

FAITH

LUTHERAN CHURCH



Begotten of the Father from Eternity

LUTHERAN MASS
FOR CHRISTMAS MORNING

WELCOME!

If you are visiting us for the first time, welcome! Please see Pastor Hendrix after the service for a special Christmas gift.

WE LOVE LETTING KIDS BE WITH JESUS

Children learn the faith by watching those around them. Our service is for kids too. If we can help you in any way, let us know.

RESTROOMS & NURSERY

Restrooms are located downstairs for your convenience. We also offer a nursery wired with audio. If you need any further assistance, please feel free to ask an usher.

MASKS

If your conscience allows, and you are medically able to do so, we ask that you please wear a mask while inside. In all things, "Let us excuse [our neighbor], speak well of him, and put the best construction on everything." (8th Commandment, Explanation)

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS MORNING

In the beginning God created all things through His Word, His Son. But man fell into sin, and with man all creation was cursed. Therefore, God spoke His Word again, this time into the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary. "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us" (Jn 1:1-14). The Son of God took on our flesh and blood in order that we might receive the right to become the children of God through faith. Baptized into Christ's body, we are made partakers of a new Genesis, "the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit" (Titus 3:4-7). Truly in Christ the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man has appeared.

SERVING TODAY

Preacher:	Rev. Jeff Hendrix
Organist:	Caroline Rehborg
Altar Guild:	Lloyd & Ruth Klahn

GOD'S WORD THIS WEEK**THEME**

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

CONNECTION FOR KIDS

Ask your child(ren): How is Christ born in our hearts today?

SERVICE OF PREPARATION



The first part of our service prepares our hearts to come before God. God forgives our sins and the theme for the day is set in the introit.

INTROIT

ANTIPHON

Isaiah 9:6

- P** Unto us a Child is born!
C Unto us a Son is given.
P His name shall be called wonderful counselor, the mighty God,
C The everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

PSALM HYMN (*Joy to the World is a paraphrase of Psalm 98*)

Joy to the World | 138

INVOCATION & CONFESSION

pg. 60

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** ♪ In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.
C ♪ Amen.

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

- P** ♪ Our help is in the name of the Lord.



- C** ♪ Who made heav'n and earth

- P** ♪ I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord;



- C** ♪ And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

- P** Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins.

C O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit. May He comfort your heart by His holy Absolution, and strengthen you by His Sacraments, that your joy may be full. Peace be with you!

C Amen.

KYRIE [Lord, Have Mercy (Luke 18:39)]

pg. 63



C Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-



on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS [Glory to God in the Highest (Luke 2:14)]

Notes: Christ is born! After omitting it in Advent, we again sing with the angels the *Gloria in Excelsis* to welcome our God coming to us, not in a manger, but in Word and Sacrament.



P Glory be to God on high: **C** And on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise You, we bless You, we wor-ship You, we glorify You,



we give thanks to You, for Your great glory. O Lord God,



heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



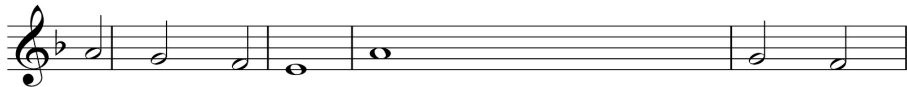
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God,



Son of the Father, You take away the sin of the world,



have mercy up - on us. You take away the sin of the world,



re - ceive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the



Father, have mercy up - on us. For You only are holy.



You on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P  The Lord be with you.



C  And with Your spir - it

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we give thanks to You that of Your mercy and compassion You caused Your Son to become incarnate, and through Him redeemed us from sin and everlasting death: We beseech You, enlighten

our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that we may ever be thankful for such grace, and comfort ourselves thereby in all tribulation and temptation, and at last obtain eternal salvation; through the same, Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

 **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD



Our service builds towards the hearing of the Gospel. The lessons and even the chief hymn all reflect the theme of the Gospel.

OLD TESTAMENT

Micah 5:2-4

²But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the clans of Judah,
from you, will go out the one who will be the ruler for me in Israel.
His goings forth are from the beginning, from the days of eternity.
³Therefore the Lord will give them up,
until the time when the woman who is in labor bears a child.
Then the remaining survivors from his brothers will return to the people of Israel.
⁴He will stand and shepherd with the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
They will dwell securely, for at that time he will be great to the ends of the earth.

PSALM HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful | **133 v. 1, 2, 4**

(Psalm 2 is the Old Testament basis for verse 2 of O Come, All Ye Faithful)

EPISTLE

Hebrews 1:1-12

In the past, God spoke to our forefathers by the prophets at many times and in many ways. ²In these last days, he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. ³The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact imprint of the divine nature. He sustains all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high. ⁴The Son became as much superior to the 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?

And again:

I will be his Father, and he will be my Son.

⁶And again, when he brought his firstborn into the world, he said:

Let all God's angels worship him.

⁷About the angels he says:

He makes his messengers winds and his ministers flaming fire.

⁸But about the Son he says:

God, your throne is forever and ever,

and the scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom.

⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of joy beyond your companions.

¹⁰And he says:

In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundation of the earth,

and the heavens are the works of your hands.

¹¹They will perish, but you remain.

They will all become old like a garment.

¹²You will roll them up like a robe,

and they will be changed like a garment.

But you are the same,

and your years will never end.

GOSPEL PROCESSION & ALLELUIA VERSE

(Liturgical Text)



Notes: During the Alleluia verse, Pastor processes to the center of the Nave to read the Christmas Gospel amidst the people. Symbolic of the fact that just as the *λόγος*, the Word Made Flesh was born among His people, the Word today is also still born among us and received in our hearts through faith.

P Alleluia. Alleluia. A holy day has `dawned upon us. /

Come, all you nations, and worship the Lord. `Alleluia.

Please stand to sing; turn and face the Holy Bible as it comes near.

C **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

P The Christmas Gospel, recorded in John 1:1-14:

C **Glory be to you, O Lord!**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him everything was made,

and without him not one thing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. ⁵The light is shining in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man, sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as an eyewitness to testify about the light so that everyone would believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light.

⁹The real light that shines on everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, yet his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³They were born, not of blood, or of the desire of the flesh, or of a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and dwelled among us. We have seen his glory, the glory he has as the only-begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P This is the Gospel of Christ.

C  **Praise be to You, O Christ!**

ATHANASIAN CREED (2nd Article)

C Furthermore it is necessary for everlasting salvation that one also believe faithfully the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. For the right faith is that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God and Man; God of the substance of the Father, begotten before the worlds; And Man of the substance of His mother, born in the world; Perfect God and perfect Man, of a rational soul and human flesh subsisting. Equal to the Father as touching His Godhead and inferior to the Father as touching His humanity. Who, although He is God and Man, yet He is not two but one Christ; One, not by changing of the Godhead into flesh, but by taking the manhood into God; One indeed, not by confusion of substance, but by oneness of person. For just as the rational soul and flesh is one man, So God and Man is one Christ; Who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead. He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, God almighty, from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead. At whose coming all will rise again with their bodies and will give an account of their own works. And they that have done good will enter into life everlasting; and they that have done evil into everlasting fire.

This is the catholic¹ faith; whoever does not faithfully and firmly believe this cannot be saved.

¹ The greek word 'catholic' means 'universal' and refers to the whole Christian church.

EXORDIUM & FESTIVAL HYMN

Rejoice, Rejoice, This Happy Morn | 142

Notes: The Exordium is an “introduction” for the festival day. This is a tradition of Norwegian Lutherans that dates to the 16th century. Exordiums are given on the three major festivals of the Church: Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. After the Exordium, the congregation stands to sing the festival hymn. The same hymn tune (Wei schön leuchtet, the “Queen of Chorales”) is used for the festival hymn of each season.

SERMON (John 1:1-14)

HYMN

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come | 124 (1, 2, 13, 15)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy. _____
- Pastor prays on behalf of the congregation. Each prayer ends with:*
- P** ...let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy. _____
- P** ...one God, now and forevermore. Amen.

CHRIST-MASS



The third part of our service is the second high point of the service, and what everything has been building towards. Christ actually comes to us in His Body and Blood by which He cleanses us of our sins.

PREFACE

pg. 72

- P** The Lord be with you.

- C** And with your spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



 We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P ♪ Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.



🎵 It is good and right so to do.


P ♪ 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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory, that seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may be drawn to the love of those things which are not seen...* Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS [*Holy, Holy, Holy (Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9)*]

pg. 76

**🎵 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P  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



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION



Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: "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, gave thanks, and 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 and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

  The peace of the Lord be with you always.

  Amen.

AGNUS DEI [*Lamb of God (John 1:29)*]

pg. 79

  **O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**

**O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
Grant us Your peace. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

- *Holy Communion is limited to communicant members of our fellowship, who have properly announced themselves to the pastor beforehand.*
- *Please limit one family per side of the communion rail, or two individuals per side.*
- *To receive the host, form a cup with your hands to receive.*
- *While others commune, take this time to pray the prayers for Communion (ELH pg. 40) or read the hymn "O Lord, We Praise Thee, Bless Thee, and Adore Thee" (327).*

THANKSGIVING

Let Us All with Gladsome Voice | **134 vv. 1, 4**

**1. Let us all with gladsome voice
Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice,
His own Son hath given.**

**4. O Lord Christ, our Savior dear,
Be Thou ever near us.
Grant us now a glad new year.
Amen, Jesus, hear us!**

DISMISSAL, THANKSGIVING & SALUTATION

P ♪ O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.



C ♪ And His mercy en - dures for - ev - er

P Let us pray: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in lovingkindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God now and forever.

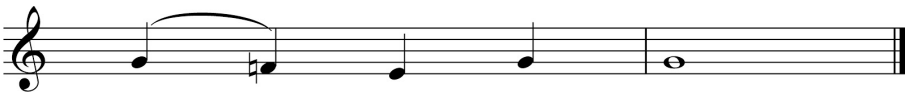
C ♪ Amen.

P ♪ The Lord be with you.



C ♪ And with your spir - it.

P ♪ Let us bless the Lord.



C ♪ Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P ♪ The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C ♪ A - men. A - men. A - men.

HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing | 125