



# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH • SCHOOL



## **SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

**JANUARY 2, 2021 - 5:00 PM**

**JANUARY 3, 2021 - 10:45 AM**

*(The \* indicates when the congregation is to stand.)*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN** “Thy Strong Word” (sts. 1-3, 6)

*Hymn 578*

*(Stand and face the cross as it enters the Sanctuary.)*

**Thy strong word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done.  
For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, Dark as night and deep as death.  
Broke the light of Thy salvation, Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; Bright with Thine own holiness,  
Glorious now, we press toward glory, And our lives our hopes confess.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!**

**God the Father, light-creator, To Thee, laud and honor be.  
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.  
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.  
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!**

## **\*THE INVOCATION CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

## **\*THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Pastor:** Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our gracious and heavenly Father.

**People:** **Eternal God, we confess that by nature we are sinful people. We have transgressed Your Law in many ways, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not always been wise in our thinking and our speaking and our actions. Our motives and thoughts have not always been pure. We deserve Your punishment now and for eternity. O God, in Your mercy forgive our sin and restore us to a full and joyful relationship with You, through the merits of Jesus, our Lord. Direct all that we do by Your Holy Spirit that in the year now beginning we joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your Commandments as Your redeemed people.**

**Pastor:** 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. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Be at peace.

**People:** **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **THE HYMN OF PRAISE “Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn”**

*Hymn 391*

**Rejoice, rejoice this happy morn,  
A Savior unto us is born,  
The Christ, the Lord of glory!  
His lowly birth in Bethlehem  
The angels from on high proclaim  
And sing redemption’s story!  
My soul, extol God’s great favor;  
Bless Him ever For salvation;  
Give Him praise and adoration!**

## \*THE SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty Father, You have shined on us the new Light of Your Word made flesh, who lived among us. Cause us to find in Jesus, this Light, who and what is really important in life, and grant us Your blessing as we follow Him; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit; one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

## THE FIRST READING

*1 Kings 3:4-15*

<sup>4</sup>The king went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices, for that was the most important high place, and Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." <sup>6</sup>Solomon answered, "You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day. <sup>7</sup>"Now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. <sup>8</sup>Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. <sup>9</sup>So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?" <sup>10</sup>The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. <sup>11</sup>So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, <sup>12</sup>I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. <sup>13</sup>Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for - both riches and honor - so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings. <sup>14</sup>And if you walk in my ways and obey my statutes and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life." <sup>15</sup>Then Solomon awoke - and he realized it

had been a dream. He returned to Jerusalem, stood before the ark of the Lord's covenant and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then he gave a feast for all his court.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **THE SECOND READING**

*Ephesians 1:3, 7-14*

<sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ... <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding. <sup>9</sup>And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, <sup>10</sup>to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment - to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ. <sup>11</sup>In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, <sup>12</sup>in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession - to the praise of his glory.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**

## **\*THE HOLY GOSPEL**

*Luke 2:42-52*

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>42</sup>When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. <sup>43</sup>After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. <sup>44</sup>Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they went

back to Jerusalem to look for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.” <sup>49</sup>“Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **[10:45] CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES**

### **\*SERMON HYMN**

“See Amid the Winter’s Snow”

*Hymn 373*

**See amid the winter’s snow, Born for us on earth below,  
See, the gentle Lamb appears, Promised from eternal years. Refrain.**

#### **Refrain**

**Hail, O ever-blessèd morn! Hail, redemption’s happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem: “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”**

**Lo, within a stable lies He who built the starry skies,  
He who, throned in height sublime, Sits amid the cherubim. Refrain.**

**Sacred Infant, all divine, What a tender love was Thine,  
Thus to come from highest bliss Down to such a world as this! Refrain.**

**Teach, O teach us, holy Child, By Thy face so meek and mild,  
Teach us to resemble Thee In Thy sweet humility. Refrain.**

**\*PROFESSION OF FAITH - APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,**

**People: Hear our prayer.**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**\*WORDS OF PREPARATION**

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## \*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.

## \*AGNUS DEI

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**G** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*(Worshippers are self-dismissed to exit after communing.)*

## MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

*Hymn 384*

**Of the Father’s love begotten Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see  
Evermore and evermore.**

**Oh, that birth forever blessèd, When the virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, Bore the Savior of our race,  
And the babe, the world’s Redeemer, First revealed His sacred face  
Evermore and evermore.**

**This is He whom seers in old time Chanted of with one accord,  
Whom the voices of the prophets Promised in their faithful word.  
Now He shines, the long-expected; Let creation praise its Lord  
Evermore and evermore.**

**O ye heights of heav’n, adore Him; Angel hosts, His praises sing.  
Pow’rs, dominions, bow before Him And extol our God and King.  
Let no tongue on earth be silent, Ev’ry voice in concert ring  
Evermore and evermore.**

**Christ, to Thee, with God the Father, And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving And unending praises be,  
Honor, glory, and dominion, And eternal victory  
Evermore and evermore. Amen.**

“From East to West” *Hymn 385*

**From east to west, from shore to shore  
Let ev'ry heart awake and sing  
The holy child whom Mary bore,  
The Christ, the everlasting king.**

**Behold, the world's creator wears  
The form and fashion of a slave;  
Our very flesh our maker shares,  
His fallen creatures all to save.**

**For this how wondrously He wrought!  
A maiden, in her lowly place,  
Became, in ways beyond all thought,  
The chosen vessel of His grace.**

**And while the angels in the sky  
Sang praise above the silent field,  
To shepherds poor the Lord Most High,  
The one great Shepherd, was revealed.**

**All glory for this blessed morn  
To God the Father ever be;  
All praise to You, O Virgin-born,  
And Holy Ghost eternally.**

**"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"**

*Hymn 411*

**I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus. Refrain**

***Refrain***

In Him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,  
And show me the way to the Father. Refrain

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain

## **WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS**

### **Acknowledgments**

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**SATURDAY, 5:00 PM**

The Preacher	The Rev. Charles T. Reich
The Organist	Wynn Bonner
The Communion Deacon	Krista Bernthal
The Post-Communion Blessing	Bill McComb
The Lector	Jan Struck
The Usher/Greeter Team	Chuck & Carol Smith

**SUNDAY, 10:45 AM**

The Preacher/Celebrant	The Rev. Charles T. Reich
The Liturgist	Vicar Michael Duffy
The Organist	Wynn Bonner
The Sound Technician	Rodney Steffen
The Elder on Duty	Janet Pabor
The Communion Deacons	Ron Booth, Carl Locke, Jennifer Smith
The Lectors/Post-Communion Blessing	Steve Nierman, Angie Nierman
The Robing Leader	Leslie Ladner
The Crucifer	Maxwell Ladner
The Candle Bearers	Carldayle Brantley, Jake Garrison
The Acolytes	Laura Wootton, Olivia Zinsmeister
The Welcome Team Greeter	Brett Shirah
At the Welcome Center	Tabatha Shirah
The Welcome Team Ushers	Steve Hnatiuk, Dr. Ken Rogers, Barry Walker, Chris Zinsmeister