

Christmas I  
(Transferred)  
4 January A+D 2026



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*

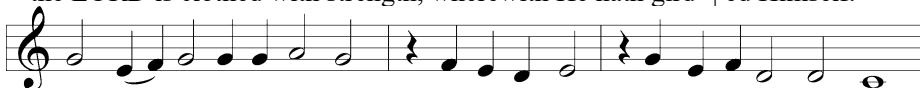
**Hymn of Invocation: 375 Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising**

**Order of Worship: p. 184**

*Psalm 93:1ab; antiphon: Wisdom 18:14-15a*



the LORD is clothed with strength, wherewith He hath gird- | ed Himself.



Thine Almighty Word, O Lord, leaped down from heaven out of Thy | royal throne.

## Collect of the Day

*Sit*

*Jeremiah 31:31–34*

Thus says the Lord God: “Behold, the days are coming when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more,” says the Lord Almighty.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalm 45:2a, 1b*



Thou art fairer than the child- | ren of men;\*  
grace is poured in- | to Thy lips;  
I speak of the verses which I have made concern- | ing the king;\*  
my tongue is the pen of a ready | writer.

## Epistle

*Galatians 4:1–7*

Brethren: The heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

- A** The Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia & Verse of the Day

*Psalm 93:1*



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

**Alleluia.** The LORD reigneth; He is clothed | with majesty, the LORD is clothed with strength,  
wherewith He hath gird- | ed Himself. **Alleluia.**

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 2:33–40*

- P** The continuation of the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

At that time: Joseph and Mary marveled at those things which were spoken of Jesus. Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.” Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked

for redemption in Jerusalem. So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

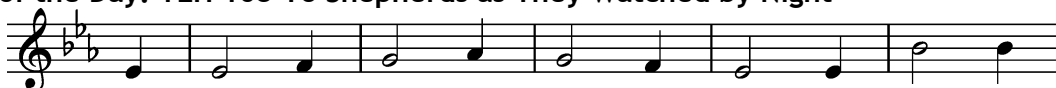


**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

*Sit*

### Hymn of the Day: TLH 103 To Shepherds as They Watched by Night



1 To shep - herds as they watched by night Ap - peared a  
 2 At Beth - le - hem, in Da - vid's town, As Mi - cah  
 3 Oh, then re - joice that thro' His Son God is with  
 4 What harm can sin and death then do? The true God



host of an - gels bright; Be - hold the ten - der  
 did of old make known; 'Tis Je - sus Christ, your  
 sin - ners now at one; Made like your - selves of  
 now a - bides with you. Let hell and Sa - tan



Babe, they said, In yon - der low - ly man - ger laid.  
 Lord and King, Who doth to all sal - va - tion bring.  
 flesh and blood, Your broth - er is th'e - ter - nal God.  
 rage and chafe, Christ is your Broth - er— ye are safe.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>5 Not one He will or can forsake<br/>         Who Him his confidence doth make.<br/>         Let all his wiles the Tempter try,<br/>         You may his utmost pow'rs defy.</p> | <p>6 Ye shall and must at last prevail;<br/>         God's own ye are, ye cannot fail.<br/>         To God forever sing your praise<br/>         With joy and patience all your days.</p> |
|---|---|

Text: tr. Richard Massie, 1854, alt.; Martin Luther, 1543

Tune: Musae Sioniae VI, 1609

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

*Offering Voluntary: Variations on "Puer Nobis Nascitur" by Pierre Dandrieu*

*Stand*

**Offertory** *p. 192 ff*

**Prayer of the Church** **P** Lord, in Your mercy, **C** hear our prayer.

**Preface** *p. 194*

**Proper Preface**

- 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:

**Sanctus - Agnus Dei** *p. 195 ff*

*Sit*

**Distribution Hymns:**

**359** Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming /  
**374** Gentle Mary Laid Her Child /  
**519** In His Temple Now Behold Him /  
**389** Let All Together Praise Our God /  
**392** God Loves Me Dearly/  
**384** Of the Father's Love Begotten /  
**640** Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior

*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis - Benediction** *p. 199 ff*

**Hymn to Depart: 368 Angels We Have Heard on High**

*Postlude: Angels We Have Heard on High* by Kenneth Kosche

**Looking Forward to Epiphany (Tuesday Jan 6 at 6:30pm)**

Lessons: Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:2-12, Matthew 2:1-12

Hymns: 396-395-399-397/394-888

**Looking Forward to Next Sunday (Epiphany I)**

Lessons: Isaiah 42:1-9, Romans 12:1-6a, Luke 2:42-52

Hymns: 396-384-401-395/394/410/839/864/TLH 130(printed)-TLH 630(printed)

*No service Wednesday January 7*

**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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