



GLORY  
*to the*  
newborn  
KING



"In Nomine Iesu"

**Christmas Day**  
December 25, 2022  
9:00 a.m.

**The Nativity of Our Lord**  
Divine Service

**AS WE GATHER:** God became man. It's hard to fully consider the magnitude of that statement. And yet, this is what we celebrate this morning. We gather together to confess and rejoice in the incarnation of our Lord and the unending blessings we receive from it. God in human flesh brings all of God's blessings to humans. Chief among them is His grace. John speaks of the incarnation, saying that, *"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"* (John 1:14).

Today we rejoice that God came not only to give us a baby in a manger, but a Savior who rescues us from sin and death in His very own body and blood. Luther once said, "Word and sacrament are the manger and swaddling clothes into which it has pleased Christ to lay Himself." Just as the shepherds were told where to find Jesus then, so we are told where to find Him today. He is no longer in the humble manger; but by His own promise, He is in the humble means of bread and wine with His true body and blood. The greatest gift we can give to others is the loving witness to the truth of His word.

For scriptural reasons, we practice closed communion. Visitors who are members of a sister Lutheran Church –Missouri Synod Congregation are invited to partake of the sacrament.

We are happy that you chose to worship with us this morning, and we hope you will worship with us again soon.

Please take a moment to fill out the registration card found in your pew rack.

**Prelude** *"In Heaven Above"* Aaron David Miller  
**Welcome and Announcements**

*(Stand and face the entrance to the sanctuary  
and follow the cross to its place in the chancel.)*

**Entrance Hymn**    *“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*    LSB #379

**Invocation**

P     In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of  
the Holy Spirit.

C     **Amen.**

P     See, our salvation comes.

C     **We shall be called holy, the redeemed of the Lord.**

P     We celebrate the gift of God’s Son, our Savior, Jesus.

C     **We rejoice in our newborn King.**

**Confession and Absolution**

P     If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the  
truth is not in us.

C     **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful  
and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from  
all unrighteousness.**

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

P     Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C     **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by  
nature sinful and unclean. 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. We  
justly deserve Your present and eternal  
punishment. 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.**

P     Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for  
you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a

called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

**Psalm**

*Psalm 2*

P Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

C **The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying,**

P “Let us burst their bonds apart  
and cast away their cords from us.”

C **He who sits in the heavens laughs;  
the LORD holds them in derision.**

P Then He will speak to them in His wrath,  
and terrify them in His fury, saying,

C **“As for Me, I have set My King on Zion,  
My holy hill.”**

P I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to Me, “You are My Son; today I have begotten You.

C **Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your heritage, and the ends of the earth Your possession.**

P You shall break them with a rod of iron  
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

C **Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned,  
O rulers of the earth.**

P Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

C **Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, for His wrath is quickly kindled.  
Blessed are all who take refuge in Him.**

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.**

## Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

## Collect of the Day

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.**

*(be seated)*

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 52:7–10*

<sup>7</sup> How 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.” <sup>8</sup> The 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. <sup>9</sup> Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted His people; He has redeemed Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup> 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.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*Hebrews 1:1–6*

<sup>1</sup> Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup> but 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. <sup>3</sup> He 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, <sup>4</sup> having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup> For 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”?

<sup>6</sup> And again, when He brings the firstborn into the world, He says, “Let all God’s angels worship Him.”

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### Common Alleluia and Verse (*please stand*)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel

*John 1:1-14*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. <sup>11</sup> He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. <sup>12</sup> But to all

who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And 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.

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

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### **Nicene Creed**

**All** 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 of the world to come. Amen.

*(be seated)*

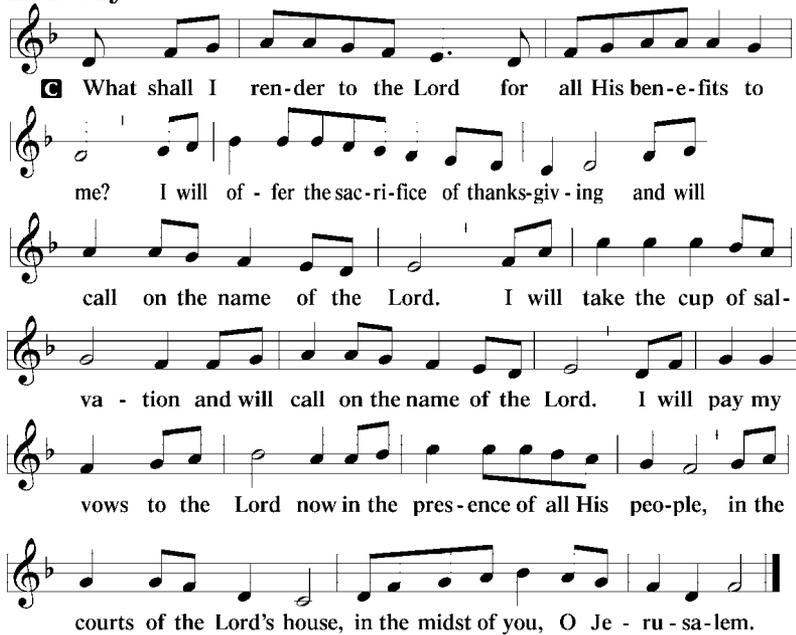
## Children's Message

Hymn of the Day    *"From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"*  
LSB #358 vs 1-3, 7-8, 13, 15

## Sermon

## Presentation of the Offering

## Offertory



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

## Prayer of the Church

(After each portion of the prayers)

P Lord, in your mercy, **C Hear our prayer.**

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus  
and for all people according to their needs:

P Joining in heaven's eternal praise for the revelation of Your love in Your Word made flesh, we boldly lay all our petitions before You, dear Father, trusting that You will hear us for His sake, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

**+Service of the Sacrament+**

**Preface** (*please stand*)

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 proper 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. 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**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. 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.**

### The Lord's Prayer

P Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:  
**All 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 (+) 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 (+) 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

☐ Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.  
(be seated)

## Distribution

*All members of our St. Paul's family are invited  
to meet the Lord in this Sacrament.  
When at the table, please indicate your preference of  
common or individual cup.*

*The CENTER RING of the individual communion cup tray contains white grape juice. The OUTER RINGS contain red wine. (Gluten free wafers are available from a communion assistant.)*

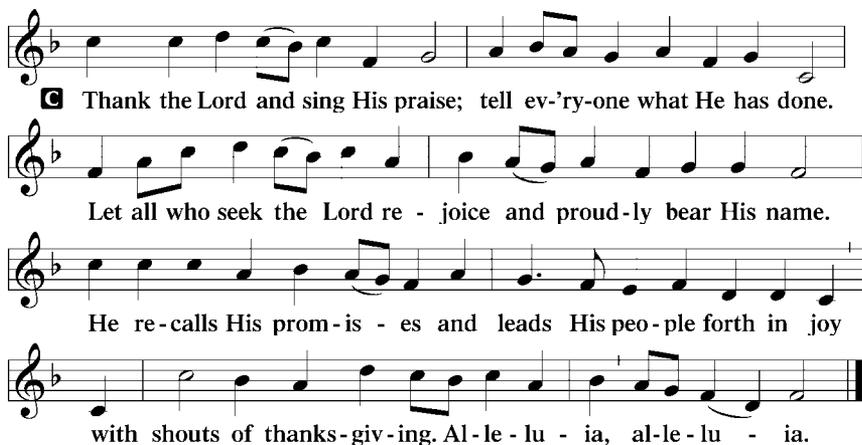
*All Unconfirmed Children are asked to remain standing until they receive a blessing.*

## Distribution Hymns

*“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”* LSB #393

*“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”* LSB #380

## Post-Communion Canticle *(please stand)*



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.  
He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy  
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

## 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.

## **Benediction**

**P** 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 peace of the Christ child. And may the Almighty God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn**      *“Joy to the World”*      LSB #387

## **Silent Prayer**

*(be seated)*

**Postlude**    *“Angels From the Realms of Glory”* Johnson

“Soli Deo Gloria”

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