



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH • SCHOOL



First Sunday after

Christmas

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 26, 2020 - 5:00 PM

DECEMBER 27, 2020 - 10:45 AM

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

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN** “Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” *Hymn 386*
(Stand and face the cross as it enters the Sanctuary.)

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!

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!

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!

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!

***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: People redeemed by the Lord, let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

People: Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.
We repent of having sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.

We have not lived our lives fully in the freedom won for us by our Lord. We have not always been good stewards of Your creation, nor have we shared the bounty You have given us with those in need. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask for Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus, our Savior. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us to change what is sinful in our lives that each day we grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.

Pastor: God has promised pardon, life, and salvation because of the atoning sacrifice of His beloved Son, who has replaced slavery to sin with a priceless inheritance of freedom and joy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

People: Amen.

***THE HYMN OF PRAISE “Let All Together Praise Our God”**

Hymn 389

**Let all together praise our God Before His glorious throne;
Today He opens heav’n again
To give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.**

**He undertakes a great exchange, Puts on our human frame,
And in return gives us His realm,
His glory, and His name, His glory, and His name.**

**He is a servant, I a lord: How great a mystery!
How strong the tender Christ Child’s love!
No truer friend than He, No truer friend than He.**

***THE SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

¹⁰I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations... ¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her righteousness shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. ²The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow. ³You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING

Galatians 4:4-7

⁴But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, ⁵to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. ⁶Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

THE ANTHEM

"Christmas Angels" - A Carol Medley
(Vocal Duet)

arr. L. Larson

*THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

²²When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the

consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him.²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ.²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required,²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace.³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation,³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all people,³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."³³ The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him.³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against,³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."³⁶ There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage,³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying.³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth.⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

[10:45] CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

***SERMON HYMN**

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Hymn 393

**Infant holy, Infant lowly, For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, Little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, Angels singing, Bells are ringing, Tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!**

**Flocks were sleeping, Shepherds keeping Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, Heard the story, Tidings of a Gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow, Praises voicing, Greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!**

THE SERMON

***PROFESSION OF FAITH - 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.

***PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

***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.

***THE BENEDICTION**

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

***RECESSIONAL HYMN**

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Hymn 388

Refrain

**Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. Refrain.**

**The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain.**

Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. Refrain.

***DISMISSAL**

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

The Preacher/Liturgist

The Organist

The Lector

The Usher/Greeter Team

The Rev. Charles T. Reich

Wynn Bonner

Bill McComb

Bill Smith, Jackie Stine

SUNDAY, 10:45 AM

The Preacher/Liturgist

The Organist

The Vocalists

The Keyboard Accompanist

The Sound Technician

The Elder on Duty

The Lectors

The Crucifer

The Acolytes

The Welcome Team Greeter

At the Welcome Center

The Welcome Team Ushers

The Rev. Charles T. Reich

Wynn Bonner

Wynn Bonner, Ivan Lambert

Diane Lambert

Rodney Steffen

Georgia Fisher

Lou Marinelli, Georgia Fisher

Porter Whitehead

Dakota Van Volkenburgh

Lou Marinelli

Sharon Marinelli

Donna Enzor, Steve Griffith,

Carl Rod, Larry Walker

Acknowledgments

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