

# “LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION!”

Here, at The Lutheran Church and School of Messiah, we firmly believe that



God has put us right here—on 12<sup>th</sup> and Teller—for a reason!!!

We hope and trust and love the fact that God has called us into *“Preaching and teaching the truth to His expanding kingdom, reaching out to all!”*

You have probably heard that “location is everything.” And, it is also true in in our spiritual lives. So often, we feel behind or buffeted or surrounded by enemies... but, the reality is that even if we are behind, we look forward in hope. Even if we are buffeted, we are buffeted on faith. And, even if we are surrounded, we are surrounded by the Father’s love.

As we pilgrim through this dark world together, Christ is our center and our guide. And, it is only our hope in Him that we can be there for others.

How can you be there for others this season? Share your hope. Spread the faith. Surround them with God’s love as we yearn for Christ’s coming in Christmas and on the Last Day to save us.

# CHRISTMAS DAY

## † *Soli Deo Gloria* †

From heaven to earth, our Lord came into a dark, cold, world with no room for Him! Yet, while we were still sinners, Christ came not to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.

### Greetings and Announcements

Opening Hymn “Angels from the Realms of Glory” LSB 367

1 Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o’er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation’s story,  
Now proclaim Messiah’s birth. Refrain

ref Come and worship, come and worship;  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2 Shepherds in the field abiding,  
Watching o’er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
Yonder shines the Infant Light. Refrain

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations,  
Ye have seen His natal star. Refrain

4 Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In His temple shall appear. Refrain

**STAND** 5 All creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising  
To the\_ eternal Three in One. Refrain

## † PREPARATION †

### Invocation

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

C Amen.

## Confession

From Romans 6:15; 20-23; 1 John 1:5-9; John 1:5-14.

- P What do you say? Should we sin because we are covered by grace and not under the law?
- C By no means!!!**
- P But, when you were slaves of sin, you were free from the law of God.
- C That only brought us shame!!! The fruit of sin is always death.**
- P Now that you have been set free from sin and have become servants of God how is it any different?
- C The fruit of God is eternal life and holiness!!!**
- P This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light.
- C In Him is no darkness at all!!**
- P If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.
- C But, if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.**
- P The blood of Jesus, His Son, cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C 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 self-examination.*

- P The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it... The true light which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him. He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him.
- But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.
- In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for His sake God forgives you all of your sins.
- As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His command and 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.**

My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -

joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the

Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

1 For He has re - garded  
 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,  
 3 He has shown strength with His arm;  
 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,  
 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son

1 the lowliness of His hand-maiden.  
 2 and holy is His name;  
 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
 4 and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.  
 5 and to the Ho - ly Spirit;

1 For be - hold, from this . . . . . day  
 2 and His mercy is on those who . . . . . fear Him  
 3 He has cast down the mighty from their . . . . . thrones  
 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy  
 5 as it was in the be - - - - - ginning,

1 all generations will . . . . . call me blessèd.  
 2 from generation to . . . . . gen - er - ation. *Refrain*  
 3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.  
 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.  
 5 is now, and will be forever. . . . . A - - - - - men. *Refrain*

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Most merciful God, You gave Your eternal Word to become incarnate of the pure Virgin. Grant Your people grace to put away the ways of this world, so that they may be ready to receive your presence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## † SERVICE OF THE WORD †

### The First Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

<sup>7</sup>How 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.”

<sup>8</sup>The 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.

<sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing,  
you waste places of Jerusalem,  
for the LORD has comforted his people;  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>The 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.

**P** This is the word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Epistle

Hebrew 1: 1-6

<sup>1</sup>Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers  
by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but 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. <sup>3</sup>He 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, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name  
he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup>For 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”?

<sup>6</sup>And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

### Gospel Reading

John 1:1-18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C Glo-ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

<sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And 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.

<sup>15</sup>(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.’”) <sup>16</sup>And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

<sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No 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.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

### Apostle’s 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.

Sermon Hymn      "Away in a Manger"      LSB 364

- 1    Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
     The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.  
     The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,  
     The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- 2    The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
     But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
     I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
     And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
- 3    Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay  
     Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
     Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
     And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

**"Location, Location, Location!"**

**-Rev. Joshua Schmidt**

**Prayers of the Church**

## **† SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT †**

**Preface**

- P**    The Lord be with you.  
**C**    And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** **It is meet and right so to do.**

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### **Sanctus**

**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

### **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**

#### **Pax Domini**

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

**C** **Amen.**

## Agnus Dei

- C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

## Distribution

### Distribution Hymns “What Child Is This”

LSB 370

- 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!

“See amid the Winter’s Snow”

LBS 373

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

ref Hail, O ever-blessèd morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

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

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

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

### **Communion Blessing**

#### **Nunc Dimittis**

**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.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

#### **Post Communion Collect**

**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.**

**P The Lord be with you.**

**C And with thy spirit.**

### **Benedicamus**

**P Bless we the Lord.**

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Benediction**

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

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

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

**C Amen, amen, amen.**

### **Closing Hymn           “Joy to the World”**

**LBS 387**

**1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!**

Let earth receive her King;

Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

**2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!**

Let men their songs employ,

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

**3 No more let sins and sorrows grow**

Nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make His blessings flow

Far as the curse is found,

Far as the curse is found,

Far as, far as the curse is found.

- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

**Those Serving In  
The Worship Service Christmas Day  
Thursday December 25, 2020**

<b>Preacher</b>	Rev. Joshua Schmidt
<b>Liturgist</b>	Rev. Michael Redeker
<b>Organist</b>	Marilyn Smith
<b>Elders</b>	Billy Diaz, John O'Connor
<b>Acolyte</b>	Jimmy Hayes, Luke Lampitt