

Sunday, January 1, 2023
The First Sunday of Christmas



PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation. **Amen.**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness our Savior,
let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,

**you promise good news of great joy for all people,
and call us to be messengers of your peace.**

**We confess that too often we hoard our joy,
our resources, and our security.**

We nurture conflict and build barriers.

**We neglect the needs of our neighbors
and ignore the groaning of creation.**

Have mercy on us.

Where we are self-centered, open our hearts.

Where we are reluctant, give us courage.

Where we are cynical, restore our trust.

Renew us with your grace

and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God's promises
through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed.

Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth
shall know the salvation of God. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: *Once in Royal David's City*

ELW #269



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all,
3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

GREETING

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **R**

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. **R**

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father:



A - men, a - men.

INTRODUCTION TO THE READINGS

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 63:7-9

God does not delegate divine intervention to a messenger or angel. God's own presence brings salvation. The prophet and all who read these words join in celebrating God's gracious deeds. God trusts that God's people will not act falsely.

⁷I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

⁸For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their savior ⁹in all their distress.

It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 148

Congregation begins by singing the refrain and repeats when indicated by "R"



The splen - dor of the LORD is o - ver earth and heav-en.

¹*Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights.*

²*Praise the Lord, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.*

³*Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.*

⁴*Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.*

⁵*Let them praise the name of the Lord, who commanded, and they were created,*

⁶*who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away. R*

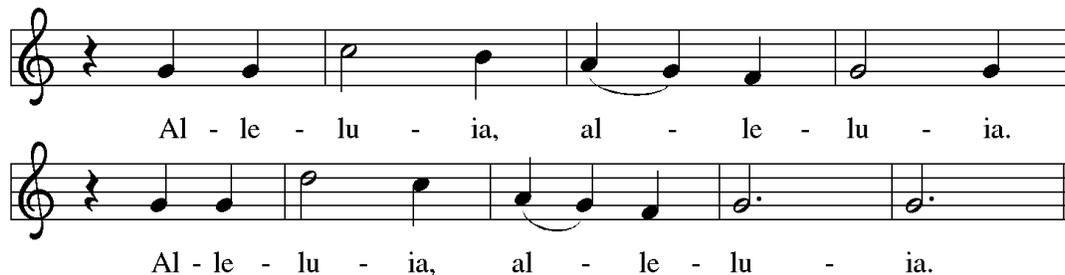
(continued)

refrain:

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand

Congregation begins by singing the “Alleluia” refrain:



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

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

Choir: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, and let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. (Col. 3:15, 16)

Congregation repeats the “Alleluia.”

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-23a

In a dream, Joseph is warned to flee to Egypt to protect the infant Jesus from the jealousy of Herod.

The good news of God’s love according to Matthew.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³Now after [the wise men] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸“A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

A brief period for silent meditation will follow at the conclusion of the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Our King Lies Sleeping (verses 3-6)*



3. In this rude shel - ter (Sing, "Glo - ri - a!") young Ma - ry felt her
 4. Can those in ex - ile sing, "Glo - ri - a," when morn - ing breaks while
 5. No griev - ing mo - thers sing, Glo - ri - a." The King's young bro - thers
 6. Now, while he's slum - b'ring, sing, "Glo - ri - a!" Joys with - out num - b'ring



home - sick, fear - ful heart made light. But she will lose this com - fort, ta - king
 hi - ding in a for - eign land? Do bor - ders crossed turn pro - mi - ses to
 soon will fall to Her - od's sword. For he will use his dead - ly wrath out -
 lie with - in his outstretched hands. And they will bring re - demp - tion to the



flight; her son shel - t'ring. Home-less, help-less King of the Jews!
 sand, or change no - thing, as he is the King of the lost?
 poured, o - ver - pow' - ring a - ny oth - er King of the Jews.
 lands of the dy - ing, poor, and lost. So sing! He's our King!

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the
Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the
world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the
whole human family.

After each petition:

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ
Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of
God. **Amen**

THE SHARING OF PEACE

*We will not be passing the offering plate during the offertory music.
You can use the QR code printed here to make a contribution on our website;
or you can drop off your offering as you leave at the end of worship.*



*Use your smart
phone's camera
and follow the
link in this QR
Code to access
our e-giving site.*

OFFERTORY HYMN: *Gentle Joseph Heard a Warning* ACS #1060



1 Gen - tle Jo - seph heard a warn - ing from an an - gel in the night;
2 Tar - gets of a ty - rant's ar - my, seek - ing safe - ty, flee - ing strife,
3 Give us, God, such faith and cour - age when we move from place to place,



val - iant Mar - y, maid - en moth - er, roused from sleep, pre - pared for flight:
leav - ing house and land and kin - dred, spurred by dreams of peace - ful life;
and to those who come a - mong us, make us chan - nels of your grace.



thus the Christ - child's fam - 'ly lived out what the proph - et had fore - told,
through the des - ert of un - know - ing and the night of doubt they went,
Let us see in ev - 'ry strang - er ref - u - gees from Beth - le - hem,



that he might be called from E - gypt as God's peo - ple were of old.
guid - ed by God's prom - ised pres - ence, by that trust made con - fi - dent.
help us of - fer each one wel - come and re - ceive the Christ in them.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: PLEADING SAVIOR, J. Leavitt's *Christian Lyre*, 1830

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OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance,
receive and bless these gifts we have offered.
Join our hearts with the song of the angels,
and strengthen us to share with all the world
the abundance of your grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,
gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God prepares a feast for all people.
Taste and see that the Lord is good. **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD

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, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN: *The Coventry Carol*



Lul - ly, lul - lay, thou little ti - ny child, bye-bye, lul - ly, lul - lay!



O sis - ters, too, how may we do for to pre - serve this day this
Her - od the king, in his ra - ging, char - ged he hath this day his
That woe is me, poor child for thee! And ev - er morn and day, for



poor young - ling for whom we sing bye - bye, lul - ly, lul - lay?
men of might, in his own sight, all young chil - dren to slay.
thy part - ing nor say nor sing bye - bye, lul - ly, lul - lay.



Lul - ly, lul - lay, thou little ti - ny child, bye-bye, lul - ly, lul - lay!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table
with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

God the eternal Word,
who dwells with us in Jesus,
and holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN: *What Child is This?*

ELW #296



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born!
Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

 [Recording ends]

Join us for coffee and a time of fellowship after the service in the Van Horne Fellowship Hall.

Last Week:

Attendance	Giving
?	Current: 908.21 <u>Dedicated: 100.00</u> <u>Total: 1008.21</u>

Thank you to those serving this month:

Service	Ushers/Greeters	Lector	Communion Assistants	Altar Flowers
01/01	Barb, Janet, Violet and Lisa	Suzanne Bohning	Alan Due/Lisa Napolitano	(open)
01/08		Phil Rearick	Phil Rearick/Violet Prepost	(open)
01/15		Gretchen Frederick	Paul Frakes/Jan Frakes	(open)
01/22		Stephen Hewitt	Lynne Tallon/Daryl Stewart	(open)
01/29		Teresa Zeoli	Teresa Zeoli/Kim Snyder	(open)

Birthday this week:

01/04 - Doug Forcino

Anniversaries this week:

- none -

Prayer List:

Pastor Paul and his ministry here
Lynne Tallon and her ministry here
Brenden Hall and his ministry here

Kevin Boyd – Recovery from surgery

For those suffering from cancer:

Jim Tallon

For those homebound:

Doris Bertoluzzi

Lorna Holder

For those grieving the loss of a loved one:

Friends and family of Priit & Judy Rebane

Friends and family of Gus Stavros

Friends and family of Don Rolander

Friends and family of Rev. “Buz” Van Horne

Friends and family of Allen Denham

Prayer requests will remain active for 3 months unless a shorter timeframe is requested. Please request a renewal if required after 3 months.

Are you visiting? Tell us about yourself!

Do you have a prayer request? Let us know!

Do you want to receive emails from us or give us updated contact information?

Use this QR Code to send us a note via our “Digital Connect Card.”

Or use the form on the clipboard in your pew or on the back of this sheet.



