

December 8, 2024

Welcome

The Hymn of Invocation

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem

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|--|---|
| 1 O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight. | 3 How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in. |
| 2 For Christ is born of Mary,
And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king
And peace to all the earth! | 4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel! |

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Invocation and Confession of Sins.....(pg. 151 in Lutheran Service Book)

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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

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.)

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

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.

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 the Word I therefore announce the full forgiveness of all our sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Kyrie.....(pg. 152 in Lutheran Service Book)

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

♪ **Lord, have mercy.**

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

♪ **Lord, have mercy.**

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.

♪ **Lord, have mercy.**

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

♪ **Lord, have mercy.**

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

♪ **Amen.**

Hymn Of Praise.....(pg. 155 in Lutheran Service Book)

This is the Feast of Victory

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.

The Lord be with you.

♪ **And also with you.**

Let us Pray: Almighty God, as you dealt wonderfully with Mary in choosing her to be the mother of your Son, grant us grace so that in all humility we too may say "yes" to you and experience the joy that comes from faithfully following you into a future that is unknown; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Old Testament

Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 8:28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Verse.....(pg. 156 in Lutheran Service Book)

♪ Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

♪ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. For nothing is impossible with God."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

♪ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Object Lesson

The Hymn of the Day

370 What Child Is This

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| 1 | 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! | 2 | Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary! |
| | | 3 | So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary! |

Text: Public domain

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

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.

The Prayers *[If you need information to send a card or call to someone for whom we prayed, please contact Pastor John.]*

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus
And for all people according to their needs.

After each portion of the prayers:

Lord in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

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.

Our offerings help to support:
COS Love Fund

The Offertory.....(*sung to #955 in the Lutheran Service Book*)

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

The Preface.....(*pg. 160 in Lutheran Service Book*)

The Lord be with you.

♪ **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

♪ **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

♪ **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising you and singing:

**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.**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us children of men and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for the redemption you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send your Holy Spirit into our hearts that he may establish in us a living faith and prepare us joyfully to remember our Redeemer and receive him who comes to us in his body and blood.

Jesus' Instruction for Holy Communion

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The Agnus Dei.....(pg. 163 in Lutheran Service Book)

**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.**

*[If your body does not tolerate alcohol,
the back row of the individual cups are grape juice.]*

The Distribution Hymns

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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|---|--|
| <p>1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. Refrain</p> <p>2 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord'rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go. Refrain</p> <p>3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times didst give the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain</p> | <p>4 O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. Refrain</p> <p>5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. Refrain</p> <p>6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain</p> <p>7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain</p> <p>ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!</p> |
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Text: Public domain

349 Hark the Glad Sound

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|--|---|
| 1 Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song. | 3 He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
To enrich the humble poor. |
| 2 He comes the pris'ners to release,
In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield. | 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With Thy belovèd name. |

Text: Public domain

The body and blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the faith to life everlasting. Go in peace.

Amen.

The Post Communion Canticle.....(pg. 164 in Lutheran Service Book)

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.

We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this good gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Benediction

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.**

The Final Hymn

374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

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|---|---|
| 1 Gentle Mary laid her child
Lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the Undefined,
To the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place,
Can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race
Who have found His favor. | 2 Angels sang about His birth,
Wise Men sought and found Him;
Heaven's star shone brightly forth
Glory all around Him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight,
Heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night,
All the hills were ringing. |
| 3 Gentle Mary laid her child
Lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undefined
But no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth,
Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth;
Hail the King of glory! | |

Text: Public domain

Server Schedule

	12/8	12/15	12/22
	8:30	8:30	8:30
Elder	Gordon	Bill	Dan
Reader	Wanda	Nanette	Dianna
PowerPoint	Dan	Greg	Shirley
Organ	Linda	Linda	Linda
Audio	Steve	Steve	Steve
Visuals	Preston	Amy	Edwin
	10:30	10:30	10:30
Elder	Herold	Mike	Greg
Reader	Delka	Cole	Rosemary
PowerPoint	Erik	Vicki	Erik
Audio/Visuals	Greg/Conor	Erik/Preston	Hayden/Donovan
Counters	Adria/Michelle	John Di/Wayne	John Da/James
	Both	Both	Both
Altar Guild	Royce/Paula	Williams/Koob	Nancy D
Altar Flowers	Prosser	Bianco	Rietz

Altar flowers this week are given by Diana and Greg Prosser in honor of Diana's birthday. All praises to our Lord for another year of blessings!

Birthdays this Week

12/08 Allie Yoder
12/08 Ethan Yoder
12/10 Neil Morris
12/10 Wanda Spacht

Anniversaries this Week

None on record