

Zion Lutheran Church
Christmas Eve
December 24, 2021



Candlelight
SERVICE

Regarding Membership and the Holy Communion

We believe that, in the Holy Communion, the bread is truly Christ's Body and the wine is truly His Blood, given to us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. As we receive this gift individually, we profess that we are truly one body in Christ—that we are united in one faith and teaching (doctrine). Ordinarily, full participation in this Holy Communion is reserved for those who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. *Any visitors or guests who desire to partake of the Body and Blood of Christ are asked to please speak with the Pastor or an Elder before the service.*

Opening Hymn

O Little Town of Bethlehem

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Invocation, Confession & Absolution

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

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

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

C Amen.

Entrance Psalm



P *When all was still, and it was | midnight,*
your almighty Word, O Lord, descended from the | royal throne.*

Gloria Patri

LSB pg. 186

C *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world with-
out end. Amen.*

Kyrie

LSB pg. 186

C *Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord,
have mercy upon us.*

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB pgs. 186-189

P *Glory be to God on high:*

C *and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.*

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

*Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy
upon us.*

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

P Let us pray.

O God, You make this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that as we have known the mysteries of that Light on earth we may also come to the fullness of His joys in heaven; 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 Lesson

Isaiah 9:2-7

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,
on them has light shined.
³ You have multiplied the nation;
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.
⁴ For the yoke of his burden,
and the staff for his shoulder,
the rod of his oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.
⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult
and every garment rolled in blood
will be burned as fuel for the fire.
⁶ For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 96:1-4, 11-13



¹ Oh sing to the LORD a | new song;*
sing to the LORD, | all the earth!

² Sing to the LORD, | bless his name;*
tell of his salvation from | day to day.

³Declare his glory among the | nations,*
his marvelous works among all the | peoples!
⁴For great is the LORD, and greatly | to be praised;*
he is to be feared a- | bove all gods.

¹¹**Let the heavens be glad, and let the | earth rejoice;***
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
¹²**let the field exult, and every- | thing in it!**
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
¹³before the LORD, | for he comes,*
for he comes to | judge the earth.
He will judge the world in | righteousness,*
and the peoples in his | faithfulness.

Second Lesson

1 John 4:7–16

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

Luke 2:11

P *Alleluia. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Alleluia.*

Alleluia

LSB pg. 190

C *Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

Holy Gospel*Luke 2:1–20***P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.****Hymn of the Day***O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is***372**

Sermon

Nicene Creed *inside the back cover of the hymnal*

The Prayers

Offering

Offertory *LSB pgs. 192-193*

- C** *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.*

The Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And with your spirit.**
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 [...] evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *LSB pg. 195*

- C** *Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.*

The Lord's Prayer *inside the back cover of the hymnal*

The Consecration

Pax Domini

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

Agnus Dei

LSB pg. 198

- C** *O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.*
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Distribution Hymns

<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	368
<i>All My Heart Again Rejoices</i>	360
<i>Away in a Manger</i>	365

Nunc Dimittis

LSB pgs. 199-200

- C** *Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,*
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving & Benediction

- P** Let us pray... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen
- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with your spirit.
- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give ✠ you peace.
- C** Amen.

Closing Hymn

Silent Night, Holy Night

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