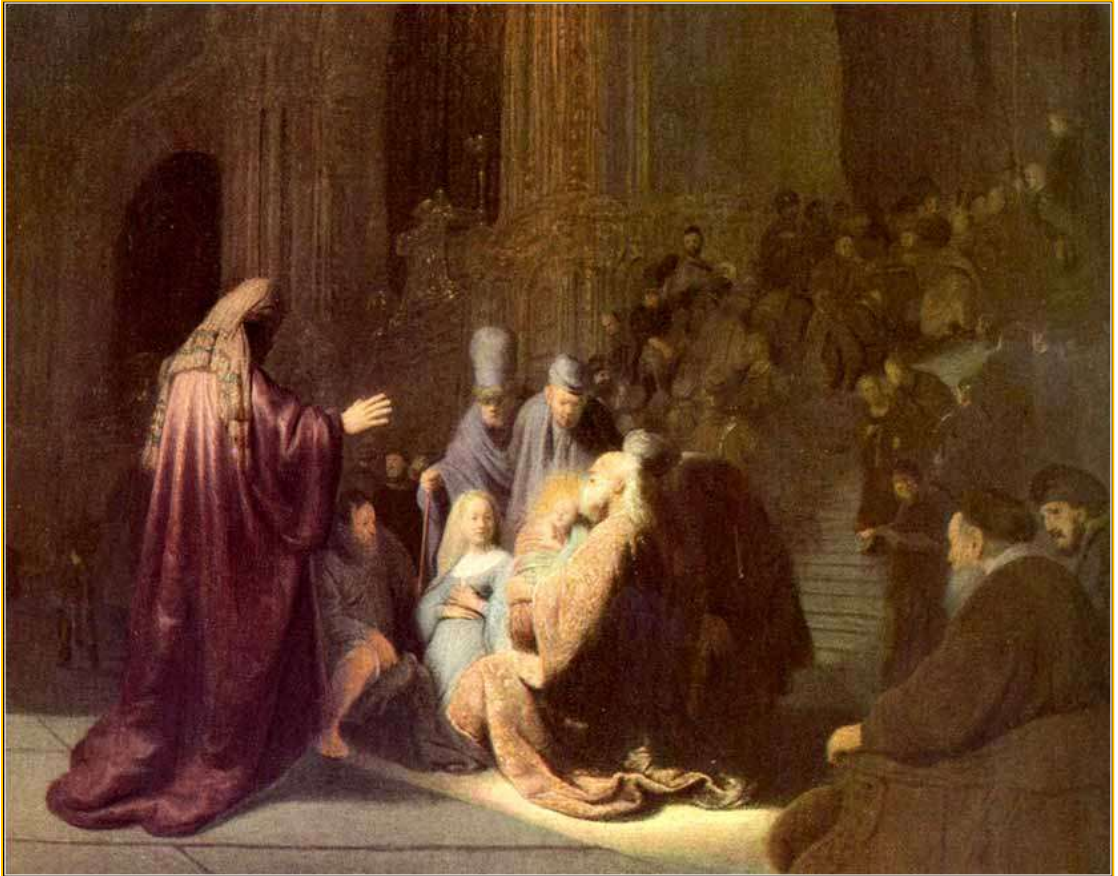

THE DIVINE SERVICE

OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS + 29 DECEMBER 2019



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

tgslcms.org

The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive”

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- ❖ Mrs. Norman (Royce) Morton, Archives Coordinator (Office) 310.671.7644
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- ❖ Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director

Welcome to our Divine Service! We are pleased that you are with us.

*The entire service, including the **rubrics** of when to sit and when to stand and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.*

Worship Notes

Thoughts to Ponder Before the Divine Service

Welcome to weekly Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church! We are a congregation that confesses the Holy Bible as inerrant, that justification is by faith according to the Holy Bible and confessed in the 1580 Book of Concord. God bless you.

To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. Please introduce yourself to our pastor. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world. If you are looking for a church home and would like to know about our beliefs and practice, please see the pastor. He will be happy to visit with you at your convenience. *Please see our statement on Holy Communion on p. 13.*

Synod Sentences for the **First Sunday after Christmas**

The Seed of David Comes to His Temple

A Rod has come forth from the stem of Jesse (Is. 11:1–5)—the Seed of David whose kingdom shall be established forever (2 Sam. 7:1–16). In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son Jesus to redeem us from the judgment of the Law (Gal. 4:1–7). Now He is presented in the temple in fulfillment of the Law and revealed to be “a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel” (Luke 2:22–40). Christ has enlightened us in baptism, giving us to be adopted as sons of God and heirs of eternal life. Receiving the Holy Sacrament of His body and blood, we are prepared to depart this world in peace, for our eyes have seen the salvation of God in Him.



A Prayer Before Worship *O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. Amen*

Christmas (*Christ-Mass*) is the Feast for the Eternal Son of God coming in the flesh. Miracle of Miracles: He who is Himself eternal God has come to us. More than that, for us men (be we male or female) He came down from Heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made Man Himself. He has come to us, and He remains with us, for our salvation. The festive color is **white**, signifying purity, as the priestly robes worn by the multitudes before the great white throne - or **golden**, pointing to the heavenly treasures.

Cover art: *Simeon's Song of Praise*,
Rembrandt van Rijn, 1631

Upon entering the nave, silence should respectfully be observed in order to allow all to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the LORD and the reception of His gifts.

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

David Sims (B. 1983)

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.
He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

Tune and text: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 184

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Kneel/Stand

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

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

- 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.**

Absolution

LSB 185

- 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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 93:1, 3–4; antiphon: vv. 5, 2

Your decrees are very | trustworthy;*
holiness befits your house, O LORD, for- | evermore.
Your throne is established | from of old;*
you are from ever- | lasting.


The LORD reigns; he is robed in | majesty;*
 the LORD is robed; he has put on strength | as his belt.
 Yes, the world is es- | tablished;*
 it shall nev- | er be moved.
 The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted | up their voice;*
 the floods lift up their | roaring.
 Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves | of the sea,*
 the LORD on high is | mighty!

Gloria Patri

LSB 186




C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie

LSB 186




C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -




on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

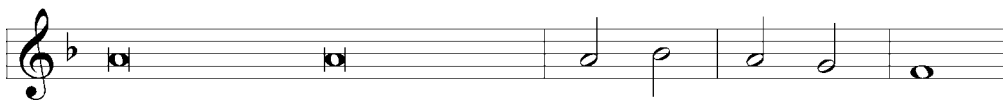
LSB 187



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee,



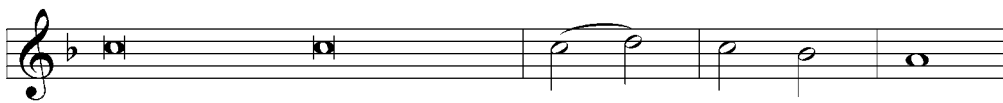
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



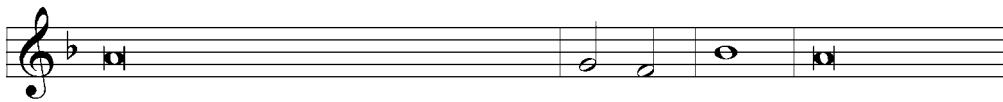
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



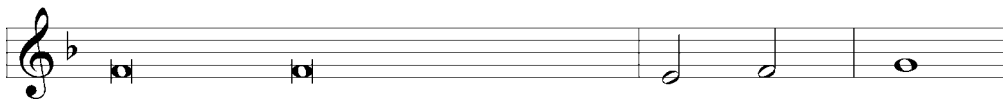
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1-5

- ¹There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
- ²And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- ³And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
- ⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,



and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
⁵Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 45:2a, 1b

*You are the most handsome of the | sons of men;**
grace is poured up- | on your lips.
*I address my verses | to the king;**
my tongue is like the pen of a | ready scribe.

Epistle

Galatians 4:1-7

¹I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.



P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190



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

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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

385 From East to West



1 From east to west, from shore to shore Let ev - 'ry
2 Be - hold, the world's cre - a - tor wears The form and
3 For this how won - drous - ly He wrought! A maid - en,
4 And while the an - gels in the sky Sang praise a -
△ 5 All glo - ry for this bless - ed morn To God the



heart a - wake and sing The ho - ly child whom
fash - ion of a slave; Our ver - y flesh our
in her low - ly place, Be - came, in ways be -
bove the si - lent field, To shep - herds poor the
Fa - ther ev - er be; All praise to You, O



Mar - y bore, The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing king.
mak - er shares, His fall - en crea - tures all to save.
yond all thought, The cho - sen ves - sel of His grace.
Lord Most High, The one great Shep - herd, was re - vealed.
Vir - gin - born, And Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

Tune and text: Public domain

Sermon

Pr von Hindenburg

Votum

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.


C Amen.

Offering

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

Response to petitions is, 'Lord, have mercy'.

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence (In Christian freedom, you may kneel, stand, or sit during the Prayer.)

- P** For all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, that adopted into the Divine Family, they would rejoice in the salvation and eternal inheritance they have through Him, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For all pastors in Christ, that they would faithfully preach the Gospel in its purity and administer the Sacraments according to Christ's institution; and for an increase in the pastoral vocation, that Christ and Him crucified would be proclaimed everywhere, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For our congregation, that we may boldly shine the light of Christ into the dark lives of those we know who do not know Him as Savior, let us pray to the Lord:

- P** For the weakest among us, especially the unborn, that their lives would be cherished and protected; and for those who have been traumatized in the aftermath of abortion, that they would find forgiveness, healing and restoration in our loving Savior, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For our nation, that our leaders may serve faithfully and wisely, making God-pleasing decisions and walking in integrity, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For those who suffer from loneliness, that they would be comforted by the sure and certain knowledge that they will never be forsaken by God, and that they would find family and friends within the household of faith with whom they can find loving companionship, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For those who are sick and those who suffer, especially those for whom our prayers are desired *especially Abai, Alice, Bonnie, Charles, Charlotte, Clinton, The Conrads, Cynthia, Dalton, David, Debra, The DeGroots, Deneice, Ed, Irmgard, James, Janice, Jod, Johnathan, Katheryn, Ken, Kevin, Family of Pr Luis Coronado (martyr), Lucy, Lynette, Marc, Marie, Marilyn, Marion and her family, Marjorie, Martin, Michele, Moira, Naomi, Olivier, Rodgers, Royce, the Simojokis, Stephen, Stephen K, Susan, Family of Thomas, and Tuomo* , that they might be surrounded by God’s love in Christ and healed according to His gracious will; and for all those who mourn, that the comfort of the resurrection might fill their hearts, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For those who receive the Holy Eucharist this day, that they would see their salvation in the very body and blood of Christ given them to eat and to drink and, with St. Simeon, know that they may depart in peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For all our brothers and sisters who have departed this vale of tears in the peace of faith, let us give thanks and praise to the Lord; that we would be brought with them to see with our own eyes Him who is the light of the nations and the glory of Israel, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** All glory, honor and praise be to the Most Holy Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Holy, holy, holy is He whose name is majestic in all the earth, through whom we have forgiveness, life and salvation. For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

PASTORAL CARE AND HOLY COMMUNION: At The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, we celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord’s Altar every Lord’s Day. In this Sacrament, we joyfully receive Christ’s true Body and Blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins.

As we celebrate the Sacrament, we also give public confession of our unity in the Christian faith (1 Cor. 10). Members in good standing of congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and congregations in

which the LCMS is in Altar/Pulpit fellowship are asked to announce themselves to the pastor prior to the service. All others are invited to speak with the pastor regarding preparation for communion fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Those who are baptized but not receiving communion are invited to come forward for a blessing, kneeling with arms crossed at your heart.

Please be assured that we do so not out of spiritual arrogance, but rather in a sincere desire to be faithful to our Lord's command and the apostles' teaching. For more information, please take one of the trifold brochures in the Narthex entitled, "Why?" Sacraments and Closed Communion. For scriptural reference regarding our Communion practice, please see the laminated cards located in the hymnal/Bible holder on the back of the pew.

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.



C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

LSB 194

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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



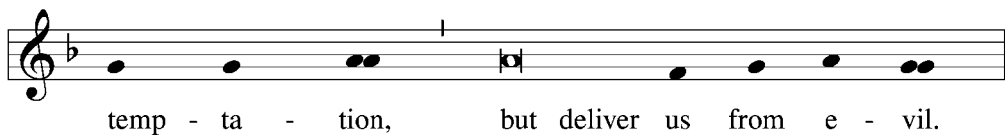
is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;



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.



For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



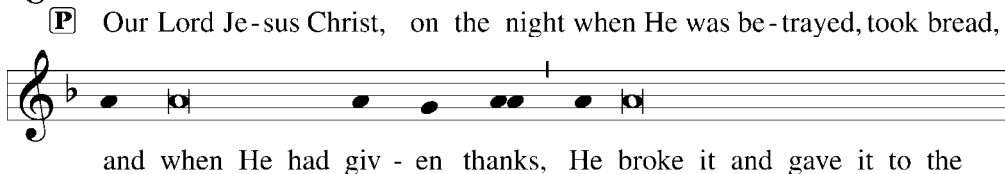
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

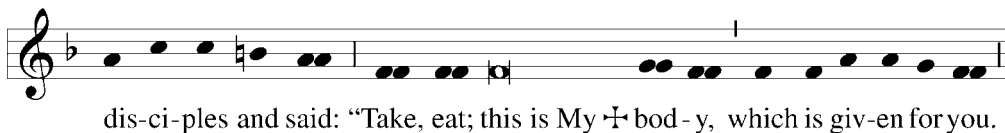
LSB 197



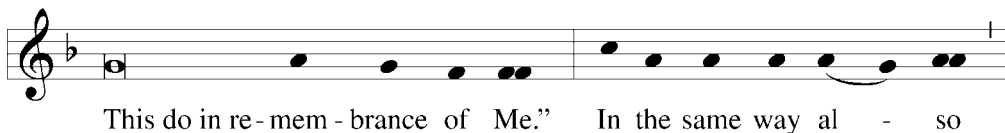
Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,



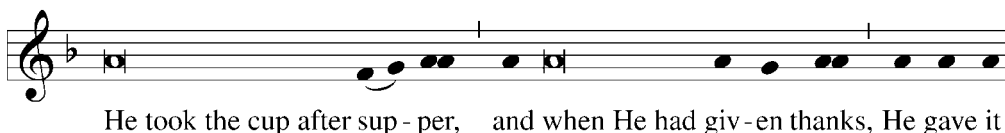
and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the



dis - ci - ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ~~I~~ 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 sup - per, and when He had giv - en thanks, He gave it

to them, say - ing: “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.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the
 world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
 tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



Sit

Distribution

Responses when receiving the true body and very blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and when your table is dismissed are:

LSB 199

Amen, Amen, and Amen.

When all have communed, you will be invited to stand, and the following is said:

The Dismissal

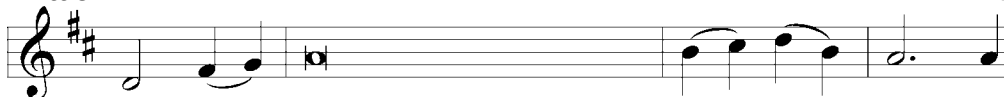
LSB 199

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

G Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



G Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

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.

Salutation

LSB 201



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



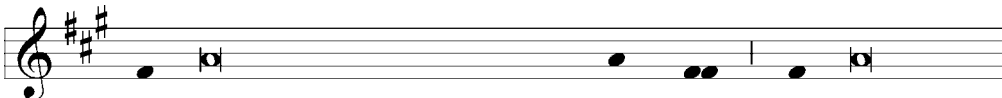
A Bless we the Lord.



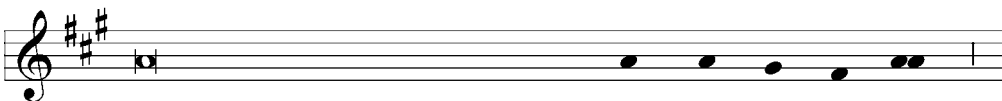
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

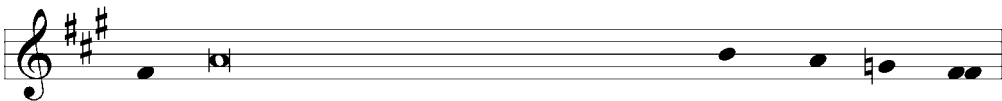
LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Hymn to Depart

359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing From ten - der stem hath
2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, The rose I have in
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der With sweet - ness fills the
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, Who felt our hu - man



sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph - ets long have
mind; With Mar - y we be - hold it, The vir - gin moth - er
air, Dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor The dark - ness ev - 'ry -
woe; O Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our weak - ness



sung, It came, a flow - 'ret bright, A - mid the
kind. To show God's love a - right, She bore to
where. True man, yet ver - y God, From sin and
know: Bring us at length we pray To the bright



cold of win - ter, When half - spent was the night.
us a Sav - ior, When half - spent was the night.
death He saves us And light - ens ev - 'ry load.
courts of heav - en, And to the end - less day.

Text and tune: Public domain

As the postlude is played, all will follow Pastor down the center aisle to the narthex as we greet one another there.

Let All Together Praise Our God

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

***Amani ya Bwana!
Krismasi Njema!***

**Peace of the LORD!
Merry Christmas!**

Acknowledgments

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Parish Announcements

+ Christian Education +

WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD'S WORD—*"Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You. Blessed are You, O Lord! Teach me Your statutes."* (Psalm 119:11-12.) Each week the faithful gather to receive the Word of their Lord.

In addition to our **Divine Service** on Sunday at 10 am, and **Matins** on Tuesday at 11 am, we have opportunities to gather and study God's Holy Word:

Adult Bible Classes: Sunday at 8:30 and ~~Tuesday at 11:30~~

Sunday School (ages 3+): Sunday at 8:30

Confirmation and Membership Classes: As requested

Matins will resume after the Feast of the Epiphany.

Thank You for the generosity shown to us this Christmas! We appreciate all of your cards, treats, and gifts given. It was great spending Christmas with you. Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to you all. *Pastor and Karina*

STEWARDSHIP

Offerings for December 22: \$2393

Attendance 12/22: 37

Adult Bible Class/SS Attendance: 13

Christmas Eve: 25

Christmas Day: 25



2020 Offering Envelopes are in the Narthex. Please take yours home today.



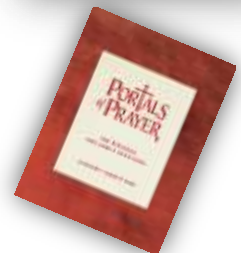
In honor of what would have been the 70th wedding anniversary of Ray and Jean Peterson, TGSLC has received a donation from their son Craig.

A Stewardship Thought for the Sunday: Part of our readings today is **Luke 2:38** – *"And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem."* Notice here how giving thanks to God leads to good works (speaking about Jesus, in this case). Thankfulness toward God for all He has done for us is the foundation of a Christian life lived in godliness. For if we know all that the Lord has done for us, how can we not strive to honor Him with what we think, say, and do?



NEXT SUNDAY after Divine Service, the Christmas decorations need to be taken down, so please stay to help with that if you can.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for Jan-March are on the table in the Narthex. Remember, we have 3 sizes from which to choose.



Upcoming birthday: January 11 – Stephen



CASTING CHRIST'S NET ON THE INTERNET.... *Issues, Etc.* is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: The Top Religion Stories of 2019, Spiritual Disciplines, The Idol of Happiness, The New Year Hymn "Across the Sky the Shades of Night" and more. You can listen live or at your convenience at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.



The Christmas Poinsettias that beautify our chancel are given

<u>BY</u>		<u>FOR</u>
Benson	1	the Glory of God
Collins	1	the Honor of Barbara Hurd; the Memory of Cedric Hurd
Cotton	3	the Memory of: Mildred&Gilbert Andrews, Edith&Longino Breland, and Samuel and Lisa Cotton
Flett	1	the Glory of God
Galloway	3	the Memory of: Thomas Galloway, Lena Jordan
Griffin	1	the Memory of Beverly & Wallace
Huhn	2	the Memory of: Lena Jordan, Ryan Huhn
Morton	3	the Memory of: Leon&Eunice Morton, Audrie Shimer
Tarr	1	the Memory of: Carl&Helen Hennies; Gordon and Craig Hennies
von Hindenburg	2	the Glory of God and the Memory of: Irving&Leota von Hindenburg, Keith and Kevin Lindsey
Wood	4	the Memory of: Tom&Kathe Palke, Edwin Wood, and Bob Handrock



A Christmas Devotion On Simeon and Waiting

*"Wait for the Lord;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!" Psalm 27:14 (ESV)*

When Jesus was just a few weeks old, Joseph and Mary took Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord as the Law required. Luke 2 tells the story of a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. Simeon, the Bible tells us, was righteous and devout and was waiting for the Messiah and the comfort He would bring to His people. We have no idea how old Simeon was, but we know the Holy Spirit had revealed to him that he wouldn't die until he had seen the Christ. The Spirit directed Simeon to go to the temple courts that particular day when Joseph and Mary were there with baby Jesus. God revealed to Simeon that this Baby was the Messiah! Simeon took Jesus into his arms and praised God with the words we now use in our liturgy, the "Nunc Dimittis."

*"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation
that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel." Luke 2:29-32*

Simeon then blessed Mary and Joseph and said, "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul, too."

God sent people like Simeon to prepare Mary for the difficulties ahead. Unfortunately, difficulties are part of life because of sin and we experience them, too. Simeon waited for the Savior and God allowed him to see Him. Like Simeon, we need a Savior. We may not see Jesus return during our lifetime, but we know He will return and we will see Him in God's time.

Prayer:

Lord, thanks for sending people to help us through life. You send us Your Holy Spirit through Word and Sacraments and what a Comforter He is! When You call us home to be with You, we will depart in peace— confident that You, Who began a good work in us, will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Amen.







We Pray For . . .

Abai: friend of Pr&K – peace of mind, clarity, direction (K)

Alice – recovering from surgery

Bonnie: Pr's cousin - liver cancer

Charles: Pr's brother – heart issues

Charlotte: Jamesetta's mother, wife of Pr. Kollie – financial, strength (L)

Clinton – recovering from surgery; grieving

The Conrad Family – our missionaries in Mexico

Cynthia – our TGSLC shut-in

Dalton – chronic sciatica

David - DD shut-in

Debra: Jod's cousin - recovering from cancer

The DeGroot Family and St. Andrew's

Lutheran Church – our missionaries in Albuquerque

Deneice – breast cancer recovery

Rev. Ed Killian – recovering from systemic bacterial infections

Irmgard: friend of Pr&K – 89 y.o. with heart, lung, and vision issues

Rev. James Kollie: Jamesetta's father and our Missionary in Liberia; wisdom and strength (L)

Janice: member at St Philip Compton – breast cancer recovery

Jod – peace of mind, attacks from the Enemy, recovery from auto/bike accident

Johnathan – strengthening of faith

Katheryn: Karina's mother - various health issues

Ken: friend of Pr&K - wisdom

Kevin – at university

Lucy – peace of mind, strength, resettlement process (K)

Lynette – strengthening of faith

Marc – complications with diabetes

Marie – recovering from surgery

Marilyn: Stephen's mother - various health issues

Marion and her family – various health issues around the country

Marjorie: mother of Pr. Rob't Green – 87 y.o. in final stages of bladder cancer

Martin: friend of Karina – financial, various health (K)

Michele: friend of Pr&K - strength

Naomi: seminary student – chronic heart issues (K)

Olivier: seminary student – chronic headaches, exams

Rodgers: friend of Pr&K – employment (K)

Royce – health issues

Stephen – COPD, other health issues

Stephen K: friend of Karina – prostate cancer

Susan: friend of Pr&K – financial, good health (K)

Family of Thomas: Clinton's brother - grieving their loss

Tuomo Simojoki: our missionary in Kenya – severe attacks from the Enemy as he shares the Word in East Africa (K)

(K) – person living in Kenya

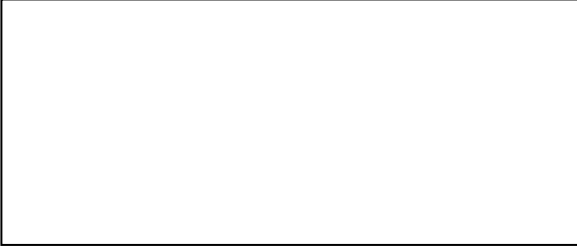
(L) – person living in Liberia

You may notice we have an extensive prayer list. It is our joy to pray for you! If you'd like a request to be added or one of yours removed, please let Karina know.

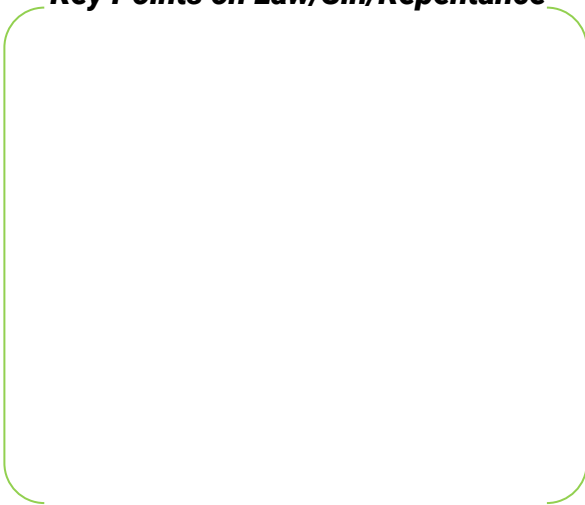
Check out the "We Pray For" board in the Narthex, for photos of those on our Prayer List!

Sermon Notes

Scripture Text



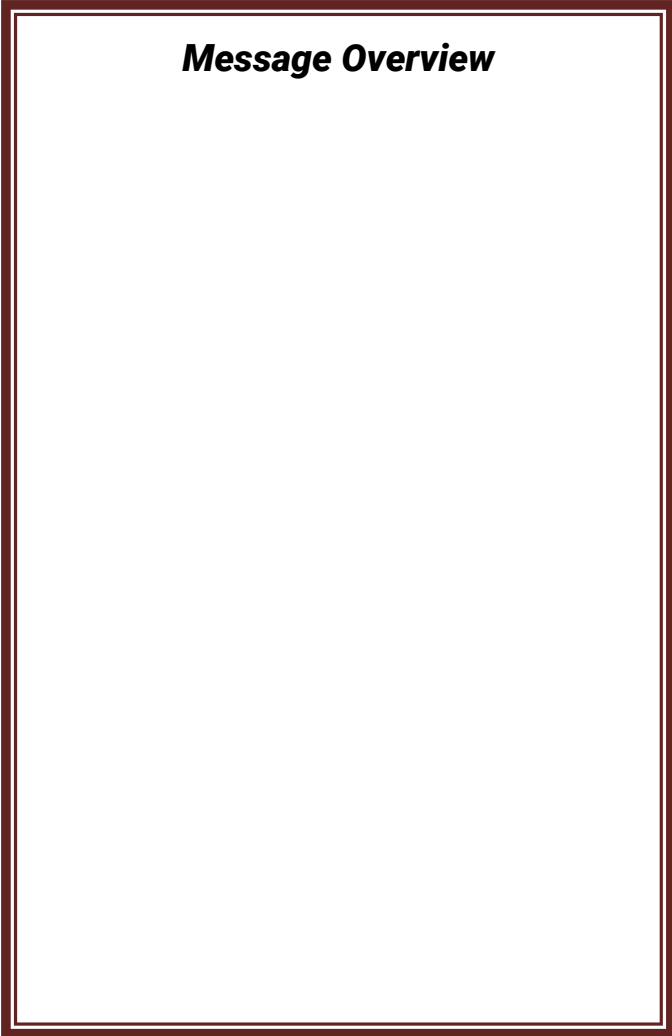
Key Points on Law/Sin/Repentance



Key Points on Gospel/Grace/Love



Message Overview



Things to Study Further

