

Lutheran Church of The Good Shepherd

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CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE, December 25th, 2021

TODAY'S PRAYERS: Richard Rohn, Dorothy Quiring, Bruce Bird, Wally Funk, Jack & Laura Zacharias, Rick Fenske, Julian Woligroski, Del Jones, Wally & Marlene Cyncora, Kimberley Nachtigall, Kevin Patrick, Richard Biletski, Dianne McLeod, Irene Henschel, Sandra Draper, Flora Knudson, Al Hunter and Norbert Christmann.

The Order of Service: Divine Service Setting One,

LSB 151

Opening Hymn: Go Tell It on the Mountain

LSB 388

ref Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. Refrain

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain

3 Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. Refrain

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Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your Holy Name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Introit

Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

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.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

His right hand and His Holy arm have worked salvation for Him.

The LORD has made known His salvation;

He has revealed His Righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

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.

Kyrie

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise: This Is the Feast

LSB 155

C **This is the feast of victory for our God.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

C **Amen.**

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7–10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "**Your God reigns.**" ⁸The voice of Your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted His people; He has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The LORD has bared His Holy Arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

¹Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

²**The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His anointed, saying,**

³“Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”

⁴**He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision.**

⁵Then He will speak to them in His wrath, and terrify them in His fury, saying,

⁶**“As for Me, I have set My King on Zion, My Holy Hill.”**

⁷I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to Me, “You are My Son; today I have begotten You.

⁸**Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your heritage, and the ends of the earth Your possession.**

⁹You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

¹⁰**Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

¹¹Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

¹²**Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in Him.**

The Epistle Lesson

Hebrews 1:1–12

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, Whom He appointed the heir of all things, through Whom also He created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the Word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the Name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, **“You are My Son, today I have begotten You”**? Or again, **“I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son”**? ⁶And again, when He brings the Firstborn into the world, He says, **“Let all God’s angels worship Him.”** ⁷Of the angels He says, **“He makes His angels winds, and His ministers a flame of fire.”** ⁸But of the Son He says, **“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Your Kingdom. ⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness beyond Your companions.”** ¹⁰And, **“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of Your hands; ¹¹they will perish, but You remain; they will all wear out like a garment, ¹²like a robe You will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will have no end.”**

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

G Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Gospel

John 1:1–18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In Him was Life, and the Life was the Light of men. ⁵The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the Light, that all might believe through Him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the Light. ⁹The True Light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. ¹¹He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. ¹²But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His Name, He gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of Grace and Truth. ¹⁵(John bore witness about Him, and cried out, **“This was He of Whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because He was before me.’”**) ¹⁶And from His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the Law was given through Moses; Grace and Truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, Who is at the Father’s side, He has made Him known.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

Hymn of the Day: We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth

LSB 382

- 1 We praise You, Jesus, at Your birth;
Clothed in flesh You came to earth.
The virgin bears a sinless boy
And all the angels sing for joy.
Alleluia!
- 2 Now in the manger we may see
God’s Son from eternity,
The gift from God’s eternal throne
Here clothed in our poor flesh and bone.
Alleluia!
- 3 The virgin Mary’s lullaby
Calms the infant Lord Most High.
Upon her lap content is He
Who keeps the earth and sky and sea.
Alleluia!

- 4 The Light Eternal, breaking through,
 Made the world to gleam anew;
 His beams have pierced the core of night,
 He makes us children of the light.
 Alleluia!
- 5 The very Son of God sublime
 Entered into earthly time
 To lead us from this world of cares
 To heaven's courts as blessed heirs.
 Alleluia!
- 6 In poverty He came to earth
 Showing mercy by His birth;
 He makes us rich in heav'nly ways
 As we, like angels, sing His praise.
 Alleluia!
- 7 All this for us our God has done
 Granting love through His own Son.
 Therefore, all Christendom, rejoice
 And sing His praise with endless voice.
 Alleluia!

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Sermon: The Life that Is Ours!

John 1:1-18

Stand

The Nicene Creed

LSB 158

**☩ I believe in one God,
 the Father Almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth
 and of all things visible and invisible.
 And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
 the only-begotten Son of God,
 begotten of His Father before all worlds,
 God of God, Light of Light,
 very God of very God,
 begotten, not made,
 being of one substance with the Father,
 by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
 and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered and was buried.
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures**

**and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Offering: A Great and Mighty Wonder

LSB 383

- 1 A great and mighty wonder,
A full and holy cure:
The virgin bears the infant
With virgin honor pure! Refrain
- ref Proclaim the Savior's birth:
"To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"
- 2 The Word becomes incarnate
And yet remains on high,
And cherubim sing anthems
To shepherds from the sky. Refrain
- 3 While thus they sing your Monarch,
Those bright angelic bands,
Rejoice, O vales and mountains,
And oceans, clap your hands. Refrain
- 4 Since all He comes to ransom,
By all be He adored,
The infant born in Bethl'em,
The Savior and the Lord. Refrain
- 5 All idols then shall perish
And Satan's lying cease,
And Christ shall raise His scepter,
Decreeing endless peace. Refrain

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Stand

Offertory

LSB 159

C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Preface

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Saviour. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His Body and His Blood on the Cross.

Gathered in the Name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His Body and drink His Blood as He bids us do in His own Testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honour, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Pax Domini

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

LSB 621

- 1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descending
Comes our homage to demand.
- 2 King of kings yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly food.
- 3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light, descending
From the realms of endless day,
Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanquish
As the darkness clears away.
- 4 At His feet the six-winged seraph,
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
"Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

Let All Together Praise Our God

- 1 Let all together praise our God
 Before His glorious throne;
 Today He opens heav'n again
 To give us His own Son,
 To give us His own Son.
- 2 He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne,
 Is born an infant small,
 And in a manger, poor and lone,
 Lies in a humble stall,
 Lies in a humble stall.
- 3 Within an earthborn form He hides
 His all-creating light;
 To serve us all He humbly cloaks
 The splendor of His might,
 The splendor of His might.
- 4 He undertakes a great exchange,
 Puts on our human frame,
 And in return gives us His realm,
 His glory, and His name,
 His glory, and His name.
- 5 He is a servant, I a lord:
 How great a mystery!
 How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
 No truer friend than He,
 No truer friend than He.
- 6 He is the key and He the door
 To blessèd paradise;
 The angel bars the way no more.
 To God our praises rise,
 To God our praises rise.
- △ 7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
 Lord Jesus, we adore
 And praise to God the Father yield
 And Spirit evermore;
 We praise You evermore.

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Angels from the Realms of Glory

1 Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth. Refrain

ref Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2 Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the Infant Light. Refrain

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star. Refrain

4 Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear. Refrain

△ 5 All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the_ eternal Three in One. Refrain

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Stand

Post Communion Canticle: Thank the Lord

LSB 164

**☩ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

☩ Amen.

Benediction

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

☩ Amen.

1 God loves me dearly,
Grants me salvation,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me. Refrain

ref Therefore I'll say again:
God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.

2 I was in slav'ry,
Sin, death, and darkness;
God's love was working
To make me free. Refrain

3 He sent forth Jesus,
My dear Redeemer,
He sent forth Jesus
And set me free. Refrain

4 Jesus, my Savior,
Himself did offer;
Jesus, my Savior,
Paid all I owed. Refrain

5 Now I will praise You,
O Love Eternal;
Now I will praise You
All my life long. Refrain

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

On behalf of my myself and my wife Annette and our whole family we want to wish all of you a very Merry and CHRIST filled CHRISTmas as you reflect on the most "Most Precious Gift" our Lord and Saviour, Born to save us from our sins. God's Richest Blessings to all and a Joyous CHRISTmas and may the New Year bring us all Peace, Joy and faithfulness to Christ our Lord.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Acknowledgments

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