

# ✠ Holy Cross Lutheran Church ✠

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First Sunday after Christmas

December 26, 2021

## Divine Service, Setting Three

### As We Gather

Are you prepared for heaven? Admittedly, this is an odd question when we are celebrating Jesus' birth. Yet, Jesus was born to die to save His people from their sins. As Simeon held the Christ Child, he couldn't help but say, "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word," while also telling Mary, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed." That opposition eventually brought about His death on a cross. Yet, Jesus was born to die and rise to life again so that all who believe in Him might live! That is the best Christmas gift ever.

### 519 In His Temple Now Behold Him



1 In His tem - ple now be - hold Him, See the long - ex -  
2 In the arms of her who bore Him, Vir - gin pure, be -  
3 Je - sus, by Your pre - sen - ta - tion, When they blessed You,



pect - ed Lord; An - cient proph - ets had fore - told Him,  
hold Him lie While His a - ged saints a - dore Him  
weak and poor, Make us see Your great sal - va - tion,



God has now ful - filled His word. Now to praise Him,  
Ere in per - fect faith they die. Al - le - lu - ia,  
Seal us with Your prom - ise sure; And pre - sent us



His re - deem - ed Shall break forth with one ac - cord.  
al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!  
in Your glo - ry To Your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.

Text and tune: Public domain

### Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

*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 unto 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 heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.
- Grant this, Lord, unto us all.
- C** **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:10*

- P** The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.
- C** **Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**
- P** The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- C** **He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**
- P** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
- C** **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.**
- P** The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

### Kyrie

*LSB 186*

**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

*LSB 187*

**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy 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,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
  - C** And with thy spirit.
  - P** Let us pray.
- O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

*Sit*

### Old Testament Reading

*Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15*

- P** The Old Testament Reading is from Exodus, chapter 13.

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>“Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”

<sup>3</sup>Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .

<sup>11</sup>“When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, <sup>12</sup>you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD’s. <sup>13</sup>Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem.

<sup>14</sup>And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. <sup>15</sup>For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of

animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*Colossians 3:12–17*

**P** The Epistle is from Colossians, chapter 3.

<sup>12</sup>Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup>bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia

*LSB 190*



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 2:22–40*

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



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

**P** <sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup>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. <sup>26</sup>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. <sup>27</sup>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, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup>“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,  
according to your word;

<sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation

<sup>31</sup>that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup>And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup>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 <sup>35</sup>(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup>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, <sup>37</sup>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.

<sup>38</sup>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.

<sup>39</sup>And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** Praise be to Thee, 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.

*Sit*

### 389 Let All Together Praise Our God



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His  
 2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an  
 3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -  
 4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To  
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies  
 at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The  
 hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.  
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.  
 splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.  
 glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

5 He is a servant, I a lord:  
 How great a mystery!  
 How strong the tender Christ  
 Child's love!  
 No truer friend than He,  
 No truer friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door  
 To blessèd paradise;  
 The angel bars the way no more.  
 To God our praises rise,  
 To God our praises rise.

△7 Your grace in lowliness  
 revealed,  
 Lord Jesus, we adore  
 And praise to God the Father yield  
 And Spirit evermore;  
 We praise You evermore.

## Offering

Stand

## Offertory

LSB 192



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

## Prayer of the Church

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For the Church, that all who have been baptized into Christ may embrace the Christ Child by Word and faith, and so be ready to depart whenever they are called, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For our families, that they would be harmonious in God's love and ruled by Christ's peace; that the Word of Christ would dwell richly among us; that fathers and heads of the household would teach and admonish their families in all wisdom; and that our songs, words and deeds would be done in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, with thanksgiving, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For delight in the fear of the Lord, that we may entrust ourselves only to Christ, who alone judges all matters in equity and righteousness; for princes and leaders of this world, who must judge by what they see and hear, that they would be blessed with health and wisdom; and for discernment, that we may honor them for the sake of conscience before our Lord, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For the sick and suffering, especially those who desire our prayers [\_\_\_\_\_], that according to God's gracious will, they would be healed; and for those who mourn, [especially \_\_\_\_\_], that God would fill their hearts with the certain hope of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** In thanksgiving for our brothers and sisters who have departed in the peace of faith; and that with them, we may behold the light of the nations and the glory of Israel in eternal life, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

- 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.

**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

**P** Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, 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 thy spirit.

**Benedicamus**

LSB 202

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Benediction**

LSB 202

**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** Amen, amen, amen.

**367 Angels from the Realms of Glory**



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  
 Δ 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.



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



Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

## **Announcements**

**Adult Sunday School** is studying Genesis at 9am on Sunday mornings.

The **Flowers** that beautify our altar are given to God's glory by the Padons for their daughter's birthday.

The **Ladies Bible Study** next meets Wednesday **Dec 29** at 10am. They are studying the Book of Numbers.

**Church Council** next meeting is **Jan 9** at 8am.

Pastor Huston will be out of town on **Dec 27 & 28**.

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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