

🌿 Christmas Day 🌿

Sunday, December 25, 2022 - 9:30 a.m.

The heavens declare the glory of God;
and the firmament shows his handywork.

- *Psalm 19:1 KJV*



*(This is a picture of a galaxy far, far, far away
taken with the Hubble telescope – WOW!)*

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† Call to Worship †



Christmas Greeting

Hymn #377 “On Christmas Night All Christians Sing”



1 On Christ-mas night all Chris - tians sing To hear the news the
2 Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since our Re - deem - er
3 When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then life and health come
4 All out of dark-ness we have light, Which made the an - gels



an - gels bring, On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing To
made us glad, Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since
in its place, When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then
sing this night, All out of dark - ness we have light, Which



hear the news the an - gels bring, News of great joy, news of great
our Re - deem - er made us glad, When from our sin He set us
life and health come in its place; An - gels and men with joy may
made the an - gels sing this night: “Glo - ry to God and peace to



mirth, News of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
free, All for to gain our lib - er - ty?
sing, All for to see the new - born King.
men Now and for - ev - er - more. A - men.”

Text and tune: English
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

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

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

C Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Today's candle is the “Who-we've-been-waiting-for” candle

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3–4; Luke 18:13 LSB 203

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Savior born on this day, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

P *(Pastor leads us in prayer)*

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Absolution

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.**

Please remain standing

✠ Service of the Word ✠



Psalm 2

P¹Why do the nations rage

C **and the peoples plot in vain?**

P²The kings of the earth set themselves,

C **and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and against His anointed, saying,**

P³“Let us burst their bonds apart

C **and cast away their cords from us.”**

P⁴He who sits in the heavens laughs;

C **the Lord holds them in derision.**

P⁵Then He will speak to them in His wrath,
and terrify them in His fury, saying,

C⁶“**As for me, I have set my King
on Zion, my holy hill.”**

P⁷I will tell of the decree:

The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;

C **today I have begotten you.**

P⁸Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,

C **and the ends of the earth your possession.**

P⁹You shall break them with a rod of iron

C **and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”**

P¹⁰Now therefore, O kings, be wise;

C **be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

P¹¹Serve the LORD with fear,

C **and rejoice with trembling.**

P¹²Kiss the Son,

C **lest He be angry, and you perish in the way,**

P for His wrath is quickly kindled.

C **Blessèd are all who take refuge in Him.**

ALL **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.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day:

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

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

Hymn #387 "Joy to the World"



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

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.

Epistle: 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

Alleluia and Verse





Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



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

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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Hymn #380 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt. Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-47 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon "The Righteous Rising of the Sun-Son"

Mal. 4:2-3, Is. 9:6

Sermon Texts:

Malachi 4:2-3

²But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. ³And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

Isaiah 9:6

⁶For 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.

Stand

Nicene Creed

C 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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

Offerings are brought to the LORD's altar

Sit

Prayer of the Church

Responses:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

Final Petition:

P Hear us Father for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

† Service of the Sacrament †



Stand

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 208

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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Hymn #381 "Let Our Gladness Have No End" (v. 1-2)



1 Let our glad - ness have no end, al - le - lu - ia!
2 Proph - e - sied in days of old, al - le - lu - ia!



For to earth did Christ de - scend, al - le - lu - ia!
God has sent Him as fore - told, al - le - lu - ia!



On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save



us; Christ, His Son, to save us.

Text (sts. 1, ref): tr. unknown, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Vincent Pisek, 1859-1930
Text and tune: Bohemian, 15th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In the beginning You created all things by Your Word; and in the fullness of time Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

Let Your Word made flesh dwell richly among us that, faithfully eating His body and drinking His blood, we may receive the fullness of Your grace and truth in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.

The Words of Our Lord

- 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

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 210



- C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



- You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution of the LORD's Supper

Stand

Hymn #381 "Let Our Gladness Have No End" (v.3-4)

3 See, the love - liest bloom - ing rose, al - le - lu - ia!
4 In - to flesh is made the Word, al - le - lu - ia!

From the branch of Jes - se grows, al - le - lu - ia!
He, our ref - uge and our Lord, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain
On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save

us; Christ, His Son, to save us.

Text: tr. unknown, alt.
Text and tune: Bohemian, 15th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary 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.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1 LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Spirit ✠ be and abide with you all.

C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Hymn #366 "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"



1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo-rious song of old,
2 Still through the clo-ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un-furled,
3 All you, be-neath your heav-y load, By care and guilt bent low,
4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,



From an-gels bend-ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
And still their heav'n-ly mu-sic floats O'er all the wea-ry world.
Who toil a-long a drea-ry way With pain-ful steps and slow:
When down in-to the cir-cling years Came Christ as was fore-told.



"Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav'n's all-gra-cious king."
A-bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov-'ring wing,
Look up, for gold-en is the hour, Come swift-ly on the wing,
His word of peace shall to the earth God's an-cient prom-ise bring,



The world in sol-emn still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.
And ev-er o'er its ba-bel sounds The bless-ed an-gels sing.
The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an-gels sing.
And all who take this gift will hear The song the an-gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-76, alt.
Tune: Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900
Text and tune: Public domain



Merry Christmas to everyone from Friends In Christ!

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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