

Joy of Christ Lutheran Church

January 1, 2023

MUSIC PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

GATHERING SONG

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

RED BOOK #282

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all-gracious king."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ever o'er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow:
look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!

For lo! The days are hast'ning on, by prophets seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation. **Amen.**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,

you promise good news of great joy for all people,

and call us to be messengers of your peace.

We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security.

We nurture conflict and build barriers.

We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation.

Have mercy on us.

Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage.

Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

In ☩ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth
shall know the salvation of God. **Amen.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE THE MAGNIFICAT

My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you,
You have looked with love on your servant here, and blessed me all my life through.
Great and mighty are you, O Holy One, strong is your kindness evermore.
How you favor the weak and lowly one, humbling the proud of heart.

You have cast the mighty down from their thrones, and uplifted the humble of heart,
you have filled the hungry with wondrous things, and left the wealthy no part.
Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One, strong is your justice, strong your love,
As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness forevermore.

My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you,
You have looked with love on your servant here, and blessed me all my life through.

GREETING

May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the Communion of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LESSONS

FIRST READING: Numbers 6:22-27 A reading from Numbers.

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ²³Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

²⁷So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 8

¹O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷all flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts of the field,
⁸**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,**
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

⁹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Glory be to the Creator God, and to the Son Jesus Christ and to the Holy Spirit
As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. **Amen.**

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11 A reading from Philippians.

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,

⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form,

⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,

¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Emmanuel

PURPLE BOOK, #36

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel,
God with us, revealed in us; His name is called Emmanuel.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:15-21

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

Response: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SONG

LOVE HAS COME (VS 1)

RED BOOK, #292

Love has come—a light in the darkness! Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it; hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior! Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

CHILDREN'S SERMON & BLESSING

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST

RED BOOK, #632

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

After the petition: God of grace,

The Congregation responds: ... hear our prayer. Amen.

PEACE Response: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL MUSIC OFFERING:

Monnette Forte

(Offerings Brought Forward)

RESPONSE: **The Queen's Prayer**

'O kou aloha no Aia i Ka Lani,
A 'o kou 'oia'io, He hemolele ho'i.

Nolai la e ka Haku, Ma lalo Kou 'e heu,
Ko makou maluhia. A mau loa aku no. Amene

Translation:

Your loving mercy is as high as Heaven
And your truth, so perfect.

And so, O Lord protect us beneath your wings
And let peace be our portion. Now and forever more. Amen

BLESSING OF THE OFFERINGS

God of abundance,

receive and bless these gifts we have offered.

Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration.

Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD

RED BOOK, PG. 144

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung)

(On the screen)

COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

LAMB OF GOD

RED BOOK, PG 146

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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

SENDING SONG

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

RED BOOK, #290

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 Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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MUSIC

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