



# OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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DECEMBER 25TH, 2024 + CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00AM

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## CALL TO WORSHIP *(Isaiah 9, Titus 2, & Luke 2)*

The grace of God has appeared, bringing light and life to all.

**The hoped for time of salvation has come!**

When we choose to cling to the glories of the present age and to walk in darkness,

**Free us by your birth to be your people – holy and whole.**

For this very night, the angel says, “Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy.”

**To us in born this day in the city of David a Savior, the Messiah of the Lord.**

This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in cloth and lying in a manger.

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all on earth!**

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

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

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.**

## HYMN

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

#275

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...**All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT & CHRIST CANDLES

We light these candles of hope, peace, love, and joy to remind us of God’s promise. We light the Christ candle to remind us that God’s promise has been fulfilled. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **Blessed be the name of the Lord. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:7 – 10**

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” <sup>8</sup>Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. <sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup>The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

*Response:* Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1 – 4**

<sup>1</sup>Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

*Response:* Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:****“Joy to the World” v. 1 & 4****#267**

- 1 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.**
  
- 4 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.**

**GOSPEL READING: John 1:1 – 14**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. <sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**SERMON****HYMN****“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”****#282**

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

### THANKSGIVING FOR OFFERING AND PRAYER

#### OFFERING HYMN:

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

#276

#### HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you. **And also 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...we join their unending hymn:

#289, v. 1

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We sing a new song to you, O God of our salvation, for you have done marvelous things. Since the beginning of time, you have spoken your Word and your light shines in the darkness. **Glory to you, O God.**

The seas are thundering with praise, the rivers are clapping their hands. The hills ring out with gladness, and the trees are shouting your joy. **Glory to you, O God.**

Your Son rules in truth and justice, victorious and merciful is he! We praise your majesty lying in a manger, Jesus Christ, born of Mary and lauded by angels. **Glory to you, O God.**

Send your Spirit upon us and on this meal of wonder. Reveal the grace of your risen Son and make known to the whole earth your steadfast love. In these dark days, bring your righteousness to birth. We sing to your splendor God Most High, Light of the earth, Judge of the world, today and forever. **Amen.**

### **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.**

### **DISTRIBUTION**

### **BLESSING**

### **SENDING HYMN:**

**"Go Tell it on the Mountain"**

**#290**

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