

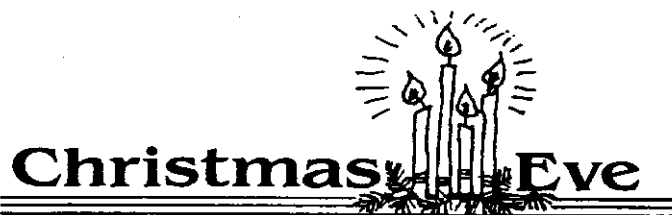
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# St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church

57 Griffith Street • Welland, Ontario • L3B 4G6 • 905-734-4746

email: [stmatts@cogeco.net](mailto:stmatts@cogeco.net) • website: [stmatthewswelland.com](http://stmatthewswelland.com)

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## Flowers

The Christmas flowers are placed to the Glory of God and in memory of loved ones by:

**Tuula Lane**

**Sirkka Giampaolo**

**Inge Poetzing**

**The Ort/Rominger Families in loving memory of Edith Rominger**

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## Assisting in Today

Assisting Minister .....

Ushers .....Carole Bender, Bill Bender and Cindy Belvedere

Acolyte .....Renée Jasinskas

Reader .....Marilyn Schultz

Your financial support of St. Matthew's is greatly appreciated! To receive a 2018 income tax receipt from the church, all donations must be received, or post marked, by December 31, 2018.

There is no Christmas Day service at St. Matthew's this year, however both **Holy Trinity (66 Division St. at 9:00 a.m.)**, and **St. David's (369 Thorold Rd, at 10:00 a.m.)** welcome us to join them.

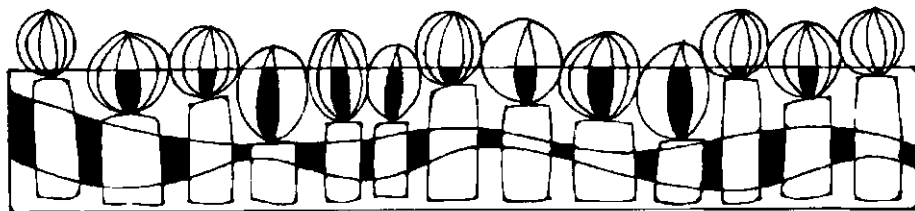
***St. Matthew's wishes you a very blessed and joyous Christmas and prays that these twelve days of Christmas bring you peace and health in the coming New Year.***

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## The Nativity Of Our Lord —December 24—

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“In response to God’s love, St. Matthew’s is a faith community welcoming all to grow in faith, to worship Christ and to reach out to everyone.”

### Welcome!

We hope our worship will be a blessing to you. Our Lord’s Supper is being celebrated tonight. Everyone is welcome to receive this Holy Sacrament.

Prelude and Announcements

### GATHERING

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**Gathering Song** ..... 283 **O Come, All Ye Faithful, vv. 1-3**

**Greeting** ..... Page 203

**Canticle of Praise** ..... 289 **Angels We Have Heard on High**

**Prayer of the Day**

### WORD

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**First Reading** ..... Isaiah 9:2-7

**Hymn** ..... 274 **On Christmas Night**

**Second Reading** ..... Titus 2:11-14

**Gospel Acclamation** ..... 277 **Away in a Manger, v. 1**

**FIRST READING. Isaiah 9:2-7**

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.

You 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.

For 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.

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

For a child has been born for us,  
 a son given to us;  
 authority rests upon his shoulders;  
 and he is named

Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
 Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His 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 onwards and for evermore.

The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

**SECOND READING. Titus 2:11-24**

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He 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.

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

From the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible Copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A.

*“Glory to you, O Lord.”*

Gospel ..... Luke 2:1-20

*“Praise to you, O Christ.”*

Gospel Acclamation ..... 277 *Away in a Manger, v. 3*

Hymn .....284 *‘Twas in the Moon of Wintertime*

## **SERMON**

Hymn of the Day .....279 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

Nicene Creed ..... Page 104

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer Response ..... *“hear our prayer.”*

Peace

## **MEAL**

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Offering and Offertory Hymn .....294 *In the Bleak Midwinter*

Offertory Prayer

Great Thanksgiving ..... Page 206

Form XI ..... Page 69

The Lord’s Prayer ..... Page 208

Communion

Lamb of God ..... Page 208

Communion Hymns .....296, 298, 300

Post-Communion Canticle ..... 263, vv. 1&6

Post-Communion Prayer

## **SENDING**

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Blessing

Sending Song .....281 *Silent Night, Holy Night!*

Thank you for worshipping with us on this Holy Night. We wish you all a joyous Christmas. May the Lord bless you throughout the twelve days of Christmas and the coming New Year!