

WE THANK ALL THE PEOPLE WHO CONTRIBUTED POINSETTAS

2014 POINSETTAS

Contributor/s

Don & Linda Bires
Adeline Birkenmeier

Rev. Andrew Burmeister
Beverly Foster
Elma Hendricks
James Hendricks
Elaine Jones
Mary Lou Knigge
Linda Kryszak
Don & Carolyn Miner
Kathleen Pennock
Kathleen Pennock
Vivian Temple
Joe Thacker
Janice & David Thomas
Janice & David Thomas
Ethel Wendt
June Weyenberg

In Blessed Loving Memory of

Donald (brother) **Linda** (niece)
Mary (sister-in-law)
Doris (Pankow) Burmeister
Robert & Barbara Foster
Family
Family
Richard Jones

William Pennock (son)
Melinda Colp (sister)
William Pennock & Melinda Colp
Kay Thacker
Rev. Norman Pommeranz (father)
Jane Thomas (mother)
Robert Weyenberg (husband)



Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL USA

The Nativity of Our Lord      Christmas Eve
December 24th, 2014  7:00 pm



A Family Christmas

"As Each Happy Christmas" ELH #117 J.W. Hey

1. *As each happy Christmas - Dawns on earth again,
Comes the holy Christ Child - To the hearts of men.*
2. *Enters with His blessing - Into ev'ry home,
Guides and guards our footsteps - As we go and come.*
3. *All unknown, beside me - He will ever stand,
And will safely lead me - With His own Right Hand.*

WE WELCOME YOU IN JESUS' NAME! Here at Our Savior we preach and teach Christ crucified, whose suffering and death paid for all our sins and earned for us the gift of everlasting life. If you are visiting with us this morning, please sign the guest book on your way out. We invite you to worship with us again and to make Our Savior Lutheran your church home. – Pastor Burmeister

THE ADVENT WREATH

The Advent wreath is a contribution of the German and Scandinavian traditions. It developed out of the simple use of an evergreen spray of fir, spruce, balsam, or pine placed near the hearth. The wreath is plain, without any ornamentation of ribbon or bow. The evergreen of the wreath represents the life that is found in Christ. The greens have come from the out-of-doors where nature has begun its winter sleep. Midst the drabness of nature the evergreen branch symbolizes the continuation of life. In the home it is placed on a central table. In the church it is usually suspended above the altar or set on a pedestal resting on the floor.

The Advent candles are arranged with the spray. Candles have been used for centuries as the symbol of light. The light reminds us of Christ, the light of the world, so it is not at all strange that the Christian church has given the candle a prominent place in the observance of Advent.

It is the living light, the living flame that gives the candle its meaning, for the gospel light of Christ is itself a living power. This is what makes it more symbolic than artificial lights.

Jesus is the light that broke forth on the world on that first Christmas when he was born as Prince of Peace. He is the light that gradually penetrated into all the world. The traditional act of lighting one more candle each week--or each day--tells of the increasingly brighter light of his coming, and leads gradually to the blaze of light at the dawning of Christmas.

Here is a listing of prophecies to be read during the four Sundays of Advent:

1st Sunday in Advent - Jeremiah 33:14-16; Isaiah 9:1-2

Christ the Branch of Righteousness is promised.

The Prophecy Candle honors those who spoke His promises

2nd Sunday in Advent - Micah 4:1-7, 5:2

Christ will establish His Kingdom of Grace.

The Bethlehem Candle symbolizes the preparations made for Him.

3rd Sunday in Advent - Malachi 3:1-6; Luke 2:20

Christ shall purify His people.

The Shepherds' Candle honors the first to spread the good news.

4th Sunday in Advent - Isaiah 40:1-8; Luke 2:13-14

Christ shall comfort His people.

The Angels' Candle celebrates the joy of God's grace to mankind.

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PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICE AND THE DAY

Pastor of Our Savior	Pastor Andrew Burmeister
Accompanist (Organ)	Mrs. Janice Thomas
Flowers, Pointsettas	Our Savior Members
Food, Drinks, Refreshments	Our Savior Ladies & Families

solī Deo Gloria

A LIFE QUOTE FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE – “The great joy of Christmas is multiplied when we realize our Savior, at His birth, has already been humbling Himself for nine months because of His unparalleled love for all humanity from the moment of conception.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, executive director of Lutherans For Life*

Celebrate the Season Joyously!
Step out of the hectic rush and reflect upon our everlasting Hope because a Savior is born to you!

Christmas Eve Family Program

Wednesday, December 24, 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Festival Service

Thursday, December 25, 9:30 a.m.

New Year's Eve Service

Wednesday, December 31, 7:00 p.m.

Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church

6920 N Socrum Loop Rd, Lakeland, Florida 33809

www.OSLlakeland.org

Office: (863) 859-3400

Rev. Andrew Burmeister, Pastor

Pastor's Cell (863) 430-5859

Mrs. Janice Thomas, Organist

RECESSIONAL HYMN "The People That in Darkness Sat" ELH #153

1. The people that in darkness sat - A glorious Light have seen;
The Light has shined on them who long - In shades of death have been.
In shades of death have been.
2. To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness, - The gath'ring nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear - Their harvest treasures home.
Their harvest treasures home.
3. For Thou their burden dost remove - And break the tyrant's rod
As in the day when Midian fell - Before the Sword of God.
Before the Sword of God.
4. To us a Child of Hope is born, - To us a Son is- giv'n,
And on His Shoulder ever rests - All Pow'r in earth and Heav'n.
All Pow'r in earth and Heaven.
5. His Name shall be the Prince of Peace, - The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor. - The God by all adored.
The God by all adored.
6. His Righteous Government and Pow'r - Shall over all extend;
On Judgment and on Justice based, - His Reign shall have no end.
His Reign shall have no end.
7. LORD JESUS, REIGN IN US, WE PRAY, - AND MAKE US THINE ALONE,
WHO WITH THE FATHER EVER ART - AND HOLY SPIRIT, ONE.
AND HOLY SPIRIT, ONE.



OUR (SAVIOR) WELCOME

Our Savior congregation is so very pleased to have the opportunity to share with you the blessings of its Christ-centered ministry. We welcome you in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. To the friends who know us, we renew our welcome and to our first time guests we extend it most sincerely.

It is our goal to focus attention on the record of God's gracious accomplishments for our eternal destiny with Him. May the certainty of His mercy help to brighten the week ahead and this whole Holiday Season and to supply you with resolve for living as God's child and heir of eternal life.



THE DIVINE SERVICE

We call our regular Worship the "Divine Service" because it is the service of God to man. This can hardly be more true than in today's service than when we celebrate God's coming into humanity in the person of Jesus Christ. He is true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary to substitute for all men, women, and children and to atone for our sins.

The service follows the pattern of the Lutheran "Chorale" service, in which the main parts of the service take the form of hymns and readings.

THE SERVICE OF PREPARATION

ENTRANCE HYMN "O Come, All Ye Faithful" ELH #133 ADESTE FIDELES

1. Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant; - O come ye, O come-
ye to Beth-lehem; - Come and behold Him, born the King of an-gels;
*Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O COME, LET US ADORE HIM, CHRIST THE LORD!*
2. God from true God, and Light- of- Light-, - Lo! He comes forth...
from the Vir-gin's womb, - Our very God, begotten not crea-ted,
Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, (3 times), ...CHRIST THE LORD!
3. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation; - Sing, all ye citizens
of heav-en above. - Glory to God, All glory in the high-est.
Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, (3 times), ...CHRIST THE LORD!
4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy Night-, Jesus to Thee-
be all glo-ry giv'n; Word of the Father, Now in flesh appear-ing;
*Refrain: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O COME, LET US ADORE HIM, CHRIST THE LORD!*

The Invocation

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: AMEN.

The **Introit** (An "Intro"duction to what the service is about today.)

P: The Lord said to Me, You are My Son, this day have I begotten You. The Lord reigns, He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength, with it He has girded Himself.
...from Psalm 110

Children & Youth:

Genesis 3:15 (NIV)

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.

Genesis 18:18 (NIV)

¹⁸ Abraham will surely become a great and powerful nation and all nations on earth will be blessed through him.”

Galatians 4:4-5 (NIV)

⁴ But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons

The **Kyrie** (“*Kyrie is Greek for Lord; Eleison is Greek for “have mercy.”*)

**All Congregation: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison;
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

GLORIA HYMN “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” ELH #110, verse 1&5

1. *Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lowly exile here
Until the Son of God appear.* 5. *Oh, come, Thou 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!** **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**



The answer to our cry for mercy: The **Gloria in Excelsis**
(“*Gloria in Excelsis*” means “*Glory/Honor in the highest places, heaven.*”)

GLORIA HYMN “All Glory Be to God on High” ELH #35, verse 1

**1. All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended!
To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended;
God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again;
Oh, thank Him for His goodness!**

The **Collect** for the Day (for **Christmas Eve**)

(*The “Collect” is a prayer reflecting the theme of the Day.*)

P: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, and help us with Your great might, that whatever is hindered by our sins may be speedily accomplished by Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 9:6-7 (ESV)

P: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon His Shoulder,
and His Name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

...witness to testify concerning that Light, so that through him all men might believe. 8 He himself was not the Light; he came only as a witness to the Light. 9 The true Light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him. 11 He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him. 12 Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His Name, He gave the right to become children of God - 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. 14 The Word became Flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Prayer of the Church

Each petition concludes: *P: Lord in your mercy* **C: Hear our prayer.**

The Lord’s Prayer

&

The Offering

CONGREGATION NATIVITY HYMN “Silent Night” ELH #140 *STILLE NACHT*

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|--|---|
| 1. Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace. | 2. Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav’nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born! |
| 3. Silent night! Holy night! - Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth. - Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth. | |

The Christmas Collect (Closing Prayer)

Lord God, heavenly Father, we give thanks to You that of Your mercy and compassion You caused Your Son to become Incarnate, and through Him redeemed us from sin and everlasting death: We beseech You, enlighten our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that we may ever be thankful for such grace, and comfort ourselves thereby in all tribulation and temptation, and at last obtain eternal salvation; through the same, your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction:

P: The Lord bless thee and keep thee;
The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace.

C: AMEN.

Women: Luke 2:15-20 (KJV)

¹⁵ And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. ¹⁶ And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this Child. ¹⁸ And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. ¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

CHIEF HYMN "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing" ELH #125 MENDELSSOHN

**1. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"**

**Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim. "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

**2. Christ, by highest heaven adored. Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's Womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell; Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

**3. Hail, the heavenly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He leaves His throne on high, Born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth; Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

**4. Come, Desire of nations, come, Fix in us Thy humble home;
Oh, to all Thyself impart, Formed in each believing heart!
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING, "GLORY TO THE NEW-BORN KING!"**

The Pastor's Part

John 1:1-14 (NIV)

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was with God in the beginning. **3** Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. **4** In Him was Life, and that Life was the Light of men. **5** The Light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood It. **6** There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. **7** He came as a...

⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Micah 5:2 (ESV)

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

The Gradual

(The "Gradual" is an excerpt from Scripture that serves to "graduate" or "move gradually" from the Old Testament Lesson to the New Testament readings.)

C: Your people will be willing in the day of Your power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning. The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at My right hand, until I make Your enemies Your footstool. Alleluia! Alleluia! The Lord said to Me, Thou art My Son, this day have I begotten You. Alleluia! ...from Psalm 110



All Read as Noted:

Luke 1:26-37 (ESV)

Pastor: ²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.

Men: ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you shall call His Name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David, ³³and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His Kingdom there will be no end."

Women: ³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the Child to be born will be called Holy - the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God."

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Reader **Philippians 2:5-11 (ESV)**

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the Form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a Servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human Form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a Cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the Name that is above every Name, ¹⁰so that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, in Heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

THE GOSPEL LESSON

Youth: **Luke 2:1-7(KJV)**

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. ²(*And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.*) ³And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Beth-lehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) ⁵To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with Child. ⁶And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. ⁷And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Men: **Luke 2:8-12 (KJV)**

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. ¹⁰And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. ◇ 5 ◇

CRADLE HYMN "Away in a Manger" *ELH #119 Anonymous*

♪ *Children & Youth & Helpers sing verse 1:*

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet Head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

♪ *Congregation (join Children) on verses 2 & 3:*

2. *The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.*

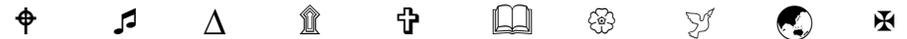
3. *Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.*

Youth: **Luke 2:13(KJV)**

¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the Heavenly Host praising God, and saying,

All Congregation: **Luke 2:14(KJV)**

¹⁴Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace,
Good will toward men.



CAROL/HYMN "Angels We Have Heard on High" ELH #116 FRENCH CAROL

Verse singing: v. 1 All; v. 2 Men; v. 3 Women; v. 4 All (All sing Refrain)

1. *Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.* 2.M: *Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?*

Refrain: *Glo- -ria, in excelsis Deo; ... Glo- -ria, in excelsis Deo.*

3.W: *Come to Bethlehem and see, Him Whose birth the angels sing,
Come, adore on bended knee, Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. To proclaim the Saviour's birth!* 4. *See, within a manger laid,
Lend your voices, lend your aid*

Refrain: *Glo- -ria, in excelsis Deo; ... Glo- -ria, in excelsis Deo.*