

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 2, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.

Prelude “He Whom Shepherd Men Came Praising” -Paul Manz
“Noel” -Claude Louis Daequin

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation: “Angels from the Realms of Glory”

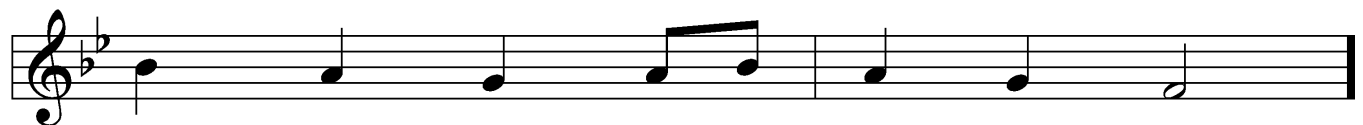
LSB 367



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
△ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
Ye have seen His na - tal star.
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;



Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text and tune: Public domain

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

C

C

P

P

C

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 147:1, 5, 11–12; antiphon: John 1:14

*(The congregation will chant the verses in **bold**.)*



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.

**Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;*
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.**

Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;*
his understanding is beyond | measure.

**But the LORD takes pleasure in those who | fear him,*
in those who hope in his | steadfast love.**

Praise the LORD, O Je- | rusalem!*

Praise your God, O | Zion!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

**and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,***

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

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.

Pew Edition

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Christmas 2

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

1 Kings 3:4–15

The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness,

and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days." And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 119:97–104; antiphon: v. 99



MEM

I have more understanding than all my | teachers,*
for your testimonies are my medi- | tation.

Oh how I | love your law!*

It is my meditation | all the day.

Your commandment makes me wiser than my | enemies,*
for it is ever | with me.

**I have more understanding than all my | teachers,*
for your testimonies are my medi- | tation.**

I understand more than the | aged,*
for I keep your | precepts.

**I hold back my feet from every | evil way,*
in order to | keep your word.**

I do not turn aside from your | just decrees,*
for you have | taught me.

**How sweet are your words | to my taste,*
sweeter than honey | to my mouth!**

Through your precepts I get under- | standing,*
therefore I hate every | false way.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I have more understanding than all my | teachers,*
for your testimonies are my medi- | tation.

Epistle

Ephesians 1:3–14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:40–52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group

they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C 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.



1 With - in the Fa - ther's house The Son has found His home,
 2 The doc - tors of the Law Gaze on the won - drous child
 3 Yet not to them is giv'n The might - y truth to know,
 4 The se - cret of the Lord Es - capes each hu - man eye,



And to His tem - ple sud - den - ly The Lord of life has come.
 And mar - vel at His gra - cious words Of wis - dom un - de - filed.
 To lift the earth - ly veil that hides In - car - nate God be - low.
 And faith - ful pon - d'ring hearts a - wait The full e - piph - a - ny.

5 Lord, visit Thou our souls
 And teach us by Thy grace
 Each dim revealing of Thyself
 With loving awe to trace

△ 6 Till we behold Thy face
 And know as we are known
 Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 Coequal Three in One.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

First words are exciting and memorable, aren't they? It can be the first words of a child. I remember where my daughter was when she spoke for the first time, and it wasn't the word "Daddy." It can be a new player's first press conference with his new team: "I came to Minnesota to win, and I believe in the team here." It can be a politician announcing a campaign. Remember Amy Klobuchar's presidential announcement in a snowstorm a few years ago? It went viral. First words are special moments. They are a time of anticipation and excitement (what will be said?). They can set the tone. They can show what a person is about, and what is important to them.

In Luke 2, we find Jesus speaking for the first time in the Gospel. We see His first words. In Matthew, they were, "**Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting to fulfill all righteousness.**" In Mark, the first words are utters are, "**The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel.**" In John, they are short and concise, and even echo what Jesus says in Luke. "**What are you seeking?**" In Luke, Jesus proclaims a double question: "**Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?**" Jesus' first words show us Who He is and what He is about. Today, we will look at His first words from Luke.

"**Why were you looking for me?**" Luke tells us that Jesus' family had the yearly tradition of going up to Jerusalem every year to celebrate the Passover. The Passover celebrated God's greatest act of salvation in the Old Testament, the Exodus from Egypt. The festival would feature a lamb that would be slain, and an interactive meal that would be done with the family. It is like our Christmas, or Easter, festivals that celebrate an act of God's salvation, and that often features a family meal. After the feast was ended, the family returned home, but Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His family did not know it. They thought he was with the group. After a day of travel, they realize that Jesus is not with them, and the panic sets in. They search high and low for Him, but to no avail. After three, long, panic-driven and stress-soaked days, they find Jesus in the

temple. He is sitting among the teachers, listening, and asking them questions. Those who heard Jesus were amazed at His understanding and answers; His parents were astonished, too. When Mary finds Him, she understandably says, **“Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, Your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.”**

And Jesus answers her question, with a question. It is a gentle rebuke with a touch of surprise. **“Why were you looking for me?”** Given His identity as the Son of God, why wouldn’t He be here? Why is she so surprised? Mary and Joseph don’t quite understand. In fact, no one in Jesus’ life will, or does, understand. Many people will seek Him and seek to understand Him in His life, but no one will truly understand Him until after His resurrection.

“Why were you looking for me?” It is a question not just for Mary, but for us, too. It is a question for every reader and hearer of Luke’s Gospel. It is as if Jesus steps out of the page, or the story stops, and He turns to ask you. **“Why were you looking for me?”** How would you answer that question? Be honest about it. Be truthful. Don’t answer with what *you think you should*, but rather, what is the first thing that comes to your mind, and heart?

Solomon was asked that once, in a sense. In a dream, God appears to him, and says, **“Ask what I shall give you.”** And the young king says, **“Give you servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”** The young king asks for wisdom, which in its proper sense, is a right understanding and application of the Gospel. Solomon’s answer pleased God, and He granted not just wisdom, but that which he didn’t ask: riches, honor, and life.

What do we seek foremost from our Lord? Things like healing, family, money/provision, safety, and homes are important, and needed, but they aren’t *the foremost that we should seek*. Jesus knows and captures the dilemma we can find ourselves in with this word of encouragement in Luke 12:29-32. **“And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you. Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”** Our Lord knows our needs better than we do, and will provide in the way He feels best. He has welcomed and brought us into His kingdom, and taken care of our greatest need, our sin. He will take care of the rest. **“Why were you looking for me?”**

Jesus continues. **“Did you not know that I must....”,** or, **“Did you not know it is necessary....”** Jesus uses a passion word, here. It is *dei*, which means, “must,” “it is necessary.” It is a word of destiny. Think of someone like Harry Potter, or Luke Skywalker (people with a destiny to face that their life culminates towards). The word is used to denote the necessity of God’s plan of salvation. Jesus uses it to proclaim His appointed and undertaken course; His destiny. “It is necessary.” “I must” What is part of God’s plan of salvation in Luke?

In 4:43, Jesus says, **“And to the other cities it is necessary for me to proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God, because on account of this I was sent.”** God wants His gospel proclaimed! In 9:22, Jesus says, **“It is necessary for the Son of Man to suffer many things and to be rejected from the elders and chief priests and scribes and to be killed and on the third day be raised.”** It is necessary that Jesus die for us. In 13:33, Jesus says, **“However, it is necessary for me today and tomorrow and the one coming to go, because it is not possible for a prophet to be killed outside Jerusalem.”** He is to die in Jerusalem, the place where a prophet is to die. The real Passover Lamb will be slain there. To His disciples on Easter evening, Jesus says in 24:44, **“These are my words which I spoke openly to you while yet I was with you, that it is necessary for all the Scriptures to be fulfilled in the law of Moses, and the prophets, and the psalms concerning me.”** Scripture cannot be broken, and God keeps His word. “I must.” “It is necessary.” This shows what Jesus is about, and what is important to Him: you, you and your salvation. This ties into what He says next.

“Did you not know it is necessary for me to be about my Father’s business?” This is why Jesus was sent, and what He is engrossed in: His Father’s business. And what His Father’s business? Our salvation! Paul the Apostle shows it well in our Epistle reading. He shows what God has done for us. Paul pens, **“He chose us in Him [Christ] before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him”** God chose you. He picked you out. He selected you. He set you aside for Himself. He did it before the creation of the world. This was all intentional and part of the plan. It was not your own doing or influenced by

you. It is not based on anything in you that you could lose or live up to. You don't have to justify His decision, earn it, or pay Him back. What's more is that then in God's eyes, through Jesus, He sees you as holy and blameless before Him. God choose you. He redeemed you, too, through Jesus.

“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of trespasses, according to the riches of His grace which He lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight”. Do you know what the word *lavish* means? It means to “bestow something in generous or extravagant quantities on”. God lavishes the riches of His grace upon us. He lavishes that redemption, that forgiveness. He isn't stingy, but is generous. This is His business!

And He has sealed us. In the ancient world, everyone had their own unique seal. It was like a social security number. It was unique and your own. These seals could be wax ones. For animals, they could be a brand. For soldiers and slaves, it could be a tattoo. In the ancient world, seals showed ownership. Paul says that God has placed His seal on you! He has placed His name on you! When and where did that happen? God placed His name, His seal on us, in baptism, as a pastor poured water on our heads and said, “I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” From that moment on, we belonged to Him!

And not only has our God sealed us in baptism, He has given us His Holy Spirit in baptism, too, Who is the down payment for that inheritance that we so long for. The gift of the Holy Spirit says there is more coming! The best is yet to come! He is the guarantee, for He sustains and makes us faithful until the end. God has chosen us, redeemed us, and sealed us. This is His salvation. This is His business. This is what He is all about! **“Did you not know it is necessary for me to be about my Father's business?”**

Jesus' first words in Luke show us what Jesus is all about, what is important to Him: You. You, and your salvation. That is His Father's business.

Prayer of the Church

Offering “Let Our Gladness Have No End” -set. J. Wayne Kerr

We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you leave the sanctuary.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

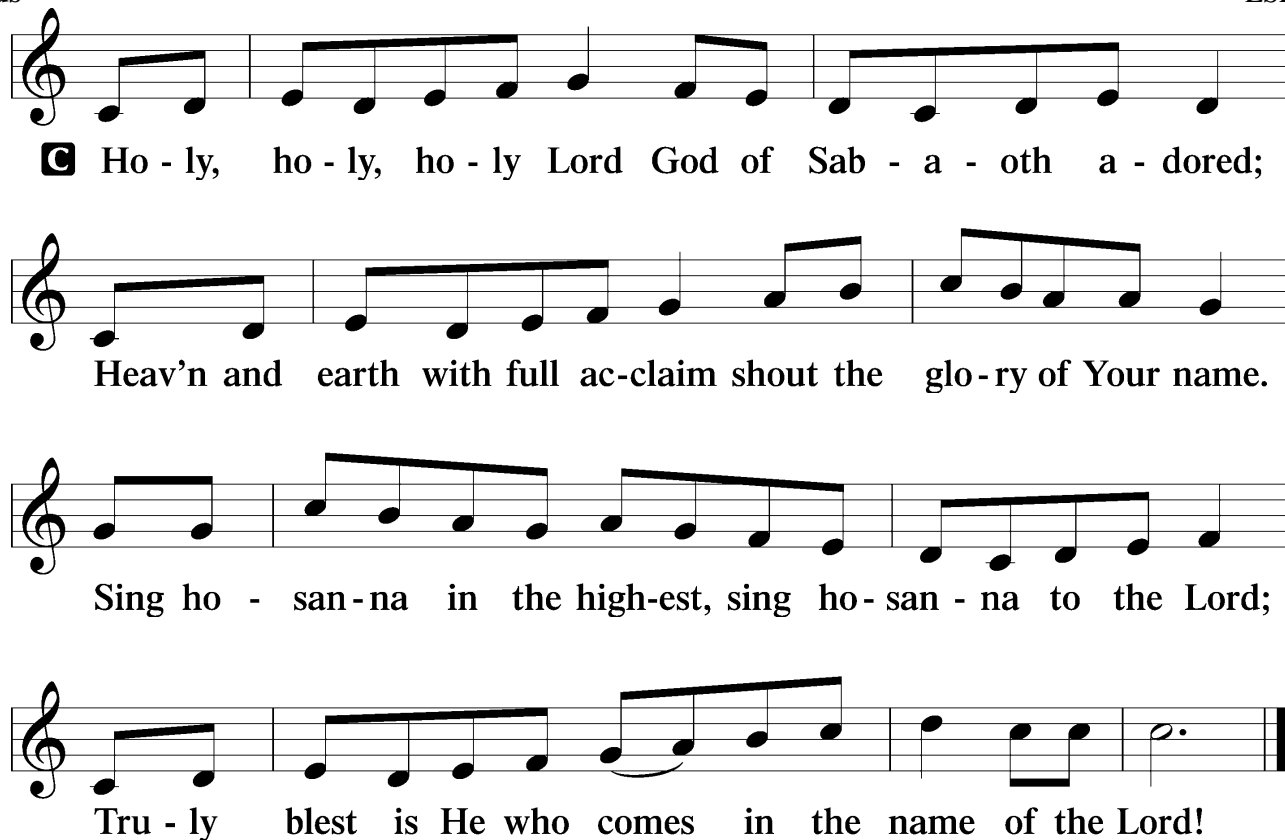
P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In the beginning You created all things by Your Word; and in the fullness of time Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. Let Your Word made flesh dwell richly among us that, faithfully eating His body and drinking His blood, we may receive the fullness of Your grace and truth in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P 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."

Pax Domini

LSB 209

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution

You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing. You may kneel, but it is not required.

Distribution Hymn: "Joy to the World"

LSB 387



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
 ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
 plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
 ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text and tune: Public domain

"Love Came Down at Christmas" -set. Gerhard Krapf

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

- A** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 212

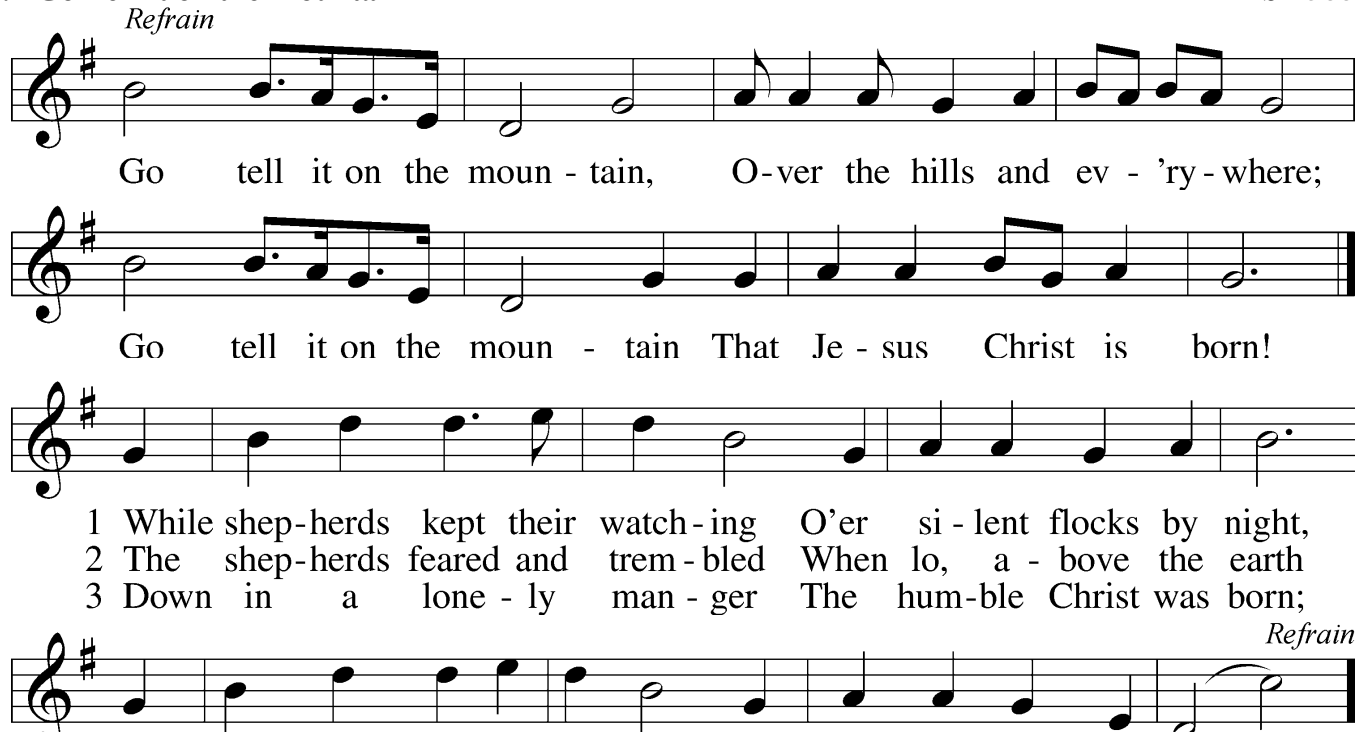
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C Amen.

Hymn: “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

LSB 388

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;
Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled When lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain

Be - hold, through-out the heav-ens There shone a ho - ly light.
Rang out the an-gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Tune and text: Public domain

Postlude “Let All Together Praise Our God” -Paul Manz

Acknowledgments

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: *Luke 2:40 – “And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.”* At Christmas God became man. And as a man, Jesus grew up and increased in strength and wisdom. We are called to follow in the footsteps of Jesus, to grow in His image. The power for this growth comes from receiving the grace of Jesus in His Word and Sacraments. How is the Lord calling you to grow this year?

TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS: Today, immediately after the 9:30 service, we will be taking down and putting away the Christmas decorations. If you can spare an hour of your time, we would appreciate your help. Thank you!

HATS, MITTEN, AND SCARVES are being collected to help local kids. They will go to the local organization, Hats and Mittens, whose mission is “to warm the bodies and hearts of kids everywhere. That starts

by providing free hats and mittens to children in need during the cold winter months.” They can be new or gently used, knitted or crocheted items too! Waterproof mittens and gloves, especially for younger kids, are preferred. We are collecting until January 2nd. Questions? Contact Marie G.

EMMAUS GENERATIONS: Coming up January 11! All ages are welcome to attend our monthly Generations gatherings: a wonderful opportunity for warm fellowship, focused devotion, education and service, and delicious food! During the month of December over 30 members gathered to enjoy a variety of homemade soups and breads. We listened to an excellent presentation by fellow congregant Aaron Hoska on the topic of his military service, and stuffed over 40 Christmas stockings to be distributed by military chaplains overseas. Please save the date for future Generations: Tuesday, January 11th and Tuesday, February 15th.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Please join us after worship on Sunday, January 30 for our next Congregational Meeting. We will be voting on the 2022 budget.

THE 2022 ALTAR FLOWER CHART is now posted on the bulletin board by the office. Sign up to bring altar flowers on a special Sunday in 2022. Write your name and the occasion (in memory, anniversary, birthday...) on the flower chart for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin announcements.

HEAR “THE LUTHERAN HOUR” on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week’s broadcast: “Facing Rejection” Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. How does one deal with rejection? Push through it? Rise above it? Or start over? (Luke 3:1-22)