



Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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First Sunday after Christmas

December 26th, 2021



HOLY COMMUNION IS CELEBRATED AT OUR 9:00AM SERVICE

Oneness at communion presupposes oneness in doctrine. For this reason we practice close communion, and ask guests desiring to commune to speak with the pastor before the service. To those communicants with dietary needs we offer gluten free wafers.

AS WE GATHER

Are you prepared for heaven? Admittedly, this is an odd question when we are celebrating Jesus' birth. Yet, Jesus was born to die to save His people from their sins. As Simeon held the Christ Child, he couldn't help but say, "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word," while also telling Mary, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed." That opposition eventually brought about His death on a cross. Yet, Jesus was born to die and rise to life again so that all who believe in Him might live! That is the best Christmas gift ever.

SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PREACHING

WORDS OF WELCOME

Elder of the Day

HYMN

"Let All Together Praise Our God"

LSB 389 vs 1-5

OPENING VERSICLES (COMMON)

LSB page 260

O.T. CANTICLE

"Angels in the Heavens"

CM 16

1. Angels in the heavens, Angels in the sky
Tell the Christmas story; Christ is born nearby.
2. Shepherds in the country, Shepherds standing by
Hear the angels singing Praise to God on high.

† READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE †

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Samuel 7:1-16

Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"' Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD

of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

Revelation 12:1-6

And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, in which she is to be nourished for 1,260 days.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

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

And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

RESPONSORY [Common]

LSB page 263

FIRST

Pastor: What is Baptism?

All: Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word.

Pastor: Which is that Word of God?

All: Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

CREED

LORD'S PRAYER

SERMON HYMN

"O Sing of Christ"

LSB 362

SERMON

"The Nativity Story We Don't Talk About"

Revelation 12:1-6

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God and all people according to their needs.

Wonderful Counselor, we praise and thank You for guiding us with the Word of Christ, which dwells richly in us.

People: Bless all pastors and teachers of Your Word, that they teach and admonish Your people with all of Your wisdom so that whatever we do, in word or deed, we do it in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

Pastor: Mighty God, You created this world and everything in it through Your powerful Word and still take care of it. Continue to watch over and work through all who lead and serve our nation, state, and local communities.

People: Lead and guide all first responders and members of the military as they carry out their duties to protect and serve.

Pastor: Everlasting Father, You are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We ask for Your encouragement, healing, and care for all who are struggling with their health, [*especially . . .*]. Heal the broken hearts of those who grieve the loss of those close to them. O God of our salvation,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: (Special Petitions that end in: Lord, in your mercy)

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Prince of Peace, we praise and thank You for the peace we have in You.

People: Empower us and all of your missionary people to embrace the opportunities You give us to share the gift of Your redemption.

Pastor: We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our newborn King.

People: Amen.

OFFERING

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

HYMN

“The Holly and the Ivy”

CM 07

Traditional English Carol; Public Domain

1. The holly and the ivy, When they are both full grown,
Of all the trees that are in the wood, The holly bears the crown: *Refrain.*

Refrain:

**The rising of the sun and the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ, Sweet singing in the choir.**

2. The holly bears a blossom, As white as lily flow’r,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, To be our dear Savior: *Refrain.*
3. The Holly bears a berry, As red as any blood,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, To do poor sinners good. *Refrain.*
4. The holy bears a prickle, As sharp as any thorn,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, On Christmas in the morn: *Refrain.*
5. The holy bears a bark, As bitter as the gall,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, For to redeem us all: *Refrain.*

HYMN

“Radiant Child of Glory”

CM 13

1. Radiant Child of glory, here we tell Your story!
In the midnight slumber, Angels came in number,
Telling ev’ry nation God has brought salvation!
2. In the darkness, pleading, Prophecies repeating,
Orphans had awaited Mercy unabated.
See the Father’s Pleasure Loving without measure.
3. Now the light is spreading; Happy feet are treading.
Joyous voices telling Of the gloom’s dispelling.
Heirs of heaven’s glory, We can tell your story!

HYMN

“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”

LSB 375

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

All: O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE WORD

LSB page 265

LUTHER’S MORNING PRAYER

LSB page 266

N.T. CANTICLE *“Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn”* (TUNE LSB 822) LSB 391

BLESSING

LSB page 267

CLOSING HYMN

“Let Us All with Gladsome Voice”

LSB 390



OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

9AM SUNDAY

Alan Carlson

Elder

Carter Holmes

Jerricho Coughlin

Acolytes

Denise Edwards

Organist

Parker Coughlin

Sound

Mike Beyer
Congregational Chairman

Rick Melius
Head Elder

