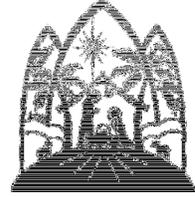


# CHRISTMAS DAY

## THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

December 25, 2018

10:00 am



### AS WE GATHER

Whether your family exchanges Christmas gifts on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day (or at all), Christians gather here to celebrate, receive, and unwrap the perfect Gift, that is, Jesus Christ Himself. The wrapping paper in our homes temporarily covers a gift and is soon thrown away, but Jesus comes to us this day by His Means of Grace to give to us infinite things we can't find anywhere else—the love of His life, the forgiveness of sins, and the salvation of our souls. We rejoice in the gift of the Child wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in the manger, knowing the great gifts the Lord comes to bring for us and for the whole world through the Savior given and born for us.

**PRELUDE** “Joy to the World”

*Bell Choir*

### RINGING OF THE BELLS



**WELCOME**

*(Please Stand)*

**+ PREPARATION +**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN** “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

*LSB 367*

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

**Shepherd's in the field abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing Yonder shines the Infant Light.  
Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations, Ye have seen His natal star.  
Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending, In His temple shall appear.  
Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**△ All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising To the eternal Three in One.  
Come and worship, come and worship; Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

## INVOCATION

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

**People: Amen.**

## OPENING SENTENCES *John 1:1-5*

Pastor: Joy to the world!

**People: The Lord is come!**

Pastor: Christ is born in Bethlehem.

**People: O come, let us adore Him.**

Pastor: The light of the world has come.

**People: He shines in our darkness.**

Pastor: In the light is life,

**People: the life of all people.**

Pastor: Joy to the world!

**People: The Lord is come! Amen!**

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE

**We light the Christmas candle And sing with peace and joy.**

**Our hope is now begotten In Christ, the infant boy.**

**God's love is with us dwelling, All darkness now dispelling.**

**We celebrate in light, For God makes all things right!**

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## CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us go to God's throne of grace, freely confessing our sins.

Pastor: We bow with humble hearts before the Lord of all Creation.

**People: We are not worthy of the least of His mercies.**

Pastor: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love.

**People: Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sins.**

Pastor: Cleanse me with hyssop and I will be clean.

**People: Wash me and I will be whiter than snow. *Psalm 51***

Pastor: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

**People: On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. *Isaiah 9***

Pastor: Come let us reason together says the Lord. though your sins are like scarlet they shall be as white as snow. *Isaiah 1*

**People: for to us a child is born, to us a son is given**

Pastor: and His name shall be called

**People: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9***

Pastor: To us a Child has been born; to us God's Son has been given! 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.

People: Amen.

**CHRISTMAS VERSE** "Away in a Manger"

LSB 364, v. 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.

### SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God,

People: grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

*(Please Be Seated)*

### + WORD +



**OLD TESTAMENT** Isaiah 52:7–10 (*God's salvation is cause for singing.*)

<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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**ANTHEM** "Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella"

*Bell Choir*



**EPISTLE** Hebrews 1:1–6 (*Jesus shows us God's true nature.*)

<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.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*(Please Stand)*

**GOSPEL VERSE** “Let Our Gladness Have No End” *LSB 381, v. 1*

**Let our gladness have no end, alleluia! For to earth did Christ descend, alleluia!**

**REFRAIN: On this day God gave us Christ, His Son to save us;  
Christ, His Son to save us.**



**HOLY GOSPEL** John 1:1–14 (*The Word became flesh.*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

People: **Glory 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 gives light to 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.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

“यूहन्ना 1:1-14

आदिमा वचन हुनुहुन्थ्यो, वचन परमेश्वरसँग हुनुहुन्थ्यो, अनि वचन परमेश्वर हुनुहुन्थ्यो। उहाँ आदिमा परमेश्वरसँग हुनुहुन्थ्यो। सबै थोक उहाँद्वारा बनिए, र बनिएको कुनै थोक पनि उहाँविना बनिएन। उहाँमा जीवन थियो, र त्यो जीवन मानिसहरूको ज्योति थियो। त्यो ज्योति अन्धकारमा चमकन्छ, र अन्धकार त्यसमाथि विजयी भएको छैन। परमेश्वरबाट पठाइएका एक जना मानिस थिए, जसको नाउँ यूहन्ना थियो। उनीद्वारा सबैले विश्वास गर्नु भनेर त्यस ज्योतिको गवाही दिन उनी साक्षी भई आए। उनी आफै त्यो ज्योति थिएनन्, तर त्यस ज्योतिको गवाही दिन आए। हरेक मानिसलाई ज्ञान प्रदान गर्ने साँचो ज्योति संसारमा आउँदै हुनुहुन्थ्यो। उहाँ संसारमा हुनुहुन्थ्यो, संसार उहाँद्वारा बनियो, तापनि संसारले उहाँलाई चिनेन। उहाँ आफ्नै मानिसहरूका आउनुभयो, तर उहाँका आफ्ना मानिसहरूले उहाँलाई ग्रहण गरेनन्। तर जतिले उहाँलाई ग्रहण गरे र उहाँको नाउँमाथि विश्वास गरे, उहाँले तिनीहरूलाई परमेश्वरका सन्तान हुने अधिकार दिनुभयो। तिनीहरू रगतद्वारा, शारीरिक इच्छाद्वारा, र कुनै मान्छेको इच्छाद्वारा होइन तर परमेश्वरबाट जन्मिएका हुन्छन्। अनि वचन देहधारी हुनुभयो, र अनुग्रह र सत्यताले पूर्ण भई हाम्रा बीचमा वास गर्नुभयो। हामीले उहाँको महिमा देख्यौं, जुन महिमा पिताबाट आउनुभएको एकमात्र पुत्रको जस्तो थियो।”

यूहन्ना 1:1-14

**GOSPEL RESPONSE** “Let Our Gladness Have No End” *LSB 381, v. 4*

**Into flesh is made the Word, alleluia! He, our refuge and our Lord, alleluia!**

**Refrain: On this day God gave us Christ, His Son to save us;  
Christ, His Son to save us.**



**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.**

*(Please Be Seated)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “The Infant Priest Was Holy Born” *LSB 624*

**The infant Priest was holy born For us unholy and forlorn;  
From freshly temple forth came He, Anointed from eternity.**

**This great High Priest in human flesh Was icon of God’s righteousness.  
His hallowed touch brought sanctity; His hand removed impurity.**

**The holy Lamb undaunted came To God’s own altar lit with flame;  
While weeping angels hid their eyes, This Priest became a sacrifice.**

**But death would not the victor be Of Him who hung upon the tree.  
He leads us to the Holy Place Within the veil, before God’s face.**

**The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the rail on bended knee  
Our hungry mouths from Him receive The bread of immortality.**

**The body of God’s Lamb we eat, A priestly food and priestly meat;  
On sin-parched lips the chalice pours His quenching blood that life restores.**

**With cherubim and seraphim Our voices join the endless hymn,  
And “Holy, holy, holy” sing To Christ, God’s Lamb, our Priest and King.**



**SERMON** “The Word Became Flesh” Rev. Lonie Eatherton

*(Please Stand)*



**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** (*Prayers of Song and Spoken Petition*)

*(Sung)*

**People:** **O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!** *LSB*  
361, v. 4

**Pastor:** Father, on this day we recall how great is Your infinite love for us, sending Your Son into our world wrapped in our flesh as a tiny child to forgive our sins.

**People:** **Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift.**

*(Sung)*

**People:** **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.**  
*LSB 364, v. 3*

**Pastor:** Jesus, on this day we recall how great is Your infinite love for us. You gave up heaven to live on earth as one of us, and one with us, to forgive our sin.

**People:** **Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift.**

*(Sung)*

**People:** **Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled, A quiet chamber set apart For You to dwell within my heart.** *LSB 358; v. 13*

*(Special Petitions)*

**Pastor:** Holy Spirit, on this day we recall how great is Your infinite love for us, gathering us together through the waters of Baptism and nourishing our faith through the Word and the body and blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sin.

**People:** **Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift given, received in faith, and kept unto life eternal. Amen.**

*(Please Be Seated)*



**GATHERING OF OFFERINGS** “The Glory of the Father”

*Ascension Choir*

*(Please Stand)*

**OFFERTORY** “O Sing of Christ”

*LSB 362, v. 1*

**O sing of Christ, whose birth made known The kindness of the Lord,  
Eternal Word made flesh and bone So we could be restored.  
Upon our frail humanity God’s finger chose to trace  
The fullness of His deity, The icon of His grace.**



**+ SACRAMENT +**

**PREFACE**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you. [*2 Timothy 4:22*]

**People:** **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [*Colossians 3:1*]

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [*Psalm 136*]

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, 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 singing:

SANCTUS “O Sing of Christ” *LSB 362, v. 3*

**He came to that which was His own, But He was not received;  
Yet still through Him God’s glory shone, And some His name believed.  
To these He gave the right to be The heirs of heav’n above,  
Born not of human ancestry But born of God in love.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

LORD'S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9–13*)

*LSB 162*

Pastor: And now, in the words of our Lord, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

हे हाम्रा स्वर्गमा वस्ने पिता,  
तपाईको नाउँ पवित्र गरिओस्  
तपाईको राज्य आओस् ।  
तपाईको इच्छा स्वर्गमा भै यस पृथ्वीमा पूरा होस् ।  
हाम्रो दिनभरिको भोजन आज हामीलाई दिनुहोस् ।  
हाम्रा अपराध क्षमा गर्नुहोस्,  
जसरी हामीले पनि आफ्ना अपराधीहरूलाई क्षमा गरेका छौं ।  
हामीलाई परीक्षामा नल्याउनुहोस्,  
तर दुष्टबाट छुटाउनुहोस् ।  
किनभने राज्य, पराक्रम र महिमा सदा सर्वदा तपाईकै हुन् । आमेन ।

## THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen**

HYMN VERSE “O Sing of Christ”

*LSB 362, v. 4*

**Lord Jesus Christ, You deigned to dwell Among us here on earth  
As God with us, Emmanuel, To bring this holy birth.  
Though rich, You willingly became One with our poverty,  
That we might share Your wealth and name For all eternity!**

*(Please Be Seated)*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS** “Christmas Day” from Three Seasonal Hymns  
By Orlando Gibbons *Ascension Choir*  
“Savior of the Nations, Come” *LSB 332*

**Savior of the nations, come, Virgin’s Son, make here Your home!  
Marvel now, O heav’n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.**

**Not by human flesh and blood, By the Spirit of our God,  
Was the Word of God made flesh--Woman’s offspring, pure and fresh.**

**Here a maid was found with child, Yet remained a virgin mild.  
In her womb this truth was shown: God was there upon His throne.**

**Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and kingly hall;  
God of God, yet fully man, His heroic course began.**

**God the father was His source, Back to God He ran His course.  
Into hell His road went down, Back then to His throne and crown.**

**For You are the Father’s Son Who in flesh the vict’ry won.  
By Your mighty pow’r make whole All our ills of flesh and soul.**

**From the manger newborn light Shines in glory through the night.  
Darkness there no more resides; In this light faith now abides.**

**Δ Glory to the Father sing, Glory to the Son, our king,  
Glory to the Spirit be Now and through eternity.**

“See Amid the Winter’s Snow” *LSB 373*

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

**REFRAIN: Hail, Over blessed 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**

*(Please Stand)*



## BENEDICTION

**Pastor:** Christ the Savior is born!

**People:** Christ the Savior is born indeed! Alleluia!

**Pastor:** May the light of Christ dispel all darkness from your life, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and abide with you forever.

**People:** Amen.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN** “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” *LSB 380*

**Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark! The herald angels sing. “Glory to the new-born King!”**

**Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing. “Glory to the new-born King!”**

**Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing. “Glory to the new-born King!”**

## POSTLUDE

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## WORSHIP NOTES

**LITURGIST:** Pastor Matthew Clark

**PREACHER:** Rev. Lonie Eatherton

**MUSIC MINISTRY:** Gabe Maichel, organist, Ascension Choir, Bell Choir

**ALTAR GUILD:** Jan Pendleton

**ELDERS:** Jack Pendleton, Jeff Stiles

**READER:** Mike Gibbs

**USHERS:** Walter Scoggins, Walt Simpson



**POINSETTIAS AND CHRISTMAS GREENS ARE GIVEN BY:**

*Carl Anderson in loving memory of Linda Anderson, R.N., wife, mother, grandmother,  
child of God*  
*The Benda Family in loving memory of Charlie Benda and to the glory of God*  
*Diane Broughton & Ed Shimamoto Christmas blessings to our families and friends*  
*Jim & Cheryl Chambers glory to God!*  
*Betty Clark in loving memory of my husband, Dennis Clark*  
*Pastor Matt and Lisa Clark in thanksgiving for the ministry of Ascension and Word of Life*  
*Don & Eileen Cognata for blessing received*  
*John & Charlene Cook thanks be to God for health, happiness, and love*  
*Cindy, Sarah & Sean Cooney in loving memory of Robert J. Cooney*  
*Larry & Pearlina Degenhardt to the glory of Christ Jesus*  
*Kathleen Driskill to the glory of God and in memory of Ralph and Audrey Simon*  
*Jane Fryar in thanksgiving to God for His gift of our Savior*  
*Evelyn Gibbs in loving memory of my parents, John & Ruth Good*  
*Clarence & Carol Goetsch the Lord's Blessing for health and good friends*  
*Arlene Headrick in memory of my loving husband, Paul Headrick*  
*Patrick Hill to the glory of God*  
*Jerry & Arleen Kassing in memory of our son, John and our parents*  
*Roberta Kern & Tyler Kern in loving memory of Joseph J. Dietrich Sr., Love you and  
miss you. Always in our hearts.*  
*James & Kathy Komorech with thanksgiving for blessings received*  
*Carlos & Marla Lopez thankful for health and blessings received*  
*Bill & Marlene Maxfield in honor of Sharon & Randy Agne for all they do for God's people*  
*Jean Mueller in loving memory of husband, Lew Mueller*  
*Terry & Nancy Nickolotsky in loving memory of son, Craig*  
*Jack & Jan Pendleton with joyfulness at Jesus' birth*  
*The Pfaff family to the glory of God*  
*Pat Pfitzinger with thanks for many blessings*  
*Jim Preston Jr. & Tracey Wing for blessings received*  
*Doug & Ruth Pritchard in memory of parents at Christmas*  
*Vernon & Debbie Schmidt thankful for all blessings and our grandchild*  
*The Seifert Family for blessings received and in memory of loved ones*  
*The Thies family for blessings received*  
*Peggy Triska in memory of Shirley Triska and her love of Christmas and family*  
*Darleen Wiederhold in loving memory of Gene Wiederhold*  
*Jack & Cindy Winter for blessings received – especially our Savior*

