOTIONS:

12/6, 12/13, 12/20 EMMANUEL 3:30PM,

ST. JOHN’S 6:30PM

SATURDAY & SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

EMMANUEL: SUNDAYS 8:00AM,

ST. JOHN’S: SATURDAYS 4:30PM & SUNDAYS 10:00AM

(NO SATURDAY WORSHIP ON 12/23 & 12/30)

LITTLE LAMBS (3K/4K) CHRISTMAS SERVICE:

ST. JOHN’S SATURDAY 12/16 11:00AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE:

ST. JOHN’S SUNDAY 12/17 10:00AM

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT SERVICES:

EMMANUEL 12/23 6:30PM

ST. JOHN’S 12/24 4:00PM

CHRISTMAS DAY:

EMMANUEL 9:00AM

NEW YEAR’S DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE:

ST. JOHN’S 9:00AM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week: December 17-23, 2023

Third Sunday in Advent:

THE KING SHALL COME: HE IS BRINGING PERFECT JOY

Today	4:00 p.m.	CALA Christmas Service *PRINCETON*
Monday	6:30 p.m.	Adult Choir SJ
	7:30 p.m.	Adult Bible Study SJ
Wednesday	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study SJ
	3:30 p.m.	Advent Service EM
	5:00 p.m.	Public School Catechism SJ
	6:30 p.m.	Advent Service SJ
Saturday	6:30 p.m.	Christmas Candlelight Worship EM
	4:30 p.m.	NO SJ Worship

Next Sunday: December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Advent: **THE KING SHALL COME: JUST AS GOD PROMISED**

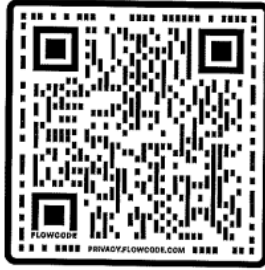
8:00 a.m.	Emmanuel Worship with Communion
8:45 a.m.	Adult Bible Study St. John's
9:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study Emmanuel
10:00 a.m.	St. John's Worship with Communion
4:00 p.m.	Christmas Candlelight Worship St. John's

Attendance

Date	EM	SJ
12/9/23	-	16
12/10/23	35	96
12/13/23	21	27

Help us stay in touch!

Scan the code below using your smartphone camera and fill out the prompted information. Don't have a smartphone? That's ok! Fill out an attendance card located at the end of each pew and place it in the offering plate located at the entry of each church.



Welcome to our visitors!

Find & Like us on Facebook

Visit our website: www.stjohnsmontello.org

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