



Immanuel Lutheran Church

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The First Sunday after Christmas

11 AM, Sunday, December 27, 2020

WELCOME

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Stand/kneel

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

☞ Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

HYMN, LBW 70

Go Tell It on The Mountain

GO TELL IT

APOSTOLIC 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.**

GLORIA

Angels We Have Heard On High

GLORIA

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Let us pray. Almighty God, you have made yourself known in your Son, Jesus, redeemer of the world. We pray that his birth as a human child will set us free from the old slavery of our sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Sit

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 61:10--62:3, RSV

To the people who returned to Jerusalem after the exile, the prophet proclaims that the LORD's salvation will fully come to pass. Jerusalem will become a shining light to the nations and righteousness and praise will spring up as surely as the earth puts forth vegetation.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my soul shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For 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 forth before all the nations.

^{62:1}For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication goes forth as brightness,
and her salvation as a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
which the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON..... Galatians 4:4-7, NRSV
St. Paul seeks to show the Galatians that the purpose of Christ's birth was to liberate us from the law's condemnation so that we would be fully adopted into God's family as sons and daughters.

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are

children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 148

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;*
praise him | in the heights.

²**Praise him, all you an- | gels of his;***
praise him, | all his host.

³Praise him, | sun and moon;*
praise him, all you | shining stars.

⁴**Praise him, heav- | en of heavens,***
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.

(Continued, next page)

⁵Let them praise the name | of the Lord;*

for he commanded, and they | were created.

⁶**He made them stand fast forev- | er and ever;***

he gave them a law which shall not | pass away.

⁷Praise the LORD | from the earth,*

you sea monsters | and all deeps;

⁸**fire and hail, | snow and fog,***

tempestuous wind, do- | ing his will;

⁹mountains | and all hills,*

fruit trees | and all cedars;

¹⁰**wild beasts | and all cattle,***

creeping things and | winged birds;

¹¹kings of the earth | and all peoples,*

princes and all rulers of the world;

¹²**young | men and maidens,***

old and | young together.

¹³Let them praise the name | of the LORD,*

for his name only is exalted, his splendor is over | earth and heaven.

¹⁴**He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his | loyal servants,***

the children of Israel, a people who are near him. | Hallelujah!

Stand

ALLELUIA VERSE

☪ **Alleluia.**

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. (Colossians 3:15, 16)

Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 2:22-40, RSV

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the Second Chapter.

☪ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

And when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout,

looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And inspired by the Spirit he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹"Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word;
³⁰for mine eyes have seen thy salvation
³¹which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples,
³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to thy people Israel."

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him; ³⁴and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother,

"Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel,
and for a sign that is spoken against
³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also),
that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phan'u-el, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, ³⁷and as a widow till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

☞ The Gospel of the Lord!

☞ Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON (*Sit, after the invocation.*)

HYMN, LBW 44

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

W ZLOBIE LEZY

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under

Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

The Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

THE PEACE

☞ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☛ **And also with you.**

Let us offer a sign of peace to our neighbors: "Peace be with you."

THE OFFERING

Donate now: [Donate](#)

Here are some other options for giving: [Ways to Give](#)

(Offertory anthem, next page)

ANTHEM

Gaudete! Christus natus est From Piaie Cantiones (1582)
Ryland Angel, countertenor soloist
The Immanuel Choir

Gaudete! Christus est natus
Ex Maria vergine, gaudete!

Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born
Of the Virgin Mary — rejoice!

Tempus adest gratiae
Hoc quod optabamus.
Carmina laetitiae
Devote reddamus.
Gaudete...

The time of grace has come —
This that we have desired,
Verses of joy
Let us devoutly return.
Rejoice...

Deus homo factus est
Natura mirante,
Mundus renovatus est
A Christo regnante.
Gaudete...

God has become man,
To the wonderment of Nature,
The world has been renewed
By the reigning Christ.
Rejoice...

Ezechielis porta
Clausa pertransitur,
Unde lux est orta
Salus invenitur.
Gaudete...

The closed gate of Ezekiel
Is passed through,
Whence the light is born,
Salvation is found.
Rejoice...

Ergo nostra contio
Psallat iam in lustro;
Benedicat Domino:
Salus Regi nostro.
Gaudete...

Therefore let our gathering
Now sing in brightness
Let it give praise to the Lord:
Greeting to our King.
Rejoice...

☩ Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us — our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*spoken*)

☩ 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 him thanks and praise.**

Preface for Christmas

- ☐ It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

- ☑ **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Eucharistic Prayer I

- ☐ Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

☩ Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

☩ Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

☩ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

☩ Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

☩ Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

☩ Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

☩ Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

☩ 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 Fraction (The Bread is broken)

Agnus Dei

**☩ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

- ✦ If you are home during this pandemic, worshipping online with us, here is a possible “Prayer for Spiritual Communion” lifted up in a recent *Forum Letter* (May 2020). *Forum Letter* is a respected Lutheran newsletter published by the American Lutheran Publicity Bureau:

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

The Sending

BENEDICTION

HYMN, LBW 60

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
- ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

- ✦ Note on our Bible Lessons: They are downloaded from Bible Gateway — <https://www.biblegateway.com/>. Copyright information for the various translations is included on the Bible Gateway website.
- ✦ NEW TO PRAYER LIST: The Romano Family (John, Jeanne, Emma and Lucy), Marion Molno, Emma Kaefer, Bruce Harbour (Robin’s father), Peter Davie (godfather of Thomas Wicks), Bennett Harris (colleague of Pastors Fryer), Robert Mallery (son-in-law of David Kiehl’s sister), Wolfgang Hahn, Yoleidy Perez (Tamares’s brother), Obdulia Mundo (friend of Maggie Schreiber), Charlie Beckwith (friend of Thomas Wicks), Olga Beloded (John Imhof’s wife), Mary Ann Grant (Deirdre’s mother)
- ✦ FAITHFUL DEPARTED Pastor John Panning
 ✦May 3, 1927 - December 23, 2020✦
 Bereaved Daughter Elizabeth (Panning) Cecchettini