



Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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First Sunday after Christmas December 27th, 2020



HOLY COMMUNION IS CELEBRATED DURING OUR 9AM WORSHIP 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

The Epistle for the First Sunday after Christmas brings a one-sentence summary of the Christmas message as Paul writes it to the Christians of Galatia. “But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son” (Galatians 4:4). God knew the exact right time for His beloved Son to come to earth, this sin-filled world. God had a plan for salvation that was carried out faithfully and completely by Jesus. In the days after Christmas, we have the opportunity to reflect on the importance of the Christmas message. We have received the greatest of all gifts. Through Jesus Christ, we are heirs of God and have an eternal inheritance!

DIVINE SERVICE—SETTING ONE

WORDS OF WELCOME		Elder of the Day
OPENING HYMN	<i>“Let All Together Praise Our God”</i>	LSB 389
CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION		LSB page 151
KYRIE		LSB pages 152-153
HYMN OF PRAISE	<i>“This is the Feast”</i>	LSB page 155
SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY		

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

All: **Gracious God, through our Lord Jesus Christ You have taken the slavery under which we were held captive to sin and Satan and have given us new life. By the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us, keep us ever connected to Christ to live out each day in our baptismal grace as we await the joy of life in Your eternal presence. This we ask for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.**

‡ WORD ‡

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM ~ *Read Responsively*

Psalm 111

Leader: Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

People: **Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.**

Leader: Full of splendor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.

Women: **He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and merciful.**

Leader: He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers His covenant forever.

Men: **He has shown His people the power of His works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.**

Leader: The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy;

People: **they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

Leader: He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever.

People: **Holy and awesome is His name!**

All: **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever! 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.**

EPISTLE READING

Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

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.

THE GOSPEL READING*Luke 2:22-40*

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“What Hope! An Eden Prophesied”

LSB 342

THE SERMON

“It’s Always Christmas Time For Us”

Galatians 4:4-7

THE CREED

LSB page 158

**People: I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Gathered as God's people and as heirs of an eternal inheritance, let us pray for the whole Church and for all who bear the name of Jesus Christ, who is our Light and our Salvation.

Pastor: Lord of all, watch over our nation and grant Your divine favor to all who bear office in our land, especially the president and Congress of the United States, the governor and legislature of this state, and to all those who make, administer, and judge our laws.

People: **Help them to serve all those in their care according to Your holy will, that we may live in peace and safety.**

Pastor: Save us from pestilence and plague, for unseasonable weather, and the dangers that are ever-present in our lives.

People: **Grant us Your blessing as one calendar year closes and another begins.**

Pastor: Give a special measure of blessing to those with special needs. Especially we remember the sick, the shut-in, those dealing with depression, those who sorrow, and others known to us who at this time are in need of prayer.

People: **Help us to be people who bless, encourage, and strengthen all those in our circles of relationship and beyond.**

Pastor: Sovereign Lord, we remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors.

People: **Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven. Bless the communion we share on earth as we await the Supper of the Lamb in His kingdom.**

Pastor: (Special Petitions ending in... "Lord, in Your mercy")

People: **Hear our prayer**

Pastor: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever.

People: **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

LSB pages 159-160

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

COMMUNION LITURGY

LSB pages 160-163

HYMN

“We Three Kings”

CM 2

Words and Music by John H. Hopkins, JR.

1. We three Kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts, we
Traverse afar Field and fountain, moor and mountain,
Following yonder star. *Refrain.*

Refrain: O Star of wonder, Star of night, Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.

2. Born a King on Bethlehem’s plain, Gold I bring, to
crown Him again, King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign. *Refrain.*
3. Frankincense to offer have I, Incense owns a
Deity nigh. Prayer and praising all men raising,
Worship Him, God most high. *Refrain.*
4. Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume Breathes a life of
Gathering gloom; Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone cold tomb. *Refrain.*
5. Glorious now behold Him arise, King and God and
Sacrifice, Alleluia, Alleluia,
Earth to the heav’ns replies. *Refrain.*

CCLI#: 2908236

HYMN

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

LSB 367

HYMN

“God Loves Me Dearly”

LSB 392

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

LSB page 164

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

LSB page 166

BENEDICTION

LSB page 166

CLOSING HYMN

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

LSB 358





OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

9:00AM SUNDAY

Thom Miller

Elder

Ryan Thompson

Preston Johnson

Acolytes

Kris Deardoff

Organist

Mike Beyer

Congregational Chairman

Rick Melius

Head Elder

