Christmas Day Service December 25, 2022

Preservice Music, Call to Worship and Welcome

The Opening Hymn: LSB 380 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"



- In the name of the Father and of the

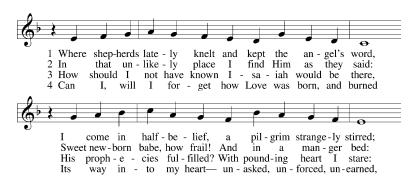
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.

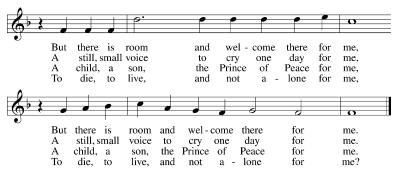
- I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Kneel or sit to reflect silently on your sin.)

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto 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 unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
 Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

A Hymn: LSB 369 "Where Shepherds Lately Knelt"





Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008 Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929

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+Service of the Word+

The Introit

Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

P: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

C: And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor. Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

P: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

C: 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.

P: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

C: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! 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.

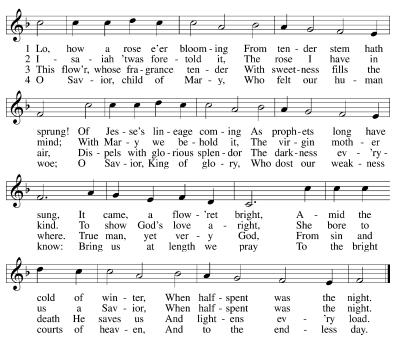
P: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

C: And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

The Salutation and Prayer of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

A Hymn: LSB 359, "Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming"



Text (sts. 1–2): tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, alt.; (sts. 1–2, 4): German, 16th cent.; (st. 3): Friedrich L. C. Layriz, 1808–59; (st. 3): tr. Harriet R. K. Spaeth, 1845–1925; (st. 4): tr. John C. Mattes, 1876–1948
Tune: Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengeseng, 1599, Köln
Text and tune: Public domain

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good

news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The 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.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

A Hymn: LSB 370 "What Child Is This"



Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98 Tune: English, 16th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

The Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 1:1–12

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4having become as much superior to 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"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." 7Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire." 8But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. 9You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." 10 And, "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; 11they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, 12 like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end."

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

A Duet: "Light of the World"

The Christmas Gospel: John 1:1–18

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. 6There was a man sent from God, whose name was John, ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. 8He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. 14And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.") 16And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

The Hymn of the Day: LSB 384 "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

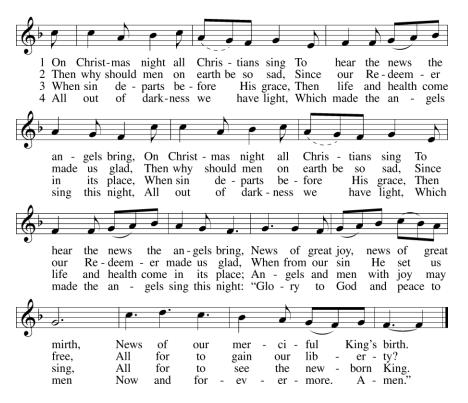


Text: Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 348-c. 413; (sts. 1-4): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.; (st. 5): tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821-77 Tune: Plainsong, 13th cent., mode V Text and tune: Public domain

The Sermon

The Offering

A Hymn: LSB 377 "On Christmas Night, All Christians Sing"

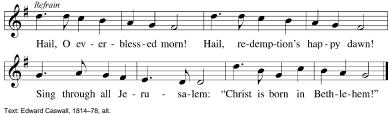


Text and tune: Public domain

The Prayer of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

A Hymn: LSB 373 "See Amid the Winter's Snow"





Text: Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt Tune: John Goss, 1800–80 Text and tune: Public domain

Announcements and Christmas Blessing for Online Worshippers

+Service of the Sacrament+

The Preface

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- 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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; 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 know and love those things which are not seen. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.
- In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, at His command, and with His own words, we receive His testament:

The Words of Institution

The Pax Domini

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

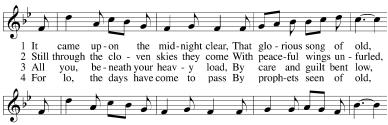
The Distribution

A Distribution Hymn: LSB 365 "Away in a Manger"

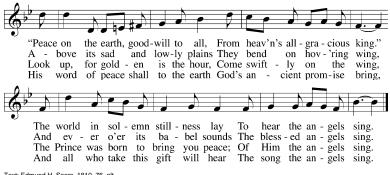


Text (sts. 1–2): Little Children's Book, 1885, Philadelphia; (st. 3): Vineyard Songs, 1892, Louisville, alt. Tune: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1838–1921 Text and tune: Public domain

A Distribution Hymn: LSB 366 "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"



From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
And still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world
Who toil a - long a drea - ry way With pain - ful steps and slow:
When down in - to the cir-cling years Came Christ as was fore - told.



Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–76, alt. Tune: Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900 Text and tune: Public domain

A Post-Communion Collect

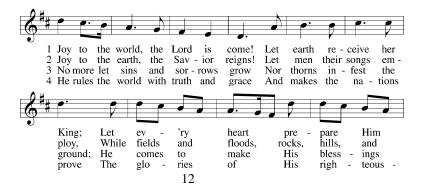
The Benedicamus

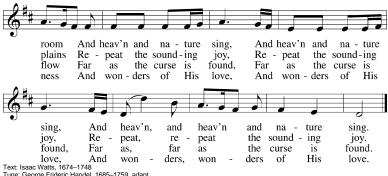
- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

The Benediction

- Amen.

The Closing Hymn: LSB 387 "Joy to the World"





Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

The Postlude

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Five from Lutheran Service Book

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Events of the Week: Dec 25, 2022 to Jan 1, 2023

Office closed December 26-December 31

Sunday 9:30 a.m. New Year's Day service

FINANCIAL DISCIPLESHIP: December 18/19, 2022

General Fund 3869.00 **Tessaro Ministry** 10.00 TOTAL

Announcements

Now is the Time to Sign Up for Pastor's Discovery Class! Discovery is a 12-week course that is designed for anyone who is interested in becoming a member of St. James. If you are already a member but would like to brush up on your understanding of Lutheran doctrine and the Small Catechism, this class is also for you! At this point, Pastor is trying to see who might like to attend Discovery so that he can set a day and time that works for those interested. Pastor's plan is to start the Discovery Class in January 2023. Have you selected your Bible reading program for 2023? You are encouraged to read the whole Bible in 2023, but if you want to build into that challenge, you may want to read the New Testament instead. Check out the article in the December newsletter for a variety of Bible reading programs. There are also a couple Bible readings programs on the table in the coat. Those of you who have the You Version app on your phone will want to search for Bible programs. Starting January 1, Pastor Schaeffer is going to use the You Version Bible reading program called, "The One Year Bible." Daily readings, in this Bible reading program, are from the Old Testament, the New Testament, Psalms and Proverbs. The assigned readings take about 15 minutes a day.

The Word Works – Building an Ethic of Bible Reading
This conference for lay people and church workers will be
February 4, 2023 at Our Savior, Lansing, MI. The
Registration fee is \$25.00 and \$15.00 for students. The
conference will also be livestreamed. For more information,
visit the event page: www.michigandistrict.org/theological23.

Those who serve Today:

Officiant: Pastor Glenn Schaeffer

Organist: Beth McKay

Deacons: Jerry Talen and John Weiss

Ushers: Jim and Nancy Spears

Video/Sound/Recording: Nathan Urbanski, John, and

Marjie Weiss

December Altar Guild: Marjie Weiss and Melissa Ensing

A Statement on Holy Communion

We rejoice in the celebration of the LORD'S Supper as the Lord Jesus comes to us in a very personal manner, giving to us His true Body and Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine in this sacred meal. St. Paul writes, "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself." (1 Corinthians 11:28-29) It is out of love and care for every individual that comes to the Lord's Supper that we ask those who are not instructed in the faith and/or doubt the presence of the Body and Blood of Jesus in this Sacrament to refrain from attending the Lord's Supper.

Members of Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations, who:

- · Repent of their sin;
- · Believe in Jesus as their Savior;
- Trust that they are receiving, not only bread and wine, but also the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ in the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of their sins; and
- Intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to live as forgiven sinners resisting the devil, saying no to sinful desires, and walking in the newness of life;

are invited to partake of this Holy Meal with us. We request that ALL guests who desire to commune, kindly speak to the Pastor before the service.

If you prefer to come forward for a blessing at the time of Holy Communion, please do so. We ask that you cross your arms over your chest so that Pastor knows you want to receive a blessing.

NOTE: We provide gluten-free communion host and non-alcohol grape juice. Just let Pastor and/or the assistants know when you come for Holy Communion.