



**Lord of Life**  
Lutheran Church



*Loved by God,  
Sent to Serve.*

**First Sunday of Christmas  
January 1, 2023  
10:00 am**

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship**  
Setting Three

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**Prelude: “I Saw Three Ships”**

**Rebecca Harker**

**Welcome**

The angel said to [the shepherds], “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11).

As we gather we hear again the good news the angels proclaimed: God has come for all people through the birth of the one named Jesus. Through Bethlehem’s manger God comes into the chaos, messiness, and vulnerability of the world. In all things and at all times, we rejoice that God comes to save us and reigns in love. We come to adore Jesus who is Savior, Christ, and Lord.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

Amid the troubles and fears of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome God’s forgiveness, grace, and love.

Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

**Forgive our lack of faith and trust.**

Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

**Forgive our neglect of the poor.**

The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

**Forgive our selfishness and complacency.**

With great joy the angels proclaimed, “Do not fear. For I bring you good news of great joy. Today is born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

In Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven. May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens. Indeed, God’s forgiveness is good news of great joy!

**Amen.**

## Gathering Carol: *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

ELW 275

- 1 Angels, from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
once you sang creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
yonder shines the infant light.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations,  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great desire of nations,  
you have seen his natal star.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.
- 4 All creation, join in praising  
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
evermore your voices raising  
to the eternal Three in One.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4

Music: Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879      Public Domain

## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Canticle of Praise: *Angels We Have Heard on High*

ELW 289

- 1 Angels we have heard on high,  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply,  
echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
gloria in excelsis Deo.
- 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heav'nly song?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
gloria in excelsis Deo.
- 3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn king.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Text: French carol; tr. H.F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864      Music: French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

Public Domain

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

**PSALM: Psalm 8** (*read responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

<sup>2</sup>**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

<sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

<sup>4</sup>**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?**

<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

<sup>6</sup>**You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:**

<sup>7</sup>all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,

<sup>8</sup>**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

<sup>9</sup>O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN A SAVIOR, WHO IS CHRIST THE LORD**

**Lesson: Isaiah 12:2-6**

A reading from Isaiah. <sup>2</sup>Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Lord GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. <sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. <sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds

among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. <sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. <sup>6</sup>Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

**Response: O Come, All Ye Faithful** (*refrain only*)

**ELW 283**

**Refrain**

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

**Lesson: Matthew 1:18-21**

A reading from Matthew. <sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

**Carol: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming***

**ELW 272**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming<br>from tender stem hath sprung!<br>Of Jesse's lineage coming<br>as seers of old have sung,<br>it came, a flow'r so bright,<br>amid the cold of winter,<br>when half-spent was the night. | 3 This flow'r, whose fragrance tender<br>with sweetness fills the air,<br>dispels with glorious splendor<br>the darkness everywhere.<br>True man, yet very God,<br>from sin and death he saves us<br>and lightens ev'ry load. |
| 2 Isaiah had foretold it,<br>the rose I have in mind;<br>with Mary we behold it,<br>the virgin mother kind.<br>To show God's love aright,<br>she bore to us a Savior,<br>when half-spent was the night.                  | 4 O Savior, child of Mary,<br>who felt our human woe;<br>O Savior, king of glory,<br>who dost our weakness know:<br>bring us at length, we pray,<br>to the bright courts of heaven<br>and into endless day.                   |

## FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN A SAVIOR, WHO IS CHRIST THE LORD

### Lesson: Isaiah 61:1-3, 11

A reading from Isaiah. <sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; <sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; <sup>3</sup>to provide for those who mourn in Zion — to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. <sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

**Response: O Come, All Ye Faithful** (*refrain only*)

**ELW 283**

### Refrain

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

### Lesson: John 1:19-23, 29-34

A reading from John.

<sup>19</sup>This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup>He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." <sup>22</sup>Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" <sup>23</sup>He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.

<sup>29</sup>The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" <sup>30</sup>This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup>And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him." <sup>33</sup>I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend

and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup>And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

**Carol: *In the Bleak Midwinter***

**ELW 294**

- 1 In the bleak midwinter,  
frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter,  
long ago.
- 2 Heaven cannot hold him,  
nor earth sustain;  
heav'n and earth shall flee away  
when he comes to reign;  
in the bleak midwinter  
a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God almighty,  
Jesus Christ.
- 3 What can I give him,  
poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd  
I would bring a lamb;  
if I were a wise man  
I would do my part;  
yet what I can give him—  
give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-1894 Music: Gustav Holst, 1874-1934 Public Domain

**FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN A SAVIOR, WHO IS CHRIST THE LORD**

**Lesson: Isaiah 6:1-8**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the LORD sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." <sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now

that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the LORD saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

**Response: O Come, All Ye Faithful** (*refrain only*)

**ELW 283**

**Refrain**

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

**Lesson: Luke 1:26-35**

A reading from Luke.

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

**Carol: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly***

**ELW 276**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Infant holy, infant lowly,<br/>for his bed a cattle stall;<br/>oxen lowing, little knowing<br/>Christ the child is Lord of all.<br/>Swiftly winging, angels singing,<br/>bells are ringing, tidings bringing:<br/>Christ the child is Lord of all!<br/>Christ the child is Lord of all!</p> | <p>2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping<br/>vigil till the morning new<br/>saw the glory, heard the story,<br/>tidings of a gospel true.<br/>Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,<br/>praises voicing, greet the morrow:<br/>Christ the child was born for you!<br/>Christ the child was born for you!</p> |
|--|--|

## Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayers of Intercession

...Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**  
...to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

### MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**Offertory Music: “Still, Still, Still”**

**Bob Burroughs  
Traditional Austrian Melody**

**Offering: *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice***

**ELW 288**

- 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before him bow,  
and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!
- 2 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss:  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door,  
and we are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!
- 3 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye need not fear the grave;  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all  
to gain the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!



Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866

Music: German carol, 14<sup>th</sup> cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795-1856 Public Domain.

Scan code to give now.

## Offering Prayer in Unison

Let us pray together.

**Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

### Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### Thanksgiving at the Table

#### Lord's Prayer

*Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

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.

#### Invitation to Communion and Healing Prayer

#### Communion Distribution Song: *What Child Is This*

**ELW 296**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,<br/>on Mary's lap is sleeping?<br/>Whom angels greet with anthems sweet<br/>while shepherds watch are keeping?<br/>This, this is Christ the king,<br/>whom shepherds guard and angels sing;<br/>haste, haste to bring him laud,<br/>the babe, the son of Mary!</p> | <p>2 Why lies he in such mean estate<br/>where ox and ass are feeding?<br/>Good Christian, fear; for sinners here<br/>the silent Word is pleading.<br/>Nails, spear shall pierce him through,<br/>the cross be borne for me, for you;<br/>hail, hail the Word made flesh,<br/>the babe, the son of Mary!</p> |
|--|--|

3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
come, peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
the virgin sings her lullaby;  
joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
the babe, the son of Mary!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898 Music: English ballad, 16<sup>th</sup> cent. Public Domain

## **Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **Announcements**

### **Blessing**

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary,  
the obedience of Joseph,  
the joy of the angels,  
the eagerness of the shepherds,  
and the everlasting peace of Jesus  
who is Savior, Christ, and Lord.  
Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you and keep you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Refrain**

Go tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
go tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. **Refrain**

2 The shepherds feared and trembled  
when, lo, above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth. **Refrain**

3 Down in a lonely manger  
the humble Christ was born;  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. **Refrain**

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.

Music: African American spiritual Public Domain

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude: “*Gloria in Excelsis Deo*”**

**Mark Hayes**

**Announcements**

**Worship Online**

**Zoom:**

<https://bit.ly/2PvSCQJ>  
Meeting ID: 563 582 7371  
Passcode: Luther

**Phone in at:**

(312) 626-6799  
Meeting ID: 563 582 7371  
Passcode: 456037

**This Week at Lord of Life**

Tomorrow, January 2		OFFICE CLOSED for Holiday
Wednesday, January 4	7:00 PM	Music & Worship Meeting
Thursday, January 5	1:00 PM	Prayer Shawl
Sunday, January 8	8:00 AM	Worship in-person and online
	9:15 AM	Cross-Generational Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship in-person and online
	11:30 AM	Budget Informational Meeting

## Upcoming Budget Informational Meetings

There will be two informational meetings regarding the budget held prior to the Annual meeting. Following is the schedule of meetings:

### Budget Information Meetings

Sunday, January 8 11:30am

Sunday, January 15 9:15am

### Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 29 9:15am

## Prayer List

John & Jan Cocayne

Susan Comer

David & Megan Dahlke-Cordes and family

Craig & Joan Cram

Larry & Barb Croghan

Kevin & Darlene Curoe

Nancy & Clarence Davis

## Worship Servants:

### Sunday January 1

	<u>Tech Min.</u>	<u>Asst. Min.</u>	<u>Reader</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
<b>10:00 AM</b>	Jon D. Rita			Deckers

### Sunday January 8

<b>8:00 AM</b>	Nate Frambach	Diane Frambach		
<b>10:30 AM</b>				

## **Acknowledgments**

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**Administrative Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday  
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

