

NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

DECEMBER 25, 2011

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Divine Service III LSB pages 184-202

L = Liturgist \* = Stand C = Congregation

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CAROL** *Come, Your Hearts and Voices*

- 1. Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the Lord with gladness praising;  
Loudly sing His love amazing, Worthy folk of Christendom.**
- 2. See how God, for us providing, Gave His Son and life abiding;  
He our weary steps is guiding From earth's woe to heavenly joy.**
- 3. From the bondage that oppressed us, From sin's fetters that possessed us,  
From the grief that sore distressed us, We, the captives, now are free.**
- 4. Oh, the joy beyond expressing When by faith we grasp this blessing  
And to Thee we come confessing, That our freedom Thou hast wrought!**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP AND GENERAL CONFESSION**

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen. (sung)**

L: For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given:

**C: And the government shall be upon His shoulders;**

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

**C: To guide our feet into the way of peace.**

L: Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your steadfast love:

**C: According to Your mercy blot out my transgressions.**

L: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity:

**C: And cleanse me from my sin.**

L: For I know my transgressions:

**C: And my sin is ever before me.**

L: Against You, You only, have I sinned:

**C: And done that which is evil in Your sight.**

L: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit:

**C: As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*THE ABSOLUTION**

**C: Amen. (Sung)**

**\*THE GLORIA PATRI** (Taken from LSB, page 186)

**C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now,  
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. (Sung)**

**\* KYRIE**

**C: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. (Sung)**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And with Your spirit. (Sung)**

L: Let us pray.  
C: **Amen.** (Sung)

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING for the Nativity of our Lord is from Isaiah 62:10-12, page 622:  
<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.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE READING is from Titus 2:11-14, page 998:  
<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, <sup>13</sup>waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.  
\* **THE ALLELUIA VERSE**  
C: **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.** (Sung)

\*THE HOLY GOSPEL according to St. Luke the second chapter, verses 15-20, pages 857:  
C: **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.** (Sung)

<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.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
C: **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.** (Sung)

**\*CONFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true. Amen.

**HYMN:** *O, Little Town of Bethlehem*

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| 1. O, little town of Bethlehem,<br>How still we see thee lie!<br>Above thy deep and dreamless sleep<br>The silent stars go by:<br>Yet in thy dark streets shineth<br>The everlasting light.<br>The hopes and fears of all the years<br>Are met in thee tonight. | 2. How silently, how silently<br>The wondrous gift is giv'n!<br>So God imparts to human hearts<br>The blessings of His heav'n<br>No ear may hear His coming;<br>But, in this world of sin,<br>Where meek souls will receive Him,<br>Still, The dear Christ enters in. |
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THE OFFERING - *During the offering all worshipers are asked to fill out the blue or ivory cards found in the pew rack. Please pass cards down to center aisle. They will be collected immediately after the offering.*

VOLUNTARY

**\*THE OFFERTORY** (LSB pg 192)

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

**\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**\*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen (Sung)**

**\*THE AGNUS DEI (sung)**

LSB page 198

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

**THE DISTRIBUTION AND DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

1. **Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th' angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King."**
2. **Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth. Born to give them second birth;  
Come, Desire of nations, come, Fix in us Thy humble home;  
Oh, to all Thyself impart, Formed in each believing heart!  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King."**

*A Great and Mighty Wonder*

1. **A great and mighty wonder, A full and holy cure:  
The virgin bears the infant With virgin honor pure!**  
**REFRAIN: Repeat the hymn again. To God on high be glory And peace on earth to men!**
2. **The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high,  
While Cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky. REFRAIN**
3. **While thus they sing your monarch, Those bright angelic bands,  
Rejoice, O vales and mountains, And oceans, clap your hands. REFRAIN**
4. **Since all he comes to ransom, By all be he adored,  
The infant born in Bethl'em, The Savior and the Lord. REFRAIN**

**OTHER DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

L: Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

C: **And His mercy endureth forever. (Sung)**

L: Let us pray.

C: **Amen. (Sung)**

L: The Lord be with you.

C: **And with Thy Spirit. (Sung)**

L: Bless we the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God. (Sung)**

\*THE BENEDICTION

C: **Amen. Amen. Amen. (Sung)**

\*THE CLOSING HYMN

**Joy to the World, The Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room And heaven and nature sing. (Repeat)**

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

\*SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE + + + + +

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY:

Preacher: Pastor Jon C. Furgeson

Liturgist: Pastor Dennis A. Kastens

Organist: Alice Kastens

Choir Director: Sherry Bierwagen, DMM

NEWS AND NOTES:

NEW FLOWER ORDERS may now be placed for the coming year, starting with Sunday, January 15th through February, for anniversaries or other special occasions you may have. To order, please contact Marion Weihe.

SERVICES for Lloyd A. Wolf, 85, were held Thursday, and are scheduled for Wednesday, (December 28) 2 PM for Maxine Sailors, 89. Our sympathy to the families.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY resumes January 4, 7:00 p.m. in the Lower Commons. This series will be on the Names of Jesus. Bring a friend! - Rev. Winker

2011 MEMBERS to be welcomed January 7/8, 2012

MARK YOUR CALENDARS Green Park's "Rooted in Faith" Dinner Auction is February 10, 2012. Please consider ways you can help!

2012 OFFERING ENVELOPES available in the Commons.

ADULT INQUIRY series begins Jan. 19, with sessions on Thursdays. Posted.

INSTALLATION of 2012 Officers is Sunday, January 8, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., including all elders and returning council members.

YOUTH NEWS On January 8, the Jr. and Sr. Youth will have a service opportunity to visit and share Christmas Poinsettias with our Shut-in members. We will meet in the youth room at 11:30 for a quick pizza lunch and then go out and make our visits. We will return to church by 3:00p.m. Sign up at the youth ministry desk to participate in this service event.

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 25, 2011:

Mon:           **OFFICE CLOSED**  
Tue:     9:00   Quilters  
          6:00   Men's Club  
          6:30   Men's Volleyball  
Thu:     9:00   Mary/Martha  
Sat:           **NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
          5:00   Worship Service w/Comm  
Sun:           **NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
          8:00   Worship Service w/Comm  
          9:20   Worship Service w/Comm  
         10:30   Worship Service w/Comm  
          1:00   PLAA B-Ball  
Mon:           **OFFICE CLOSED**