
CHRISTMAS DAY DECEMBER 25, 2021

WELCOME

HYMN: "Joy to the World" (LSB #387)

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.**

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INVOCATION

OPENING PRAYER:

Pastor: O Loving God, You once caused this holy day to shine with the brightness of the true Light.

People: Turn our thoughts toward Bethlehem and the Christ child.

Pastor: May the words of the Scripture remind us again that the old account of Christ's birth is ever so new!

People: May the carols reveal to us again the wonder and mystery of Jesus' birth.

LESSON: Isaiah 62:10-12

¹⁰ Pass through, pass through the gates! Prepare the way for the people. Build up, build up the highway! Remove the stones. Raise a banner for the nations. ¹¹ The LORD has made proclamation to the ends of the earth: "Say to the Daughter of Zion, 'See, your Savior comes! See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him.'" ¹² They will be called the Holy People, the Redeemed of the LORD; and you will be called Sought After, the City No Longer Deserted.

HYMN: "A Great and Mighty Wonder" (LSB #383)

**A great and mighty wonder,
A full and holy cure:
The virgin bears the infant
With virgin honor pure!
Proclaim the Savior's birth:
"To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"**

**While thus they sing your Monarch,
Those bright angelic bands,
Rejoice, O vales and mountains,
And oceans, clap your hands.
Proclaim the Savior's birth:
"To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth!"**

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LESSON: Titus 3:4-7

⁴ But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

HYMN: "Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising" (LSB #375)

**Come, your hearts and voices raising,
Christ the Lord with gladness praising
Loudly sing His love amazing,
Worthy folk of Christendom.**

**Christ, from heav'n to us descending
And in love our race befriending;
In our need His help extending,
Saved us from the wily foe.**

**Oh, the joy beyond expressing
When by faith we grasp this blessing,
And to You we come confessing
That Your love has set us free.**

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LESSON: Luke 2:1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to his own town to register. ⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

HYMN: “Let All Together Praise Our God” (LSB #389)

**Let all together praise our God
Before His glorious throne;
Today He opens heav’n again
To give us His own Son,
To give us His own Son.**

**He leaves His heav’nly Father’s throne,
Is born an infant small,
And in a manger, poor and lone,
Lies in a humble stall,
Lies in a humble stall.**

**Within an earthborn form He hides
His all creating light;
To serve us all He humbly cloaks
The splendor of His might,
The splendor of His might.**

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SERMON: Isaiah 62:11 “Reward and Recompense”

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Pastor: This day God became a child.

People: Alleluia!

Pastor: As we kneel beside Your manger, Lord Jesus, assure us of Your continuing love and support.

People: Give us a new birth of hope.

Pastor: Cause us to be more genuine in our worship, our work, and our witness.

People: Give us a new birth of faith.

Pastor: Restore within us the joy of Your salvation.

People: Give us a new birth of joy.

Pastor: Amaze us with Your presence, power, and promises each day.

People: Give us a new birth of wonder.

Pastor: Teach us to share our gifts and our lives with others as freely as You have shared with us.

People: Give us a new birth of gratitude.

Pastor: Challenge us to let Your light shine through our sharing, our service, and our support of others.

People: Give us a new birth of witness in our hearts and lives.

Pastor: Hear our prayer for...*(special requests)*...Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Come to their aid and give them hope, help, healing, and peace.

Pastor: Let there be peace among nations, reconciliation among people, hope among the poor and the lonely.

People: Make us willing instruments of peace in the name of the Christ Child Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

IN THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION WE BELIEVE *our Lord Jesus Christ comes to us with His body and blood given and shed for the forgiveness of sins (Matt 26:26-28). In it we are united with him and with the whole Church. Baptized and confirmed Christians who believe, by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, that Christ's body and blood are present in the bread and wine of the Sacrament, who acknowledge their sin, set aside any refusal to forgive (Matt 6:15), are sorry, repent (Mark 1:15) and look to Christ alone for forgiveness and strength to live the new life, are welcome to eat and drink at the Lord's table in remembrance of Him. (1 Cor 11:25-25) You may register for Communion as the Friendship Folder is passed to you in the pew. If you have any questions, please speak to the Pastor or a Lay Minister before communing.*

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION HYMN: “God Loves Me Dearly” (LSB #392)

**God loves me dearly,
Grants me salvation,
God love me dearly, Loves even me.**

Therefore I'll say again:

**God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.**

**I was in slav'ry,
Sin, death, and darkness;
God's love was working
To make me free.**

Therefore I'll say again:

**God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.**

**He sent forth Jesus,
My dear Redeemer,
He set forth Jesus
And set me free.**

Therefore I'll say again:

**God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.**

**Jesus, my Savior,
Himself did offer;
Jesus, my Savior,
Paid all I owed.**

Therefore I'll say again:

**God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.**

**Now I will praise You,
O Love Eternal
Now I will praise You
All my life long.**

Therefore I'll say again:

**God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.**

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BLESSING:

Pastor: For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given.

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

Pastor: May the love of the Christ Child and His peace fill your hearts. May His wonderful blessings be yours every day.

People: His arms are reaching out now, reminding us that He is from everlasting to everlasting, the beginning and the end.

Pastor: And He is with you always to the very end of the age!

People: Hallelujah to the newborn King! Amen.

HYMN: “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” (LSB #374)

**Gentle Mary laid her child
Lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the Undeclared,
To the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place,
Can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race
Who have found His favor.**

**Angels sang about His birth,
Wise Men sought and found Him;
Heaven’s star shone brightly forth
Glory all around Him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight,
Heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night,
All the hills were ringing.**

**Gentle Mary laid her child
Lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undeclared
But no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth,
Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth;
Hail the king of glory!**

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1st CANDLE - (purple) **THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE** - We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

2nd CANDLE - (purple) **THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** - God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to "get ready" Help us to be ready to welcome YOU. O GOD (Luke 3:4-6)

3rd CANDLE- (pink) **THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY**- The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

4th CANDLE- (purple) **THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE** - The angels announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because He loves us (John 3:16-17)

5th CANDLE - (white) **"CHRIST CANDLE"**- The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29)

***If you would like
to take home a
poinsettia, you may
following the 12/26
Sunday Worship
service.***

“The LORD has made proclamation to the ends of the earth: ‘Say to the Daughter of Zion, ‘See, your Savior comes! See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him.’”

1. How do we usually view a reward?
2. What does the holy Spirit really mean by “reward” here?
3. What contract did God make with mankind?
4. When did God fulfill his contract?
5. What is a recompense?
6. Who do we owe a recompense to?
7. What does Jesus do with our recompense?
8. Why are the words of this passage so important when it comes to celebrating Christmas?