

# Our Savior Lutheran Church

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## Welcome Visitors!

This morning we celebrate the Lord's Supper, also known as Holy Communion. The word "communion" means "union with" and it is an appropriate name since in the Lord's Supper we celebrate the union which exists between:

- 1) Ourselves and Jesus Christ,
- 2) Each other through our unity of faith,
- 3) The bread and the body of Christ, and
- 4) The wine and the blood of Christ.

To receive this Sacrament in a worthy manner, it is necessary that a person believe:

- 1) That he is a sinner in need of God's forgiveness,
- 2) That forgiveness is given to us through the passion and death of Jesus Christ on the cross, and
- 3) That the true body and blood of Jesus Christ are present in the Sacrament.

If you truly believe this but have never received the Sacrament at this church, please speak to the pastor before coming to the altar.

Also, to help ensure that you commune in what Scripture calls a "worthy manner" (1 Corinthians 11:27), meaning in a manner consistent with Jesus' institution, and not to your harm, please prayerfully read through the "Christian Questions and Answers" for those who intend to go to the Sacrament, found on pages 329-330 in "Lutheran Service Book". This is the basis of our preparation of youth to receive the Lord's Supper, and it is always a most appropriate way for us to renew our knowledge of the Sacrament and to rekindle the devotion and piety of repentance and faith as we come to the Lord's Table.

White grape juice is available in the rose-colored cups, located in the center of each tray, for those who do not wish to consume alcohol.

## As We Gather

The joy of Christmas is the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Through the centuries, faithful Christians have found ways to express confident joy in the blessed gift of salvation. In this service we shall discover joy in beloved carols and familiar liturgy; we will also discover joy in the traditional crèche and in the Christmas reflections of Martin Luther. Although the observance of Christmas Day on any day of the week is indeed a special blessing, the meaning of the day is magnified when it occurs on a Sunday. The manger at Bethlehem is linked to the empty tomb at Jerusalem; the story of salvation in Jesus is at the heart of this Lord's Day!

## Serving Today

December 25, 2020

Head Usher: Jon Goldenstein

Elder: Jon Goldenstein

Organist: Linda Kellerhals

Sound Board: Chris Catron

Greeters: Michael and Stacie Trumann

Acolyte: Ryleigh Rieches

Altar Guild: Dianne Estes, Cheryl Knake and Sheila Selk

# ✠ The Nativity of Our Lord ✠

## ✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

Opening Hymn

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

LSB 367



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  
△ 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.

Text and tune: Public domain

*Please 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** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## ✠ Service of the Word ✠

### Kyrie

LSB 204



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

### Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** 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.**

*Please be seated*

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 62:10–12*

<sup>10</sup>Go through, go through the gates;  
prepare the way for the people;  
build up, build up the highway;  
clear it of stones;  
lift up a signal over the peoples.

<sup>11</sup>Behold, the LORD has proclaimed  
to the end of the earth:  
Say to the daughter of Zion,  
“Behold, your salvation comes;  
behold, his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.”

<sup>12</sup>And they shall be called The Holy People,  
The Redeemed of the LORD;  
and you shall be called Sought Out,  
A City Not Forsaken.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

*Psalm 98*

<sup>1</sup>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.

<sup>2</sup>The LORD has made known his salvation;  
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

<sup>3</sup>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.

<sup>4</sup>Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

<sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody!

<sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who dwell in it!

<sup>8</sup>Let the rivers clap their hands;  
let the hills sing for joy together

<sup>9</sup>before the LORD, for he comes

to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.

## Epistle

*Titus 3:4–7*

<sup>4</sup>When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

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

*Please stand*

## Alleluia and Verse



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



**C** These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



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

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 2:15–20*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>15</sup>When 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.” <sup>16</sup>And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup>And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>And 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.

## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living  
and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped  
and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Please be seated*





1 A great and mighty wonder, A full and holy cure:  
 2 The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high,  
 3 While thus they sing your Monarch, Those bright angelic bands,  
 4 Since all He comes to ransom, By all be He adored,  
 5 All idols then shall perish And Satan's lying cease,



The virgin bears the infant With virgin honor pure!  
 And cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky.  
 Rejoice, O vales and mountains, And oceans, clap your hands.  
 The infant born in Beth'lem, The Savior and the Lord.  
 And Christ shall raise His scepter, Deceiving endless peace.

*Refrain*



Proclaim the Savior's birth: "To God on high be



glory And peace to all the earth!"

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

“At Long Last”

Titus 3:4-7

Sermon Hymn

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

LSB 338



1 Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;  
 2 Born Thy people to deliver; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
 Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.



Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
 By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;



Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.  
 By Thine all-sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand*

## Prayer of the Church

**P** Word made flesh, in the joyous celebration of Your nativity, we have seen Your glory. Your goodness and loving kindness have appeared to us. Grant us comfort and peace in the knowledge of Your incarnation and a blessed new year. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Word made flesh, in Your Holy Gospel we have seen Your glory. Bless the preaching of the Gospel from the altars and pulpits You have consecrated for the purpose of delivering Your gift of faith through the preaching of Your Word. Bless those called to preach and those called to hear, that the light of Your Word may continue to illumine the darkness of our world. Abide with those who suffer persecution for confessing its truth. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Word made flesh, by Your Sacrament of Holy Baptism we have seen Your glory. Make all the baptized confident in the promise given to them in the waters of Baptism. Grant repentance to parents who have withheld the treasures of Baptism from their children. Give to all Your people hearts welcoming of children. Continue to expand Your kingdom through this blessed portal to eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Word made flesh, in Your ongoing provision of daily bread we have seen Your glory. By Your Spirit, visit those who suffer: the sick, the sorrowing, the hospitalized, the poor, the destitute, the homeless, the unemployed. Remember those who have requested our intercessions that they might not be given to despair but entreat their heavenly Father's protection even in times of great need. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Word made flesh, in Your crucifixion and resurrection we have seen Your glory. Give comfort to those who grieve. Grant to all people a sure and certain hope in the resurrection of all the dead and eternal life for all believers in You on the day of Your return. Keep us steadfast and faithful until that day. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Word made flesh, in Your Holy Supper we have seen Your glory. From Your humble entry into our world in the womb of the blessed Virgin to Your first bed in a feed trough, You set aside the honor You rightly deserve to bless us with Your presence. As You now come to us humbly under the forms of bread and wine, bless us with a right faith, that we might worthily receive Your body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Word made flesh, we give You thanks that of Your mercy and compassion, You become incarnate and have redeemed us from sin and everlasting death. Enlighten our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that we may ever be thankful for such grace and comfort ourselves by it in all tribulation and temptation and at last obtain eternal salvation; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one Lord, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Offering

*All members of this congregation take this opportunity give back to the Lord in thankfulness for what He has done for us and in trust of His continued provisions for all that we need for this body and life. During this time, the collection basket is located at the back of the Sanctuary.*

*Visitors are welcome to give, but should not feel compelled to do so.*

# ✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

## Preface

LSB 208

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**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 that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 208



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In the beginning You created all things by Your Word; and in the fullness of time Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

Let Your Word made flesh dwell richly among us that, faithfully eating His body and drinking His blood, we may receive the fullness of Your grace and truth in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## Lord's Prayer

**C** 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 Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\cdot\ddagger$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\cdot\ddagger$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

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

**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 210



**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*Please be seated*

## Distribution

*The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first  
and then distribute them to those who come to receive.*

### “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

LSB 380



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”  
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin’s womb.  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!  
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new-born King!”

Tune and text: Public domain

# “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

LSB 379 sts. 1, ref. 2-4



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;  
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;  
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:  
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

## *Refrain*



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand*

**C** 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;  
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -  
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## Post-Communion Collect

- P** Let us pray.  
 We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## Benedicamus

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

## Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
 ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
 plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
 flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
 ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text and tune: Public domain

**Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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*Merry Christmas!*