

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT AND COMMUNION SERVICE

4:30 WORSHIP December 24, 2017

Prelude

WELCOME

HYMN "I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve" LBW 69

GREETING AND RESPONSE

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.

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

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

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

C: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

P: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: In Him was life, and the life was the light of man.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Paul, Jen, Ethan, Isabella and Drew Anderson

READING: Luke 2:1-7

HYMN "O Little Town of Bethlehem" LBW 41

READING: Luke 2:8-14

HYMN "Angels We Have Heard on High" LBW 71

PRAYER OF THE DAY "O God, you have made this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant, we pray, that as we have known the mysteries of the Light here on earth, we may also come to the fullness of his joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord." Amen

MUSICAL OFFERING "O, Holy Night" Choir

READING: Luke 2:15-20

HYMN "Go Tell It On the Mountain" LBW 70

SERMON

HYMN

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

LBW 45

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

CONFESSION

PSALM 51:1-12

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your lovingkindness;

C: in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

P: Wash me through and through from my wickedness,

C: and cleanse me from my sin.

P: For I know my transgressions,

C: and my sin is ever before me.

P: Against you only have I sinned

C: and done what is evil in your sight.

P: And so you are justified when you speak

C: and upright in your judgment.

P: Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,

C: a sinner from my mother's womb.

P: For behold, you look for truth deep within me,

C: and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

P: Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;

C: wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.

P: Make me hear of joy and gladness,

C: that the body you have broken may rejoice.

P: Hide your face from my sins,

C: and blot out all my iniquities.

P: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

C: and renew a right spirit within me.

P: Cast me not away from your presence,

C: and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

ABSOLUTION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" LBW 55

"First Noel" LBW 56

"Away in the Manger" LBW 67

## **CHRISTMAS CANDLE LIGHTING**

P: In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God,

**C: and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.**

P: Through him all things were made,

**C: without him nothing was made that has been made.**

P: In him was life,

**C: and that life was the light of all people.**

P: The light shines in the darkness,

**C: and the darkness has not overcome it.**

P: The Word became flesh

**C: and made his dwelling among us. John 1:1-5,14**

## **SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AS CANDLES ARE LIT**

**HYMN**

*“Silent Night”*

LBW 65

## **PRAYER**

**C: 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. Amen**

## **BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING HYMN**

*“Joy to the World”*

LBW 39

**Pianist** Judy Sprung and Nanci Van Peurse

**Pastor Kent Groethe**

**PO Box 301**

**Milbank, SD 57252**

**Church 438-9672**

**[www.livingwordmilbank.com](http://www.livingwordmilbank.com)**

**Church email address: [livingword@itcmilbank.com](mailto:livingword@itcmilbank.com)**

**Pastor Kent’s email: [kentgroethe@yahoo.com](mailto:kentgroethe@yahoo.com)**

**In case of an emergency call**

**Pastor Kent at 218-731-5215 (cell)**