



St. Michael Lutheran Church
2308 Merrimac Road
Blacksburg, VA

Rev. John Wertz, Jr., Pastor
Donita More, Organist/Choir Director

Christmas In July

July 25, 2010

11:00 AM

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Rejoicing in the good news that God and sinners are reconciled in Christ, let us confess our need for forgiveness. God of everlasting love,

C **We confess that we have lived in captivity to the fear of death. By our actions and by our neglect, we have resisted your good and gracious will. Free us from anxiety and distractions; cast out our sin, and enter in; give us a new birth of hope as we welcome the child born to save, Christ the Lord. Amen.**

P “You are my children; I am your Savior,” says our God, who has redeemed us, who lifts us up and carries us all our days. In mercy and lovingkindness God forgives us all our sins for the sake of Jesus, who delights to call us sisters and brothers.

C **Amen.**

HYMN NO. 257 vs. 1-5

“Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel”

DIALOG

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 light has 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 all people.**

THE SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 52:7-10

HYMN NO. 295

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

SECOND READING

John 1:1-14

HYMN NO. 296

“What Child is This”

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 1:18-25

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN NO. 270

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH

P God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C **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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P Good news of great joy, light and life, grace and peace be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN NO. 267

“Joy to the World”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P Lord in your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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 BENEDICTION

HYMN NO. 281

“Silent Night”

SENDING

P Filled with the joy of Christ’s birth, Let us go in peace and serve the Lord!

C **Thanks be to God!**

Merry Christmas and Welcome to St. Michael. May the Child of Bethlehem fill your heart with joy and love as we celebrate Christmas in July. The Christmas Carols are printed in the Red Hymnal. For your convenience, child care is provided. Please take a moment to fill out the “Welcome to St. Michael” form and place it in the offering plate. If you are new at St. Michael, please remember to include your mailing address and phone number so Pastor Wertz can get in touch with you.



CHRISTMAS IN JULY