

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
6881 S. 51st Street – Franklin, Wisconsin
Pastor Brian Adams
Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

“And His Name Shall be Called...”

A Christmas Eve Service Based on Isaiah 9:6

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”
Isaiah 9:6

The Order of Service

The Opening Hymn

“Behold, a Branch is Growing”
Christian Worship #47, verses 1-2

1 Be - hold, a Branch is grow - ing Of
2 I - sa - iah had fore - told it In

love - liest form and grace, As proph - ets sang, fore -
words of prom - ise sure, And Mar - y's arms en -

know - ing; It springs from Jes - se's race And
fold it, A vir - gin meek and pure. Through

bears one lit - tle flow'r In midst of cold - est
God's e - ter - nal will This child to her is

win - ter, At deep - est mid - night hour.
giv - en At mid - night calm and still.

Please Stand

Christmas Dialog

- P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: *(Spoken)* Amen.
P: The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory.
C: **Oh, come, let us worship him.**
P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
C: **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.**
P: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined.
C: **We have seen Christ's glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.**
P: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us.
C: **What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**
P: Today Christ is born; today salvation has appeared.
C: **Glory to God in the highest! Alleluia!**

Prayer

- P: 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: *(Spoken)* Amen

Please be seated

1. We Need a New Name

Meditation

by Pastor

How many of you would like a new name? Some people do change their names. There are some who simply don't like their name any more. There are others who change their name to protect their own life or the lives of their loved ones. Some people need a new name to leave their past in the past.

We also need a new name; Not because we may have a criminal past; not because we have a name that we don't like anymore. We have a name that was given to us from the first parents in this world – Adam and Eve. Because of their sin, we now all have a name: "Sinner."

If that name isn't changed, we don't have eternal life in heaven. We have all sinned. We have all fallen short of God's command to be perfect as He is perfect. Try as we may, are unable to remove that name, "sinner," from us. Our only hope of forgiveness and life lies with Him who has the name above all names.

As we confess our sins to God, we are assured that Jesus has paid for every one of them through his perfect life and innocent death. We are assured that through faith in Jesus, Jesus has given each of us a new name: "FORGIVEN sinner."

The Confession of Sins & Absolution

P: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you," says the Lord. "I have called you by name: you are mine."

C: **Almighty God, we confess that we have not lived up to the name you have given us. In word and deed we have borne your name in vain. We do not deserve to be called children of God. Forgive us our sins. Empower us by your Holy Spirit to proclaim your name boldly to the world.**

P: "Whatever you ask in my name," says Jesus, "I will do for you." In Jesus, we have a new name, and our verdict reads "not guilty." Be at peace, the objects of God's good will. Your sins are forgiven.

C: *(Spoken)* Amen.

Congregation Hymn

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" *Christian Worship 65, verses 3 & 4*



3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De -
won - drous gift is giv'n! So God im - parts To
scend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin And
hu - man hearts The bless - ings of his heav'n.
en - ter in; Be born in us to - day.
No ear may hear his com - ing, But
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The
in this world of sin Where meek souls will Re -
great glad ti - dings tell; Oh, come to us, A -
ceive him still, The dear Christ en - ters in.
bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

2. What's In a Name?

Meditation

by Pastor

Do you know the meaning of your name? I looked up my name the other day, and I found out that it means: "strength," "valor," "strong one," "noble one," or "steep hill." In the Old Testament, names were often carefully to describe the person or the circumstances of the person's birth, or to express the hopes and dreams the parents had for their child.

The dying Rachel called her newborn son Benjamin, "son of my sorrow." Jacob's name, "heel grabber," was used to describe how he was born with his twin, Esau. Moses was given his name because he was "drawn out" of the water. Many more examples could be given.

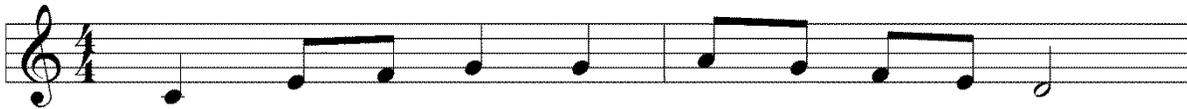
How about those of you who are here tonight – why did you give your son or daughter their particular name? Some may be named after a parent, grandparent, or other relative in the family. Some names are chosen because they are unique. Some are chosen because they were a popular name at the time of their birth. Regardless of the circumstances of a person's name, there is often a great deal of thought that goes into the giving of a name.

Tonight we take a look at the names that Jesus would be given and what those names mean to us.

Congregation Hymn

"Peace Came to Earth"

Christian Worship Supplement #707



1 Peace came to earth at last that cho - sen night
2 And who could be the same for hav - ing held
3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen,
4 How else could I have known you, O my God!

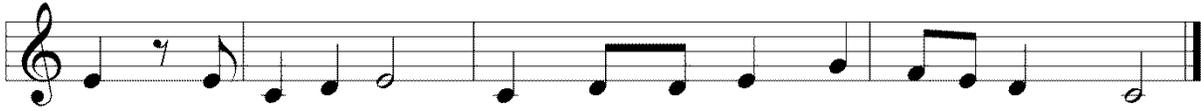


When an - gels clove the sky with song and light And
The in - fant in their arms and lat - er felt The
In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain, In
How else could I have loved you, O my God! How

Hymn continues on next page →



God em - bod - ied love and sheathed his might— Who could but
 wound-ed hands and side, all doubts dis - pelled— Who could but
 bread and wine you vis - it us a - gain— Who could but
 else could I em - brace you, O my God! Who could but



gasp: Im - man - u - el! Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!
 sigh: Im - man - u - el! Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!
 see: Im - man - u - el! Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!
 pray: Im - man - u - el! Who could but praise: Im - man - u - el!

“And His Name Shall be Called...”

3. Wonderful Counselor

Scripture Reading

Genesis 3:15

“And 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.”

Meditation

by Pastor

God’s people had been waiting thousands of years for God to send his Son. Already in the Garden of Eden, God assured Adam and Eve that he was going to send them a Savior who would crush the head of Satan.

The prophets would continue to assure God’s people that this Savior would come as God had promised. The prophet Isaiah would speak about those different names of the Messiah in the passage that is the focus of our service this evening. The first of those names is: “Wonderful Counselor.”

When a relationship is broken, a Counselor may be needed to help heal the wound that was created. It would take a special Counselor to restore peace between God and humanity. The sin that entered the world through Adam and Eve shattered God’s perfect world. It would be God himself who would provide the one to work the needed wonder of restoring peace to this world by destroying the works of the Devil. Jesus is truly a WONDERFUL COUNSELOR.

All: *(Spoken)* **For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called WONDERFUL COUNSELOR.**

Choir Anthem

“The First Noel”

Arranged by: Michael Clawson

The first Noel, the angel did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay. In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. Born is the King of Israel. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. For all to see there was a star shining in the east beyond them far. And to the earth it gave great light, light both day and night. The first Noel, the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay. In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. Noel. Born is the King of Israel. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel. Noel.

“And His Name Shall be Called...”
4. Mighty God

Scripture Reading

Micah 5:2

"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. "

Meditation

by Pastor

Bethlehem was a small village and might have remained insignificant, except it was also known as the City of David. God’s people could never have forgotten their greatest King. His name and legacy was cherished. They told and retold the stories of their conquering hero: How David slayed the giant Goliath; How David would defeat the mighty Philistine army as general and king. How could anyone forget Bethlehem and its king – King David.

But now Bethlehem would produce an even greater King – this King was the Son of God. He would not just defeat any old enemy. He would defeat and crush the Devil himself. The prophet Micah foretold the birthplace of this MIGHTY GOD.

All: (Spoken) For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD.

Congregation Hymn

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Christian Worship #65, verses 1 & 2



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And,

still we see thee lie! A - bove thy deep And
 gath - ered all a - bove, While mor - tals sleep, The
 dream - less sleep The si - lent stars go by.
 an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.
 Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro -
 ev - er - last - ing light. The hopes and fears Of
 claim the ho - ly birth, And prais - es sing To
 all the years Are met in thee to - night.
 God the King And peace to all the earth.

“And His Name Shall be Called...”
5. Everlasting Father

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-7

^{2:1} In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.
² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to his own town to register. ⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

At Caesar's command, Mary had gone with Joseph to register at Bethlehem, the hometown of their ancestor David. Their distant father, David, brought them to this city. Their Everlasting Father brought them to this city to give this world the perfect gift – His Son.

Jesus' Father was everlasting. His ancestry was traced back into eternity. His birth had been promised to Adam and Eve. When the fullness had come, God sent His Son. As proud parents hold their newborn children, their friends and family look for telltale similarities in that child: "He looks just like his father!"

Jesus was like His Father. He carried out His Father's Will in every single moment of his life. He did all of this so that we could also be God's children. Through faith in that Son, we are His children. Through the eyes of faith, Jesus is our EVERLASTING FATHER.

All: *(Spoken)* **For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER.**

Duet

Away in a Manger
Arranged by Hal H. Hopson

*Sleep, sleep, sleep little babe; We sing you a song. Sleep, O sleep, sleep, sleep little babe;
We sing you a song, Sleep, O sleep.
Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head;
(Sleep, sleep, sleep little babe; We sing you a song.)
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
(Sleep, O sleep, sleep, sleep little babe; we sing you a song. Sleep, O sleep.)
The cattle are lowing; the poor baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay close by me forever and love me I pray.
(Sleep, sleep, sleep little babe; We sing you a song.)
Bless all the dear children in your tender care and fit us for heaven to live with you there.
(Sleep, O sleep, sleep, sleep little babe; We sing you a song. Sleep, O sleep.)*

“And His Name Shall be Called...”
6. Prince of Peace

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:8-14

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

Meditation

by Pastor

The angels sang about it; we have the privilege of living it. God's Son came to this earth and accomplished what no one could ever achieve. All the animals slain on altars could not do it. Only God's own Son could turn away God's wrath. It would be God's Son that would make that final payment for sin.

You and I may be glad when we make the final car payment or mortgage payment. Yet, most likely in our lives we may once again have to make payments when we purchase the next car or purchase a different home.

The payment that Jesus would pay on the cross would be the final payment that anyone would ever have to make for sin. His death would once again restore peace between God and us. It is for that reason that we can truly call Jesus – the Prince of Peace.

All: (Spoken) For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE.

Hymn

"What Child is This?"

Christian Worship #67 -- Soloist: verse 1; Congregation: verses 2-3



Soloist: 1 What child is this who, laid to rest,
 Cong.: 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate
 Cong.: 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh;



On Mar - y's lap is sleep - - ing?
 Where ox - en now are feed - - - ing?
 Come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet With an - thems sweet
 Good Chris - tians, fear; For sin - ners here
 The King of kings Sal - va - tion brings;



While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 The si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, Whom
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through; The
 Raise, raise the song on high; The



shep - herds guard and an - gels sing.
 cross he'll bear for me, for you.
 vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.

Hymn continues on next page →

Haste, Hail, Joy, haste hail joy, to the for bring Word Christ him made is laud, flesh, born, The babe, the Son of Mar - y! The babe, the Son of Mar - y! The babe, the Son of Mar - y!

“And His Name Shall be Called...”
7. Jesus

Meditation

by Pastor

God had just given Adam and Eve a wonderful gift – a newborn child. The difficult journey to Bethlehem was now behind them. It didn't matter that they didn't have a room at the inn. That little baby in their arms took away every pain. There was never a doubt as to what Jesus' name would be. They would certainly follow the directions of the angel Gabriel.

The shepherds would soon arrive. As they knelt next to that manger, no doubt they asked the question that almost everyone asks when visiting a newborn child, “What's his name.” Without hesitation they answered: “His name is Jesus.”

Jesus – It is a name that says it. He is OUR SAVIOR. Tonight we celebrate His birth. Every day we treasure what that little baby in Bethlehem gives us: hope and eternal life. May we never forget his name – His name is JESUS.

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:26-33

²⁶ In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. ³⁰ But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. ³¹ You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
 2 An - gels sang a - bout his birth; Wise men sought and found him.
 3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There he lay, the un - de - filed, To the world a stran - ger.
 Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth, Glo - ry all a - round them.
 He is still the un - de - filed, But no more a stran - ger.

Hymn continues on next page →



Such a babe in such a place— Can he be the Sav - ior?
 Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing.
 Son of God, of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found his fa - vor.
 All the plains were lit that night; All the hills were ring - ing.
 Praise his name in all the earth, Hail the King of glo - ry!

The Offering

As our offering is gathered, we invite you to sign the Friendship Registers located in each pew.

Please stand

The Responsive Prayer

P: Let us pray in the name of him by whom our prayers gain acceptance before the throne of grace.

C: **Lord JESUS, hear our prayer.**

P: Where hearts and lives are broken, and healing is needed desperately.

C: **WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, hear our prayer.**

P: Where temptation is strong, and your will is opposed, and your people suffer, for the sake of your name.

C: **MIGHTY GOD, hear our prayer.**

P: Where the future is hidden, and the way difficult.

C: **EVERLASTING FATHER, hear our prayer.**

P: Where nations rise up against nations, and message of angels seems drowned in the unrest of the world,

C: **PRINCE OF PEACE, hear our prayer.**

P: These prayers we offer in the name of JESUS.

C: **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: *(Spoken)* Amen.

Please remain standing.

After the candles are lit, the congregation joins in singing "Silent Night."

Congregation Hymn

"Silent Night"

Christian Worship #60



1 Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is
2 Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep - herds
3 Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of



calm, all is bright, Round yon vir - gin
quake at the sight. Glo - ries stream from
God, love's pure light Ra - diant beams from



moth - er and child. Ho - ly In - fant, so
heav - en a - far; Heav'n - ly hosts sing,
thy ho - ly face With the dawn of re -



ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly
Al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sav - ior, is
deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy



peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

Following the Hymn, please carefully extinguish the candles and be seated.

Please join us tomorrow morning for our Christmas Day Worship at 10:00am

Worship Leader

Pastor Brian Adams

Organist

Mrs. Marie Becker

Adult Choir Director

Mrs. Marie Becker

Soloist/Duet

Mrs. Marie Becker & Mrs. Nancy Willms