



And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Christmas Day

Divine Service 3

December 25, 2023 9:30am

Scripture of the Day

Isaiah 52:7–10

Hebrews 1:1–12

John 1:1–18

A Prayer before Worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

Prelude: ADESTE FIDELES (“O Come, All Ye Faithful”), J. Biery

Please stand and face the Processional Cross.

Processional Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful

LSB 379



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt. Text and tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786 Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

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.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Hebrews 10:22]

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

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

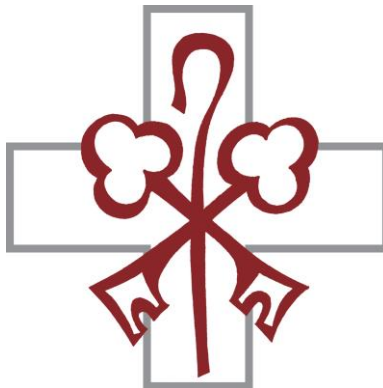
P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

[John 20:19-23]

C Amen.



✠ Service of the Word ✠

Introit *Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6*



- P** For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given;*
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder,
- C** and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,*
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.
- P** Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous things!*
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.
- C** The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;*
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.
- P** 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.
- C** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;*
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!
- C** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- P** For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given;*
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder,
- C** and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,*
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

Kyrie

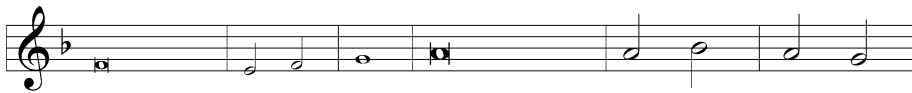
Mark 10:47



- C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

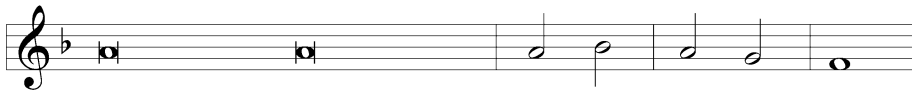
Luke 2:14; John 1:29



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



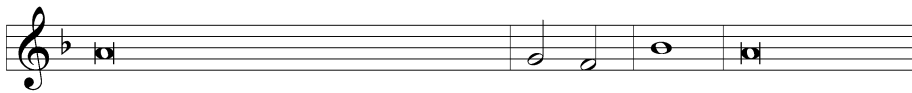
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Choral Response: “This Is the Truth Sent from Above”, S. Tucker

The Epistle Reading *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.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Festival Alleluia

The “Alleluia” refrain is sung by All before and after the Verse, which is sung by the Choir.

Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia!

Choir Verse: 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.

The Holy Gospel *John 1:1–18*

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



G Glo - ry be to Thee, 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.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.



Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 44:6

Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3

Genesis 1:1; John 1:1

Colossians 1:16

**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.**

Romans 10:9

John 3:16; Matthew 16:16

John 1:2

John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1

Colossians 2:9

John 1:2

John 10:30

Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3

Matthew 20:28; Galatians 4:4-5

John 3:13; John 6:38

Luke 1:34-35

John 1:14

Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18

John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53

1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6

Acts 1:9

Acts 7:55

Matthew 26:64

Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12

2 Peter 1:11

**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.**

John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38

Titus 3:5; 1 Corinthians 12:3

John 15:26

Mt. 3:16-17; Lk. 2:14

Ezekiel 11:5; 2 Peter 1:20-21

1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22

Ephesians 4:5; Acts 2:38

1 Corinthians 15:35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Isaiah 65:17-19; Revelation 21:1-4

Psalms 106:48

Please remain standing for the Hymn of the Day.

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

LSB 382

Stanzas 3 and 6 sung by Choir only



1 We praise You, Je - sus, at Your birth; Clothed in flesh You
2 Now in the man - ger we may see God's Son from e -
(Choir) 3 The vir - gin Mar - y's lul - la - by Calms the in - fant
4 The Light E - ter - nal, break - ing through, Made the world to



came to earth. The vir - gin bears a sin - less boy
ter - ni - ty, The gift from God's e - ter - nal throne
Lord Most High. Up - on her lap con - tent is He
gleam a - new; His beams have pierced the core of night,



And all the an - gels sing for joy. Al - le - lu - ia!
Here clothed in our poor flesh and bone. Al - le - lu - ia!
Who keeps the earth and sky and sea. Al - le - lu - ia!
He makes us chil - dren of the light. Al - le - lu - ia!

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;
(Choir) 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

Tune: Eyn Enchiridion oder Handbüchlein, 1524, Erfurt

Text (sts. 1, 3, 5–7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 2, 4): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001376

Tune: Public domain

Sit

Sermon *Rev. Stephen Schumacher*

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

Thank you for continuing to support the Lord's Work here at Bethany. Offering plates are available at the back of the sanctuary, or consider giving through the Vanco Mobile app or online at www.bethanylcs.org.

Hymn: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

LSB 359 sts. 1, 4



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have
woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Text: German, 16th cent.; (st. 1): tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, alt.; (st. 4): tr. John C. Mattes, 1876–1948

Tune: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1599, Köln Text and tune: Public domain

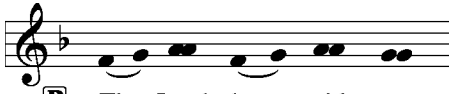


✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

About Receiving the Lord's Supper at Bethany

As we receive the Lord's Holy Supper according to His institution, we receive the salvation, forgiveness, and life eternal won for us on the cross. Also, we believe that when a person communes at an altar, one confesses unity with the teachings of that church. Therefore, if you are not in fellowship with the teaching of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, we ask that you refrain from communion until you have had opportunity to speak with one of the pastors about Christ's bodily presence and the forgiveness of sins given in this meal. However, all are welcome to receive a blessing, for the forgiveness of Jesus is still yours. Please indicate this as your intention by crossing your arms over your chest when the pastor comes by.

Preface



P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22



G And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]



G We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

[Psalm 136]

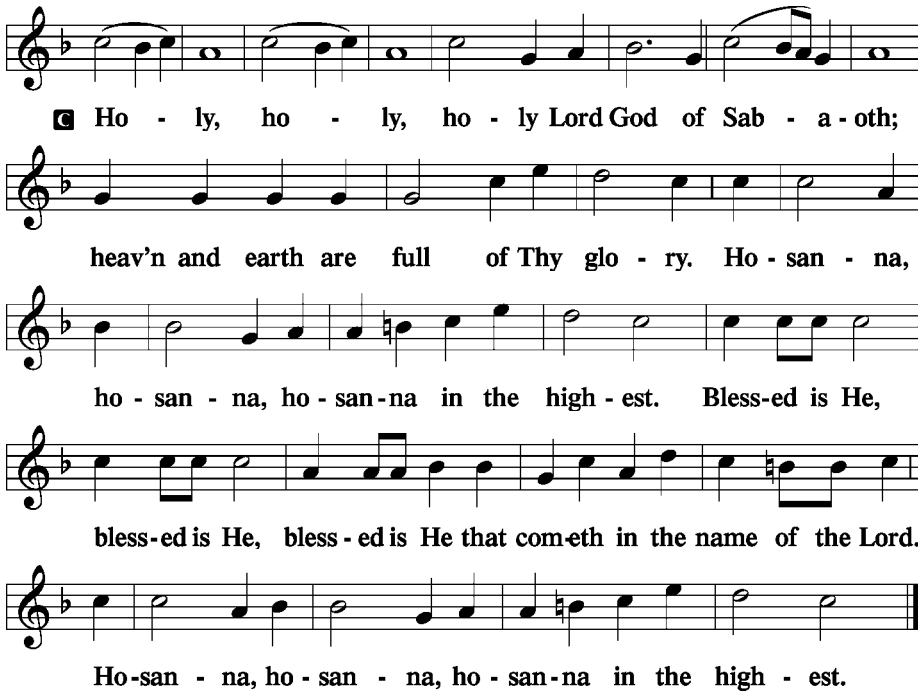


G It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

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
LORD'S
Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



G A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



G O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



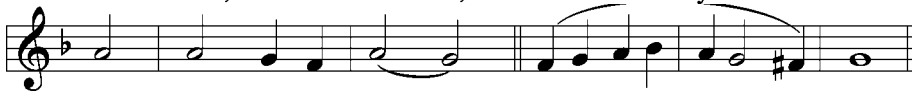
world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

A Prayer for Right Reception of the Lord's Supper

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Distribution Hymn: Of the Father's Love Begotten

LSB 384



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with
4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
△ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him
Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -
And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

A - men.

Distribution Hymn: Angels from the Realms of Glory

LSB 367



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
 Δ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
 beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
 hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
 Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
 Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
 Ye have seen His na - tal star.
 In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
 To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;



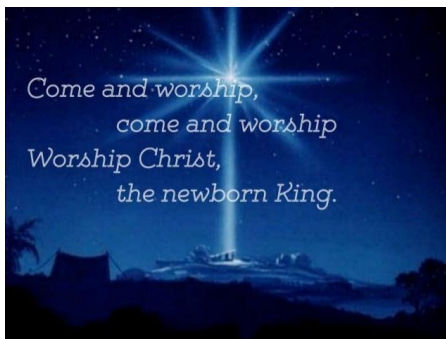
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-4): James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.; (st. 5): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, Salisbury, alt.

Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand



Thanksgiving after Receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Salutation and Benedicamus

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And with thy spir - it.



A Bless we the Lord.

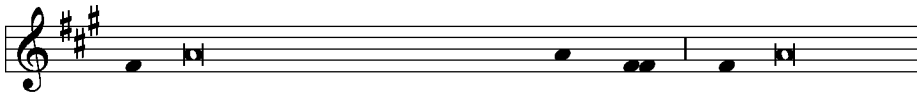
[Psalm 103:1]



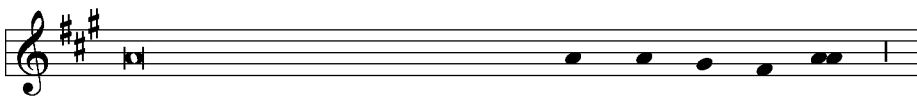
G Thanks be to God.

Benediction

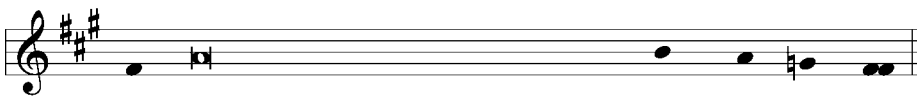
Numbers 6:24-26



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



G A-men, a-men, a - men.



Hymn to Depart: From East to West

LSB 385



1 From east to west, from shore to shore Let ev - 'ry
2 Be - hold, the world's cre - a - tor wears The form and
3 For this how won - drous - ly He wrought! A maid - en,
4 And while the an - gels in the sky Sang praise a -
△ 5 All glo - ry for this bless - ed morn To God the



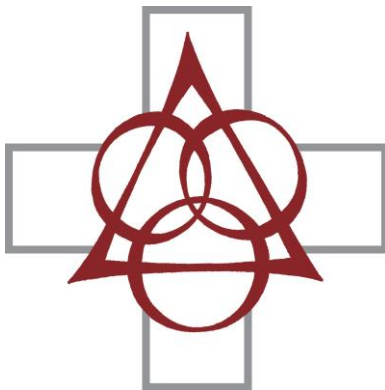
heart a - wake and sing The ho - ly child whom
fash - ion of a slave; Our ver - y flesh our
in her low - ly place, Be - came, in ways be -
bove the si - lent field, To shep - herds poor the
Fa - ther ev - er be; All praise to You, O



Mar - y bore, The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing king.
mak - er shares, His fall - en crea - tures all to save.
yond all thought, The cho - sen ves - sel of His grace.
Lord Most High, The one great Shep - herd, was re - vealed.
Vir - gin - born, And Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent.; tr. John Ellerton, 1826–93, alt. Tune: Geistliche lieder, 1539, Leipzig, ed. Valtin Schumann
Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude: VOM HIMMEL HOCH (“From East to West”), W. Held



A Prayer after Worship

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until, with all Your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Those Serving You Today

Preacher and Celebrant: Rev. Stephen Schumacher

Assisting Pastors: Rev. Seth Clemmer, Rev. Emmett Bartens

Organist: Kantor Jonathan Swett

Music Ensemble: Proclaim

Live Stream Tech: James Blasius

Acolytes: Jonah Swett, TT Sincere Wyang

Sacristans: Rich Fick, Glenn Luehrsen, Rick Krock, Mike Walsh

Ushers: Dominic Salvino, Rich Tatara, Rich Witkowski, volunteer needed

Communion Care: Sue Dumford

The flowers adorning our Lord's altar today are placed to the glory of our Triune God by Bob and Cheryl Airhart.



Prayers

For comfort, health, and recovery:

- Austin Eisemon, recovery from knee replacement surgery
- Aiden Goldbeck, infant heart and neurological issues
- Betsy Goldbeck, recovering
- Shirley Grudzien, for healing and strength
- Paul Reimer, recovering from ulcer surgery
- Thamary Robert, ill health
- Mary Schiltz, breast cancer
- Bennett, whose parents are friends to the Hawleys, born at 21 weeks
- Beth Dhuse, sister to Steve Lindenmeyer, strength and healing
- Donna Journey, aunt to Erin Gavin, aggressive cancer
- Joe LaMartina, husband to Maria LaMartina, back and knee healing
- Rochelle Shapland, friend to Maria LaMartina, breast cancer treatments
- Rob Skoda, friend to Maria LaMartina, health issues
- Andy Vickers, friend to the Koopmans, preparing for bone marrow transplant
- The family to Doris Luhrs, mother to Keith Luhrs, who was called to glory on December 14
- The family to Kirk Kasicki, uncle to Jennifer Moses, who was called to glory on December 15

Mothers with child:

Jaimie Bartens, Emily French, Susan Keller, Sarah Lieb, Amanda Bowman (daughter-in-law to Dwight and Pat Bowman), Kelli Lynch (niece to Sue Sreniawski), Brooke Schmidt (niece to Becky McBroom)

Those celebrating wedding anniversaries this month:

Jeffrey and Mercy Gustis, Mikey and Kelleigh Tito, Ryan and Lori Ulferts

Those who serve in the Armed Forces and their families:

Quinn Parlier, Jacob Wilson, Andrew Bear (nephew to Beth Hawley), Matthew and Michael Hinze (sons to Don Hinze), Peter Johnson (son to Dennis and Ina Johnson), Savanna Lugay (daughter to Joe and Bethany Lugay), Conor L. McGavern (nephew to Becky McBroom), Aaron Mock (nephew to Debbie Kokaska), Kyle G. Schmidt (nephew to Becky McBroom), Ryan Skarin (grandson to Muriel Skarin), Scott Slown (husband to Jennifer Slown), Nicholas Camm-Williams (friend to Nada Salvino)

Those who are shut in or in need of ongoing care:

John Coniglio, Roger and Charlene Fiene, Richard and Marilyn Groth, Bruce Janken, Alberta Kobialka, Solomon and Thamary Robert, Muriel Skarin, Nancy Skibinski, Chuck and Monika Werner, David and Ann Zielke

+ + +
**KIDS IN THE
DIVINE SERVICE**
+ + +



What is The Festival of the Nativity of our Lord?

The Festival of the Nativity of our Lord is the traditional way of saying Christmas Day. December 25 is one of the most important festival days in the Church Year. This is the day that we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus!

Why do we do the things we do at Christmas?



Many of the things that we do at Christmas have their beginnings with the Romans. Early Christians soon saw some of these things as outward reminders of Christmas and began to use them in their own celebrations. For example, when we give and receive presents, we can remember the greatest gift that has ever been given, our Lord Jesus! After all, today we celebrate Jesus' birthday, and He is the real reason for the season!



Parents: What a great way to spend Christmas! Thanks be to God that you have brought your children to hear the wonderful Good News of Jesus today! When you go home, be sure to remind your children that Jesus is the best present we could ever have. He gave up His life so that we might have eternal life. What a great message to share!



This Week at Bethany

- December 26, 1:00pm – Bible Reading Group
- **December 27, 11:00am – Midweek Divine Service**
- December 28, 7:00pm – Evening LifeLight
- December 29, 12:00pm – Knitters and Crafts Group

Looking Further Ahead

- **December 31, 8:30am and 11:00am – Divine Service**
- December 31, 10:00am – Bible Study, NO Sunday School or Confirmation Class
- January 2, 1:00pm – LWML
- January 3, 9:00am – Women's LifeLight
- January 4, 9:00am – Bethany Guild
- January 6, 8:00am – Men's Bible Breakfast
- **January 6, 6:30pm – Epiphany Divine Service**

CHRIST
THE SAVIOR
is BORN!

For information on activities and updates at Bethany, please subscribe to the “Week at a Glance” by emailing office@bethanylcs.org. If you prefer, some paper copies are available at the Welcome Center.



www.bethanylcs.org

630-355-2198

Pastor Seth Clemmer

Pastor Stephen Schumacher

Pastor Emmett Bartens

email: office@bethanylcs.org