

St. Clairsville Lutheran Parish

St. Peter's

At St. Clairsville – 8:30 p.m.

WELCOME VISITORS!

We're glad to have you worship with us today.

December 24, 2012

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Rev. Donna J. Wolfinger – 276-3036

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## Prelude

### Opening Carol #45 Oh Come, All Ye Faithful

+P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

### Hymn of Praise #39 Joy to the World

#### +PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray... Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

A **The First Lesson** is written in the ninth chapter of Isaiah, verses 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.

3You 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.

4For 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.

5For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

6For 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.

7His 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.

## PSALM 96

Sing to the LORD | a new song;\*

**sing to the LORD, all | the whole earth.**

2Sing to the LORD and | bless his name;\*

**proclaim the good news of his salvation from  
day to day.**

3Declare his glory a- | mong the nations\*

**and his wonders a- | mong all peoples.**

4For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised;\*  
**he is more to be feared | than all gods.**

5As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but  
idols;\*

**but it is the LORD who | made the heavens.**

6Oh, the majesty and magnificence | of his presence!  
\*

**Oh, the power and the splendor of his |  
sanctuary!**

7Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the  
peoples;\*

**ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.**

8Ascribe to the LORD the honor | due his name;\*

**bring offerings and come in- | to his courts.**

9Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;\*

**let the whole earth trem- | ble before him.**

10Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is  
king!\*

**He has made the world so firm that it cannot  
be moved; he will judge the peo- | ples with  
equity."**

11Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all | that is in it;\*

**let the field be joyful and all that | is therein.**

12Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the LORD | when he comes,\*

**when he comes to | judge the earth.**

13He will judge the | world with righteousness\*  
**and the peoples | with his truth.**

**A The Second Lesson** is written in the second  
chapter of Titus, verses 11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing  
salvation to all, 12training us to renounce impiety  
and worldly passions, and in the present age to live  
lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly,  
13while we wait for the blessed hope and the  
manifestation of the glory of our great God and  
Savior, Jesus Christ. 14He it is who gave himself for  
us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and  
purify for himself a people of his own who are  
zealous for good deeds. The Word of the Lord

**C Thanks be to God**

**VERSE** page 62

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second  
chapter.

**+GOSPEL** - Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor  
Augustus that all the world should be registered.  
2This was the first registration and was taken while  
Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3All went to their  
own towns to be registered. 4Joseph 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. 5He  
went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was  
engaged and who was expecting a child. 6While they  
were there, the time came for her to deliver her child.

7And 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.

8In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see--I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." 13And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

4"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

15When 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." 16So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her

heart. 20The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you O Christ.**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **SERMON**

**Hymn # 67** Away in a Manger

### **+APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.\*  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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

**A** Filled with joy at the birth of the one sent to save us, let us offer our prayers to God who gives us peace and hope.

**A** We give you thanks for the good news of great joy you have once again announced to your people. Send us on our way glorifying and praising you for all the good news that we hear and see. God of our salvation,  
**C have mercy and hear us.**

**A** Pierce the darkness of our world. Draw the nations to your brilliant light, that justice and peace may flourish, the rod of oppressors may be broken, and the tools of warfare may be destroyed. God of our salvation,

**C have mercy and hear us.**

**A** Change us, gracious God, through the salvation you have sent. Turn us from the ways of this world and lead us into lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly. God of our salvation,

**C have mercy and hear us.**

**A** Hold gently in your arms all those who long for wholeness and healing in their lives (especially). Grant that they may receive good news of great joy in the coming of the Savior and through the care and compassion we offer them in his name. God of our salvation,  
**C have mercy and hear us.**

**A** Bless the people of this congregation. Bind the wounds that divide us. Sanctify us with the presence of the one born to us in the city of David, that we may announce your salvation to friend and stranger. God of our salvation,

**C have mercy and hear us.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**A** Unite us with your holy angels and with the saints who have died in the light of your salvation, that we may stand with them before you as your light banishes all remaining darkness. God of our salvation,

**C have mercy and hear us.**

**P** Grant us these prayers, almighty Father, in the name of your Word made flesh dwelling among us, Jesus Christ our Lord

**C Amen**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

Peace be with you. **R Peace be with you.**

**OFFERING and OFFERTORY**

**Hymn #40** What Child Is This

The service continues on p. 69 at the front of the hymnal.

**THE COMMUNION**

+P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C Amen**

**+LIGHTING OF INDIVIDUAL CANDLES**

**Hymn #65** Silent Night

**Post Communion Prayer** p. 74

**A** Let us pray...

**C Amen**

**Benediction** p. 74

**Sending Hymn #60** Hark the Herald Angels Sing

**Dismissal** p. 74

+Please stand as able