

CHRISTMAS DAY

GOOD NEWS

DECEMBER 25, 2025
9:00AM



WELCOME, CANDLES ARE LIT, ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN “Joy to the World” LSB 387, sts. 1-4

Please stand

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

People: **Will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain You; how much less this house that I have built!**

Pastor: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).

People: **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.** *Psalms 26:8; 1 Kings 8:27; Matthew 1:23; John 1:14*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Isaiah 52:7; John 1:12–13, adapt.*

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

People: **Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son, the Word, to become flesh and dwell among us. We confess that it is hard to see His glory when life is difficult or when we are suffering. We look elsewhere for grace and truth instead of focusing on Your eternal Word. We have heard the Good News and struggle to share it. Forgive us, for the sake of You Son, Jesus Christ. Shine the light of Your love on us and remove the darkness of our hearts.**

Pastor: People of God, I have good news for you, “Your God reigns.” In the mercy of our almighty God, Jesus Christ was born to die for you, and for His sake, God forgives you for all of your sins.

People: **Alleluia! Amen!**

Pastor: To all who receive Him, who believe in His name, He gives the right to become children of God, who are born not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man but of God.

People: **Alleluia! Amen!**

Please sit

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

“Angels from the Realms of Glory” LSB 367, sts. 1-3, 5△

INTROIT FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

Pastor: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

People: **Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

Pastor: The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

People: **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

People: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray together:

People: **Heavenly Father, in ages past, You spoke through the prophets. Today You have spoken to us through Your Son, the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us. Open our ears and our hearts to Your Word and nourish us with the body and blood of Your Son, who is always with us; through the same Jesus Christ, who rules and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen (Please sit)**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 52:7–10*

*(The feet of the one who brings good news of peace, happiness,
and salvation are beautiful.)*

⁷How 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.”

⁸The 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.

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

¹⁰The 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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Hebrews 1:1–12*

(God used to speak through prophets; now He speaks to us through Jesus.)

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

⁵For 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”?

(continued...)

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,
“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

⁷Of the angels he says,
“He makes his angels winds,
and his ministers a flame of fire.”

⁸But of the Son he says,
“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.
⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”

¹⁰And,
“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;
¹¹they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like a garment,
¹²like a robe you will roll them up,
like a garment they will be changed.
But you are the same,
and your years will have no end.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

CHRISTMAS DAY VERSE *John 1:14*

All: **Alleluia! 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! Alleluia!**

HOLY GOSPEL *John 1:1–18* (God becomes a human being.)

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

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

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

that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the
life was the light of men. ⁵The light
shines in the darkness, and the
darkness has not overcome it.

(continued...)

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

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵(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.'") ¹⁶And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Please sit

HYMN OF THE DAY "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" *LSB* 380, sts. 1-3

CHRISTMAS SERMON *The Rev. John Meyer*

Please stand

CREED *Nicene Creed (See inside back cover of hymnal or screens)*

Please sit

OFFERING

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Holy Lord, almighty God and Father, You laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. You nourish us and all creatures through Your created world. Guide us in being good stewards of Your world. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, the world we live in was created through You. In these last days, our Father has spoken to us through You. Give us ears to hear Your voice and willing hearts and minds to not only receive grace and truth but also live them out in our homes, neighborhoods, and communities. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Holy Spirit, we thank and praise You for the feet of those who brought us the Good News. We ask for Your blessing on all pastors, parents, grandparents, and servants in Christ's church that they may continue to share the good news of peace and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Great physician and healer, comfort all who are struggling physically, emotionally, or spiritually, [*especially* . . .]. Give them healing and hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Gracious God, we thank You for the gift of family. Knit families together with Your love, mercy, and grace. Give parents and children calm minds and quiet hearts focused on Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O God, we boldly and confidently lift these prayers to You, trusting in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. We pray as You have taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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, for You have done marvelous things. Your right hand and Your holy arm have worked salvation. You send good news—peace and salvation—and have spoken to us through Your Son, through whom You also created the world. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the heavenly host, we praise and honor Your glorious name and join in their unending hymn.

Please sit

SANCTUS “Angels We have Heard on High” *LSB* 368, sts. 1-3

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

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

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

People: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” *LSB* 386, sts. 1-4

“God Loves Me Dearly” *LSB* 392, sts. 1-5

Please stand

COMMUNION DISMISSAL

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

People: **Amen**

CLOSING SENTENCES *Matthew 1:22–23; John 1:14; Isaiah 52:10*

Pastor: All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

People: **“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).**

Pastor: Go out now, singing a song to the God of our Salvation. Sing of His mighty deeds and glory.

People: **Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth, peace. Jesus Christ is born today!**

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

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.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Please sit

CLOSING HYMN “Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising” LSB 375, sts. 1,2,5,6

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

MERRY
CHRISTMAS



Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 1.

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