

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD
DECEMBER 25, 2022
9:00 a.m.



GATHERING

Prelude (a time for silent meditation)

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the Word made flesh,
our life and our salvation.

Amen.

Trusting the goodness and loving kindness 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.**

Gathering Song: “The First Noel” LBW #56

1 The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

3 And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. *Refrain*

4 This star drew near to the northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay
right over the place where Jesus lay. *Refrain*

Greeting

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

Let us pray . . . Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

Children’s Sermon

First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing,
you ruins 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.

Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 98

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made 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 his Father,
and he will be my Son"?

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 servants flames of fire."

⁸But of the Son he says,
"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
and the righteous scepter 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,
"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;

¹¹they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like clothing;

¹²like a cloak you will roll them up,
and like clothing they will be changed.
But you are the same,
and your years will never end.”]

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 1st Chapter

C: 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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song of Praise: “What Child is This” LBW 40

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!

Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

Prayers of the Church

*(Each petition ends with...God of grace, the congregation responds:
hear our prayer.*

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you

The Offering Please leave your offering on our website: https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=Dc8dzPGn4-LCajFevTkh9MYPCLmH2sG-idxWYJMFGW_IQfxkD4hBw8W0Q6UZLveQvLkSxosar2o939JWiAad87o7zqy-UU_UuLu19bUbJx2MmPFcXvWIUz6A7FDgkhUKk0PpduXvnt8gXUeZiQYbn9G3frHWC59Y_VCHQ6_VCoE=&ver=3

The Offertory *(Please stand as you are able.)*

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray... 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.**

SACRAMENT

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.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

Invitation to Communion

Glory to God in the highest!

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Distribution

The body of Christ, given to you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

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.

SENDING

Blessing

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. **Amen.**

Sending Song: “Go Tell it On Mountain” LBW #70


Refrain

- | | |
|---|---|
| Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born! | 2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. <i>Refrain</i> |
| 1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. <i>Refrain</i> | 3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. <i>Refrain</i> |

Dismissal

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

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<p>OUR MISSION – FAITHFUL IN THE WORD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">+ To gather as God’s people and nurture one another+ To know the Word of God+ To grow in faith, love, and service+ To go into the world with the Good NEWS of Jesus Christ	
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SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor:	The Rev. Matthew E Ollikainen
Music/Choir Director	Mr. Michael Dettra
Worship Assistant	Jeanne Gryzka

A CHRISTMAS GREETING

Greetings to all who join with us today to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus. May you and your family have a very blessed Christmas. Please come and worship with us again.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are presented to the Glory of God.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: SUNDAY, December 18

8:00 a.m. 14 9:30 a.m. 27 Sunday School 5 **Total 46**

PASTOR MATT OUT OF THE OFFICE - 12/26 -1/10

Pastor Matt will be out of the office from Monday, December 26, returning Tuesday, January 10.

Pastor Nathan Krause from Redeemer Lutheran Church, Jamison will be providing emergency pastoral coverage for Pastor Matt while he is away through Tuesday, January 10. His contact number is 267-884-1195.

FLOWER CHART & MISSION SUPPORT FOR 2023

The sign-up sheets for Altar Flower and Mission Support dedications for 2023 are in the narthex. The cost to dedicate one bouquet is \$25.00. One week of Mission support is \$25.00. There are many openings available on the Flower and Mission Support charts.

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION WORSHIP SERVICE

10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time

Online: Meeting ID: 835 7312 4650 Pass code: 385899

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83573124650?pwd=anlUVzkxWpGT3RxSGhuMkM4elpRQT09>

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

7:30 p.m. A.A. Open Meeting

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

7:30 p.m. A.A. Step Meeting



SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

9:00 a.m. First Sunday of Christmas
Lessons & Carols Service

No Holy Communion

10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open

Online Meeting ID: 815 6782 6622 Pass code: 396556

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81567826622?pwd=eWZ2ZzI2dTdkSEVHaW1qcDIzbHINUT09>