

Lutheran Church of The Good Shepherd

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CHRISTmas Day, December 25th, 2022

Included in the Prayer of the Church: Ken Wilson, Keith Basanta, Ruby Patrick, Jack Zacharias, Lorraine Osadchuk, Walter Harder, Irma Barten, Gary Edel, Dorothy Quiring, Bruce & Carol Bird, Wally Funk, Rick Fenske, Rev. Alvin and Jean Borchardt, William Fenske, Pastor Schollenberg and family also the family and friends of Abe Hiebert.

The Order of Service: Divine Service Setting One,

LSB 151

Opening Hymn: From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

LSB 358

- 1 "From heav'n above to earth I come
To bear good news to ev'ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will say and sing:
- 2 "To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth
Shall be the joy of all the earth.
- 3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High,
Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will Himself your Savior be
From all your sins to set you free.
- 4 "He will on you the gifts bestow
Prepared by God for all below,
That in His kingdom, bright and fair,
You may with us His glory share.
- 5 "These are the signs that you shall mark:
The swaddling clothes and manger dark.
There you will find the infant laid
By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

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.**

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.

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

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.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 2; antiphon: v. 7

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

²The 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.”

⁴He 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.

⁸Ask 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.”

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

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

¹²Kiss 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.**

Choir Sings: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly!

Alleluia and Verse

- C 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!

Text (st. 1): German, c. 1380; (sts. 1, 6): tr. Gregory J. Wismar, 1946; (sts. 2-7): Martin Luther, 1483-1546; (sts. 2, 4): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001; (sts. 3, 5, 7): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006 Text (sts. 1, 3, 5-7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 2, 4): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110006080

Sermon: Can You See The Light!

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: From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

LSB 358 VS 6-10

- 6 How glad we'll be to find it so!
Then with the shepherds let us go
To see what God for us has done
In sending us His own dear Son.
- 7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,
And see what in the manger lies.
Who is this child, so young and fair?
It is the Christ Child lying there.
- 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,
Through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery
That You might share Your joy with me.
- 9 Ah, Lord, though You created all,
How weak You are, so poor and small,
That You should choose to lay Your head
Where lowly cattle lately fed!
- 10 Were earth a thousand times as fair
And set with gold and jewels rare,
It would be far too poor and small
A cradle for the Lord of all.

Stand

Offertory

LSB 159

- ☞ 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.
G **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
G **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
G **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

The Words of Our Lord

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.

Sit

Distribution

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

- 1 Now sing we, now rejoice,
 Now raise to heav'n our voice;
 He from whom joy streameth
 Poor in a manger lies;
 Not so brightly beameth
 The sun in yonder skies.
 Thou my Savior art!
 Thou my Savior art!
- 2 Come from on high to me;
 I cannot rise to Thee.
 Cheer my wearied spirit,
 O pure and holy Child;
 Through Thy grace and merit,
 Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
 Draw me unto Thee!
 Draw me unto Thee!
- 3 Now through His Son doth shine
 The Father's grace divine.
 Death was reigning o'er us
 Through sin and vanity
 Till He opened for us
 A bright eternity.
 May we praise Him there!
 May we praise Him there!
- 4 Oh, where shall joy be found?
 Where but on heav'nly ground?
 Where the angels singing
 With all His saints unite,
 Sweetest praises bringing
 In heav'nly joy and light.
 Oh, that we were there!
 Oh, that we were there!

Text: Latin and German, 14th cent.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–74, alt.
 Text: Public domain

- 11 Instead of soft and silken stuff
You have but hay and straw so rough
On which as King, so rich and great,
To be enthroned in royal state.
- 12 And so it pleases You to see
This simple truth revealed to me:
That worldly honor, wealth, and might
Are weak and worthless in Your sight.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.
- 14 My heart for very joy must leap;
My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
That sweetest ancient cradlesong:
- 15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,
Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

Once in Royal David's City

- 1 Once in royal David's city
 Stood a lowly cattle shed,
 Where a mother laid her baby
 In a manger for His bed:
 Mary was that mother mild,
 Jesus Christ her little child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven,
 Who is God and Lord of all,
 And His shelter was a stable,
 And His cradle was a stall;
 With the poor and mean and lowly
 Lived on earth our Savior holy.
- 3 For He is our childhood's pattern,
 Day by day like us He grew;
 He was little, weak, and helpless,
 Tears and smiles like us He knew;
 And He feels for all our sadness,
 And He shares in all our gladness.
- 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him,
 Through His own redeeming love;
 For that child so dear and gentle
 Is our Lord in heav'n above;
 And He leads His children on
 To the place where He is gone.
- 5 Not in that poor, lowly stable
 With the oxen standing by
 Shall we see Him, but in heaven,
 Set at God's right hand on high.
 Then like stars His children, crowned,
 All in white, His praise will sound!

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818–95, alt. Text: Public domain

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

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.

C Amen.

Hymn to Depart: Joy to the World

LSB 387

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748. Text: Public domain

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

As we come to the end of this year, I Pray that our Gracious and Loving Father will grant us a New Year of Faithfulness to Him and His Word that as we gather together as Brother's and Sister's in Christ we may let the Light of Christ Shine into the darkness of this World. HAPPY NEW YEAR and may the Lord Bless and Keep You all, until His reappearing!

Acknowledgments

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