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.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

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

Silent night, holy night, Here at last, healing light
From the heavenly kingdom sent, Abundant grace for our intent. Jesus, salvation for all. Jesus, salvation for all.

*THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING*

**THE CHRISTMAS BLESSING**

*THE SENDING*

L: Now filled with the joy of Christ's birth,
go to love and serve the Lord...
P: We go to share the good news with all we meet!

THE POSTLUDE "NOEL" Louis-Claude Daquin

"The word became flesh and dwelt among us..."This is what "incarnation" means. It is unsophisticated. It is undignified. It is un-theological. But according to Christianity it is the way things are! ~Fredrick Buechner

Preacher: Pastor John Lestock

Bethel Downtown
920 Third Street
Hudson, WI 54016
(Administrative office)
715-386-8821

Bethel Highlands
504 Frontage Road
Hudson, WI 54016
715-381-8254

www.bethelhudson.org
General Email: bethel@bethelhudson.org

A Less Than Perfect Christmas
CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT, CAROLS &
CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS
8:00 P.M.
Welcome to Bethel on this Christmas Eve! We are so glad you are here to worship with us on this most Holy of Days! Today we’re reminded of God’s great gifts of hope, salvation and amazing love in the tiny and vulnerable child He sent to earth. May you and I receive this child in our arms, and in our hearts today!

PERLUGE:
"Puer natus est" - Everett Titcomb (1884-1968)
"Trio Sonata in C, Opus 1 #7" - Archangelo Corelli (1653-1713)
"Allegro-Grave-Allegro" - Lucinda Marvin, Sarah Bertsch, violins

THE CHRISTMAS EVE WELCOME

*PROCESSIONAL CAROL  "O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL" #283

Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him, born the king of angels:

Refrain
Oh, come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him,
oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father, now in flesh appearing!

Refrain
Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, in the highest:
Refrain
Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
Refrain

*THE CHRISTMAS LITANY

L: On this night, the age-old prophecy has been fulfilled!
P: On this night, the greatest of wonders has taken place!
the Lord will do great things...

P: Through His life and ministry we will see God’s presence through His power and powerlessness!
L: He was given to us with a purpose, and His life, death and resurrection will change the course of all things...

P: He holds the key not only to this world, but also to the world to come!
L: So let us praise Him on this Holy Night!

P: Let our praises ring out, along with the angels voices, as we glorify God for sending the Christ-child to us!

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Luke 2:10-15

Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter versions beam afar;
Seek the great desire of nations, You have seen his natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King.

All creation join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising, to th’ eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King.

*THE OFFERING PRAYER
L: God of wonder...
P: We offer these humble gifts in appreciation of all you have done for us! As you gave what was most precious to you in Jesus, we now give faithfully to you, and your work. Amen!

GIVING OUR FIRST AND BEST TO GOD THROUGH OUR OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC:  "Pastoral Symphony"  G.F. Handel
Lucinda Marvin, Sarah Bertsch, violins

THE CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS
( Please come forward to the altar railing with your family as the ushers direct you, and help the pastors distinguish your family)

THE BLESSING CAROLS

"Angels We Have Heard on High" #289
"O Little Town of Bethlehem" #279
"Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming" #272

*THE CHRISTMAS PRAYER

*THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 PRAYER OF LIGHT

L: Arise and shine, for the light has come...
P: And the glory of the Lord shines upon us!
L: Nations will come to Your light...
P: Lift up your eyes and look around!
L: You shall see Him and know His presence...
P: Your heart shall thrill and rejoice!

*PASSING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

After the lights have been turned down, the pastors will light their candles, pass the light on to the ushers, and the ushers will light the end candle in each pew from the center aisle. Please carefully pass the light to the end of the row.

*THE CHRISTMAS GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

THE CHILDREN’S EVENT

*THE PRAYER

*SHARING THE CHRISTMAS PEACE

MUSICAL MINISTRY  The McGill Family
(Sonja, Chuck, Connor & Annika)

THE FIRST LESSON  Isaiah 9:2-7  OT Pg. 624

*THE CAROL  "WHAT CHILD IS THIS" #296

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
have done for us!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
Ah,3943 the King of kings salvation brings;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

*THE CAROL  "WHAT CHILD IS THIS" #296

The children’s event

THE CAROL  "WHAT CHILD IS THIS" #296

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

THE CHILDREN’S EVENT

THE CAROL  "WHAT CHILD IS THIS" #296

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Luke 2:2-20

THE MUSICAL MINISTRY

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" #289
"Angels We Have Heard on High" #289
"O Little Town of Bethlehem" #279
"Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming" #272

*THE CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

( Please come forward to the altar railing with your family as the ushers direct you, and help the pastors distinguish your family)

THE BLESSING CAROLS

"Angels We Have Heard on High" #289
"O Little Town of Bethlehem" #279
"Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming" #272

*THE CHRISTMAS PRAYER

*THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 PRAYER OF LIGHT

L: Arise and shine, for the light has come...
P: And the glory of the Lord shines upon us!
L: Nations will come to Your light...
P: Lift up your eyes and look around!
L: You shall see Him and know His presence...
P: Your heart shall thrill and rejoice!

*PASSING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

After the lights have been turned down, the pastors will light their candles, pass the light on to the ushers, and the ushers will light the end candle in each pew from the center aisle. Please carefully pass the light to the end of the row.

*THE CHRISTMAS GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-20

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Luke 2:2-20

THE MUSICAL MINISTRY

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" #289
"Angels We Have Heard on High" #289
"O Little Town of Bethlehem" #279
"Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming" #272

*THE CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

( Please come forward to the altar railing with your family as the ushers direct you, and help the pastors distinguish your family)

THE BLESSING CAROLS

"Angels We Have Heard on High" #289
"O Little Town of Bethlehem" #279
"Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming" #272

*THE CHRISTMAS PRAYER

*THE LORD’S PRAYER

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 PRAYER OF LIGHT

L: Arise and shine, for the light has come...
P: And the glory of the Lord shines upon us!
L: Nations will come to Your light...
P: Lift up your eyes and look around!
L: You shall see Him and know His presence...
P: Your heart shall thrill and rejoice!

*PASSING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

After the lights have been turned down, the pastors will light their candles, pass the light on to the ushers, and the ushers will light the end candle in each pew from the center aisle. Please carefully pass the light to the end of the row.