



# Christmas Morning Service

***The East Koshkonong Lutheran Church***  
454 East Church Rd., Cambridge, WI 53523  
Church Office: Phone 423-3017 ~ Fax 423-7512  
Email: [eklc@bminet.com](mailto:eklc@bminet.com)

***Interim Pastor James A. Schwarz: 608-873-5518***  
Email: [jimbev1@charter.net](mailto:jimbev1@charter.net)

[www.eastkoshkonong.org](http://www.eastkoshkonong.org)

*Welcome visitors! Thank you for taking the time to fill out the communion card provided by the ushers. We believe that the host of the meal provided during worship today is Christ. Christ invites everyone to this meal, saying, "This is for you for the forgiveness of sin." Echoing Christ, we invite everyone to this banquet. If you would like to receive deeper instruction in the Christian faith; if you desire to be baptized; or if you simply seek someone to pray with or for you, inquire of the pastor or indicate the need on the communion card.*

# **Christmas Day**

## **~Gathering~**

Hymn..... *"The Bells of Christmas"* .....#298

**Pastor:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
the Maker of heaven and earth,  
the Word made flesh,  
the Lord and giver of life.

**Congregation: Amen.**

**Pastor:** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and one another.

Confession and Forgiveness.....

**Pastor:** God of glory, God of peace,

**Congregation:** we confess that we have shunned the light that reveals the truth about us. We cling to worldly things rather than sharing the gifts of this earth. We trust ourselves above all. Save your people, O God; sustain the rivers and trees that sing your praise; and free us to live boldly in the light and truth of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

**Pastor:** The grace of God shines upon us...let us live in hope and joy.

**Congregation: Amen.**

Hymn..... *"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"* .....#275

The Prayer of the Day .....

**Assistant Minister:** Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

First Reading.....Isaiah 52:7-10  
*A messenger races home to Jerusalem with the marvelous words: "Your God reigns!" In comforting the people, God proves to be the best brother or sister (redeemer) they have ever known. Everyone will witness the victory (salvation) of God.*

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news,  
who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

<sup>8</sup>Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see  
the return of the LORD to Zion.

<sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the LORD has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

**Lector:** Word of God, Word of Life

**Congregational Response: Thanks be to God.**

Hymn..... "Away in a Manger" .....#278

Psalm.....Psalm 98

*Assistant Minister = A: ~ Congregation = C:*

**A:** <sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done <sup>1</sup>marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have <sup>1</sup>won the victory.

**C:** <sup>2</sup>**O LORD, you have made <sup>1</sup>known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight <sup>1</sup>of the nations.**

**A:** <sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the <sup>1</sup>house of  
Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory <sup>1</sup>of our God.

**C:** <sup>4</sup>**Shout with joy to the LORD, <sup>1</sup>all you lands;  
lift up your voice, re- <sup>1</sup>joice, and sing.**

**A:** <sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD <sup>1</sup>with the harp,  
with the harp and the <sup>1</sup>voice of song.

**C:** <sup>6</sup>**With trumpets and the sound <sup>1</sup>of the horn  
shout with joy before the <sup>1</sup>king, the LORD.**

**A:** <sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and <sup>1</sup>all that fills it,  
the world and those who <sup>1</sup>dwell therein.

**C:** <sup>8</sup>**Let the rivers <sup>1</sup>clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
who comes to <sup>1</sup>judge the earth.**

**A:** <sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the <sup>1</sup>world with righteousness  
and the peo- <sup>1</sup>ples with equity.

Hymn..... "Let Our Gladness Have No End" .....#291

Second Lesson.....Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]

*This letter opens with a lofty declaration of Jesus' preeminent status as the Son through whom God created the world and through whom our sins are cleansed. God speaks to us now through the Son, who is exalted even above the angels.*

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,<sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.<sup>3</sup> He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,<sup>4</sup> having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup>For to which of the angels did God ever say,  
"You are my Son;  
today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be his Father,  
and he will be my Son"?

<sup>6</sup>And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,  
"Let all God's angels worship him."

<sup>7</sup>Of the angels he says,  
"He makes his angels winds,  
and his servants flames of fire."

<sup>8</sup>But of the Son he says,  
"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,  
and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

<sup>9</sup>You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;  
therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

<sup>10</sup>And,  
"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

<sup>11</sup>they will perish, but you remain;  
they will all wear out like clothing;

<sup>12</sup>like a cloak you will roll them up,  
and like clothing they will be changed.  
But you are the same,  
and your years will never end."

**Lector:** Word of God, Word of Life

**Congregational Response: Thanks be to God.**

Hymn..... *"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"* .....#276

The Gospel.....John 1:1-14

*The prologue to the Gospel of John describes Jesus as the Word of God made flesh, the one who reveals God to be "full of grace and truth."*

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.<sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God.<sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being<sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.<sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.<sup>7</sup> He came as a

witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn..... *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”* .....#279

Sermon..... *“Christmas Sunday”* .....Pastor Jim Schwarz

Hymn..... *“In the Bleak Midwinter”* .....#294

The Nicene Creed.....

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the Church.....Page 218

**A:** Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer**

Sharing of the peace.....

The Offering and Prayer.....

Hymn..... *“What Child Is This”*.....#296

The Great Thanksgiving.....Page 206

Holy, Holy, Holy.....Page 207

The Eucharistic Prayer.....Page 207

**Pastor:**...we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

**Congregation: Christ has died.**

**Christ has risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

\*

\*

\*

**Pastor:** To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

**Congregation: Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer.....Page 208

Communion .....

The Lamb of God.....Page 208

*You are invited to sing the following hymn during the distribution of Communion:*

***“Joy to the World” #267***

Prayer after Communion.....

**Pastor:** Great and saving God,  
you have gathered your scattered people  
around gifts of grain and wine,  
the body and blood of our Savior Christ.  
As we, like the shepherds, return on our way,  
may we proclaim all we have heard and seen,  
praising you in word and loving deed  
for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

**Congregation: Amen.**

Blessing.....

**Pastor:** God most high,  
God with us,  
God poured out on us,  
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Congregation: Amen.**

Hymn..... “Go Tell It on the Mountain” .....#290

**Assistant Minister:** Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

*~Worship Assistants~*

**Pastor** ~ Pastor James A. Schwarz

**Assistant Minister** ~ Carolyn Lien

**Acolytes** ~ Nicholas Woodstock & Noah Furseth

**Ushers** ~ Peace Circle

**Communion Set-up/Take-down** ~ Arvid & Linda Mathison

**Organist** ~ Judy Rusch



## *Poinsettia Dedication*

*In memory of Edna & Wilmer Christianson from Karen Hayes*

*In memory of Steven Hayes from Karen Hayes*

*In memory of Walter Klemp from Kurt and Barb Klemp*

*In memory of Gertrude & Al Kapsner from Scott, Ann, Jake and  
Emma Nottestad*

*In memory of Esther & Lawrence Lashinski from Scott, Ann, Jake  
and Emma Nottestad*

*In honor of our Grandchildren from Marge and Ken Stach*

*In memory of Gene Gunderson from Marilyn Gunderson*

*In honor of our parents Florence Mathison and Bud & Betty Hommen  
from Arvid and Linda Mathison*

*In memory of Richard Lien from Madison, Kelsey and Zoe*

*In memory of Charlie and Jenny Wibralski from Carol Wibralski*

*In memory of Jan Christensen Goecke from Pastor A.S. and Mary  
Ellen Christensen*

*In memory of Bim, Geneva, and Dale Graffin from the Graffin Family*

*In memory of Norman & Verna Evenson from the Evenson Family*

*In memory of Ole and Lorraine Rude from Mike and Cheryl Rude  
& Family and Judy Rusch & Family*

*In memory of Jim Rusch from Judy Rusch*

*In memory of Marvin "Pat" Peterson from Deanna and Ron Nottestad*

*In memory of Cheryl Fosdal and Ruth Kittleson from Wayne and  
Gloria Fosdal and Sandy Yates Family*

*In memory of Eugene Lund from Wayne, Judy, Erick, & Kyle Gjertson*

## ~ *Prayer Requests* ~

### **Thanksgiving to God for...**

- East Koshkonong Lutheran Church's mission and ministry.
- Prayers for the ministries of Arden and Jana Haug, John and Amy Lindstrom, Lindsay Stolen, and Jens Notstad.

### **God's guidance and direction for...**

- East Koshkonong Lutheran Church Call Committee
- For peace in Syria, Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and among all the nations of the world.

### **God's protection and safety for those being deployed...**

- Please remember all our veterans. Give them all God's comfort in their memories of war and service to their country.

### **Healing and health concerns...**

- |                  |                     |                |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| -Dave Nettum     | -Jerry Behm         | -Julia Schremp |
| -Duane Dieckhoff | -Kenneth Dieckhoff  | -Alma Houfe    |
| -Verna Vethe     | -Anbjorg Kaashagen* | -Agnes Teske*  |

Please note: If you have a prayer request and want it put in the bulletin, please write it down on the back of the communion/welcome card or notify the office before noon on Wednesday. Prayer requests will remain for 3 weeks unless otherwise requested. Prayer requests week December 11, 2011

### **Cambridge Community Meal**

Cambridge Community Meal - Free for all residents of all ages  
CAP and a group of residents from the Cambridge Community are starting up a FREE community meal on Thursday, January 5, 2012. This meal will be free to residents of all ages residing in Rockdale, London, Cambridge, Christiana and the town of Oakland. Meals will be held at the Amundson Center, 200 Spring Street, from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m., the first Thursday of every month. The mission of this meal is to foster friendship, family and fellowship, all whilst enjoying good food. If you are interested in volunteering for and or sponsoring one of these meals in 2012, please contact Wanda at 423-8142 or [foodpantry@cambridge.k12.wi.us](mailto:foodpantry@cambridge.k12.wi.us).

## ~ *Calendar of Events* ~

*Sunday, December 25, 2011*

9:00am Christmas Morning Worship

*Monday, December 26, 2011*

OFFICE CLOSED

*Tuesday, December 27, 2011*

OFFICE CLOSED

*Wednesday, December 28, 2011*

OFFICE CLOSED

No Confirmation Session

*Sunday, January 1, 2012*

9:00am Worship

No Sunday School

**In case of severe weather, you may contact the following resources to learn about cancellations at EKLC:  
\*church office @ 423-3017  
(A message will be left on the office answering system as soon as a cancellation is made)**

**\*website:**

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

## ~ *Announcements* ~

- **2012 Offering Boxes are available in Friendship Hall.** Thank you for picking up your 2012 offering boxes before or after worship today. They're located on tables in Friendship Hall.
- **Gifts of Service Survey.** Don't forget to return your Gifts of Service Survey that was enclosed in your December Sunday and Beyond Newsletter. There are extras available in the church narthex. Thank you!
- **The annual meeting of East Koshkonong Lutheran Church** will be held on January 22nd, 2012 at the conclusion of the 9 a.m. worship service. All voting/confirmed members are encouraged to attend. At this annual meeting of the congregation, we will review the budget for 2012, and elect council members. Nominations for council and synod assembly are welcome, and can be referred to the nominating committee through a council member or the church office. **Please submit financial and written reports for the annual report to the church office by January 8th, 2012.**
- **Meals on Wheels.** East Koshkonong Lutheran Church will be delivering Meals on Wheel January 2 thru January 13th. Please contact Wilma Furseth, 423-3194, if you would be available to help deliver. Thank you!