

Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day

25 December A+D 2025



(The words in the drawing above are Greek and mean "The Word")

*"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us."
John 1:14*

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church U. A. C.
& Rainbow Preschool
145 S. 6th Street
Waterford, Wisconsin

We are a member congregation of
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD

Prelude

(Stand and face the Processional Cross.)

Processional Hymn: 367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

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 - scand - 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.

Refrain
Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-4): James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.; (st. 5): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, Salisbury, alt.
Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813-79

Confession and Absolution

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 \div Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \div Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit



Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is | given: *
And the government shall be upon His | shoulder.
And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the | Mighty God: *

The Everlasting Father, the | Prince of Peace.

Oh, sing unto the Lord a | new song: *
For He hath done | marvelous things.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is | given: *
And the government shall be upon His | shoulder.
And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the | Mighty God: *

The Everlasting Father, the | Prince of Peace.

The Kyrie

P O Lord,
C Have mercy.
P O Christ,
C Have mercy.
P O Lord,
C Have mercy.
P O Christ,
C Hear us.
P God the Father in heaven,
C Have mercy.
P God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
C Have mercy.
P God the Holy Spirit,
C Have mercy.

Gloria In Excelsis

368 Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun-tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



Glo - - - - - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo - - - - -



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - - - o.

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.
Text and tune: French

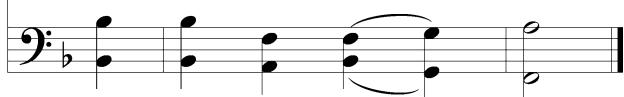
Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.

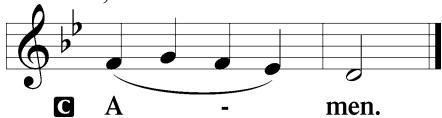


C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Grant, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, that the new birth of Thine only begotten Son in the flesh may set us free, who are held in the old bondage under the yoke of sin; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 52:6-10

Thus says the LORD God: "My people shall know My name; therefore they shall know in that day that I am He who speaks: 'Behold, it is I.' " How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Your watchmen shall lift up their voices, with their voices they shall sing together; for they shall see eye to eye when the LORD brings back Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, you waste places of Jerusalem! For the LORD has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has made bare His holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Hebrews 1:1-12

Brethren: God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express

image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For to which of the angels did He ever say: “You are My Son, today I have begotten You”? And again: “I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to Me a Son”? But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: “Let all the angels of God worship Him.” And of the angels He says: “Who makes His angels spirits and His ministers a flame of fire.” But to the Son He says: “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness more than Your companions.” And: “You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail.”

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Hymn: 384 Of the Father's Love Begotten

[The congregation stands and follows as the cross is carried into the nave. The Gospel is read from the middle of the nave, signifying the presence of Christ in the midst of His people.]

P Hallelujah! An hallowed day hath dawned upon us;

C oh, come, ye nations, and worship the Lord, for on this day a great Light hath descended upon the earth. Hallelujah!

Holy Gospel

John 1:1-18 (KJV)

P The continuation of the Holy Gospel according to St. John.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² The same was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life; and the life was the light of men. ⁵ And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. ⁸ He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. ⁹ That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. ¹¹ He came unto his own, and his own received him not. ¹² But as many as received him, to them gave he power

to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: ¹³ Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. ¹⁶ And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Profession of Faith: 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 [†] of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: 382 We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth

Sermon

Offering Hymn: 385 From East to West

Prayer of the Church

C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary 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:

The Sanctus

(Sung to the tune of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")

Holy, holy, holy Lord
 God of Sabaoth adored;
 Heav'n and earth with full acclaim
 Shout the glory of Thy name.
 Sing hosanna in the highest,
 Sing hosanna to the Lord
 Blessed is He that cometh
 In the name of the Lord!
 Holy, holy, holy Lord
 God of Sabaoth adored!

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

P Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,
 Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it
 is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;

and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who
 tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to
 temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the
 glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,
 and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
 dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My [†]bod - y, which is giv-en for you.
 This do in re-mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so

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 for-give-ness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.
C A - men.

The Agnus Dei
(Sung to the Tune of "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear")

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God
Thou tak'st all sin away
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ
Grant peace to us we pray. (repeat)**

Sit

A note regarding Holy Communion:

We welcome all of you here today as we celebrate the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord!

We thank you for joining us. Only repentant and active members of a Missouri Synod congregation may commune this morning. For more information, please read the back of the bulletin and talk with Pastor. Thank you.

Distribution

386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice /
358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come /
376 Once in Royal David's City /
364 Away in a Manger

Stand

The Nunc Dimittis

(Sung to the tune of "A Great and Mighty Wonder")

Oh Lord now let Thy servant
Depart in heavenly peace
For I have seen the glory
Of Thy redeeming grace
A light for the Gentiles
The glory of Thy people
Thy chosen Israel

Glory be to the Father
And glory to the Son
And to the Holy Ghost
Forever three in one
As in the beginning
Is now and ever shall be
World without end. Amen

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.

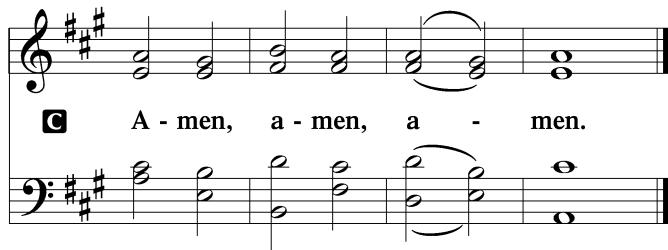


C A - men.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



The Recessional Hymn

387 Joy to the World

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: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759, adapt.

Postlude

Flowers gracing our church were given to the glory of God by:

Peter & Debbie Berndt; Corrie & Dawn Blawat; The Buchholtz family in loving memory of Merton, Carol, and David Buchholtz; Tom & Kathy Carlson; Jerry & Jan Christiansen; The Collins Family in memory of Glenn Collins and Bruce Scott; Pastor & Stephanie Conradt; Frank & Sandi Czuta; Michael & Sandy Dessecker; Jim & Jeannie Dumke; Ryan & Cheryl Gilgenbach; Dick, Marcy & Tim Gay; Bruce & Jill Grindeland; Bob & Luanne Hassey; Sharon Jardas; The David & Kristin Keeling family in memory of Roger & Donna King; Lloyd & Carie King; Jodi Kirincich; Karen Luick in loving memory of her husband Duane and her daughter Jenni; Lee Ann Michelau in loving memory of husband Joe Michelau and nephew Cody Webb; Jarrod & Jeanette Morby; Jaime & Tina Multhauf; Ted & Cheryl Myers; George & Bertha Neumueller; Jeff Ostovich; Jillane Persch; Tammy Peterson; Leona Robran; Sandy Senft & family in loving memory of Floyd Senft; Winnie Shelton; The Strueder Family in loving memory of Larry, Elaine and Don Strueder; Irene Tuscany in loving memory of Norman Tuscany.

ASSISTING US IN WORSHIP TODAY

Celebrant & Preacher	The Rev. Joshua P. H. Conradt
Organist	Mr. Benjamin Grosskreuz
Elder	Mr. Matthew Stephan
Acolytes	Mr. Andrew Handeland, Jr. & Mr. Leland Hunt

Catechism for the Day: Second Article of the Apostles' Creed Meaning:

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.

Looking Forward to Sunday (Holy Innocents)

Lessons: Exodus 1:8-22, Revelation 14:1-5, Matthew 2:13b-18

Hymns: 385-LSB 969(printed)-370-364/725/716/390/372/666/625-588

No service Wednesday December 31 or Jan 7

Epiphany Divine Service January 6th at 6:30 pm

Acknowledgments

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We Welcome Our Guests Today!

We're glad you've joined us in worship today. Please fill out a Visitor Card (located in the pew rack) and hand it to an usher or place it in the offering plate. We also ask that you read *"Our Practice Concerning Holy Communion"* printed below. Please visit our **Welcome Center** in the narthex and worship with us again soon.

Our Practice Concerning Holy Communion

In keeping with the tradition of the early Church and the Lutheran Confessions, we celebrate the Lord's Supper every Lord's Day. Because Holy Communion is an expression of complete unity of faith and doctrine, only active and repentant members of St. Peter's or a sister Missouri Synod congregation may commune. This is not a judgment of the faith of others, but rather an indication of our obedience to the Lord's command that those who kneel together at His altar be in complete unity regarding what they believe and teach (please read I Cor. 1:10; 10:16-17; 11:17-32). Your respect for our practice concerning the Lord's Supper is appreciated. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions.

If communing with individual cup, please hold your empty cup until Pastor has passed you with the chalice. And please remember to fill out a Communion card.

The Gathering of the Offerings

God finances His church. The gathering of the offerings is, therefore, not merely collecting money. It is a holy privilege for those who believe in Jesus Christ. This is our opportunity to gratefully respond to God's love and grace by returning a portion of the gifts He has given us. As God's children, we consider it a special honor to build and extend His kingdom through our offerings. St. Paul writes, "God loves a cheerful giver" (II Cor. 9:7b NKJV). Our visitors and guests are in no way compelled to contribute to this offering. We ask nothing of our guests except that they return here often to hear more about God's great love in Jesus Christ, our Lord. If anyone wishes to give electronically, you may scan this QR code to set up an account.



Small Children

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 19:14). Jesus wants your little ones present with Him during our worship service. And so do we.

When you're little, it's hard to sit without fidgeting or making some noise. And of course babies join us with their songs, too! We consider their small voices to be a part of our sacred music as they learn with us what it is to be a Christian. We encourage their presence throughout the entire service.

If you feel that your children are being too disruptive, please feel free to take them to the nursery that is located on the other side of the Conference Room. A closed-circuit television will bring the service to you. An usher will be happy to direct you.

"Repetitio est mater studiorum: Repetition is the mother of all learning." The more they're here, the easier it will get.

Church

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