THE DIVINE SERVICE

OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

+ CHRISTMAS DAY + 25 DECEMBER 2020 +



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"

- The Rev. Bruce J. von Hindenburg, Pastor (mobile) 559.285.8972
 - Ms. Moira Killian, Secretary (Office) 310.671-7644
 - Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director
 - Mr. Matthew Meilner, Congregational President
 - Rev. Edward Killian, Assisting Pastor

Welcome to our Divine Service!

We are pleased that you are with us.

+Worship Notes+

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

<u>Welcome to Christmas Day Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church</u>! 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
Please see more notes on the Service and for the facility below and on pgs 22ff

PLEASE: Upon entering the nave, <u>silence</u> should be observed in order to allow all to prayerfully prepare for the presence of the LORD and the reception of His gifts.

We meet every Sunday at 10 to receive what God has to offer us- forgiveness through His Means of Grace. Join us!

Facility and Service Modifications

Until Further Notice Include, But Are Not Limited to:

Narthex: Do not congregate here at any time

Masks: to be worn at all times in the presence of others

Distancing: Please maintain six feet of separation unless in same household.

No food or drink served after the service.

No Sunday Adult Bible Class or Sunday School.

Bulletin: Pick one up for each individual upon entry, maintaining physical

distancing from others in front of you.

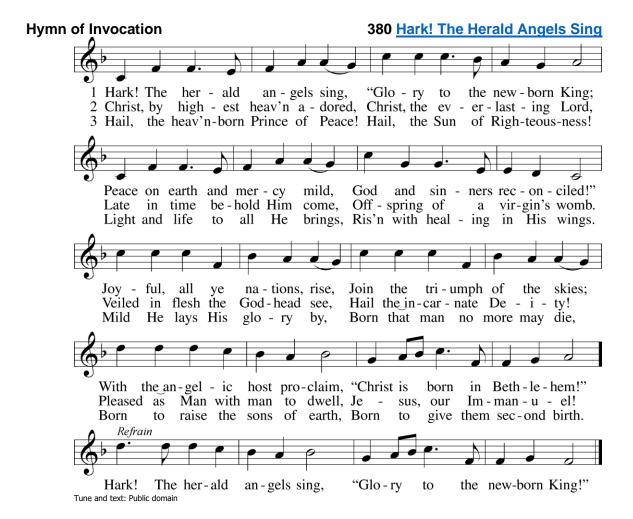
Hymns and liturgy are complete in the bulletin.

Seating: In any open (non-taped) pew on either side of the center aisle.

No Tuesday Matins or Bible Class

What Child is This Stephen P. Johnson

Confession and Absolution



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,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Kneel/Stand

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

Confession of Sins

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- 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



LSB 184

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given;*
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder,
and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,*
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

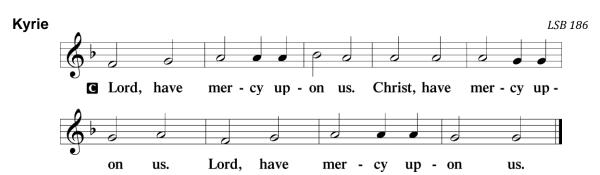
Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous things!*
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.

The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;*
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.*
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.

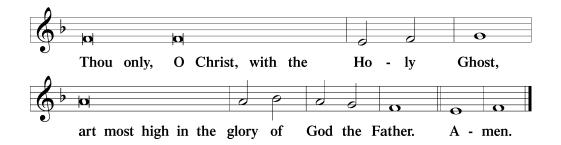
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;*
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!



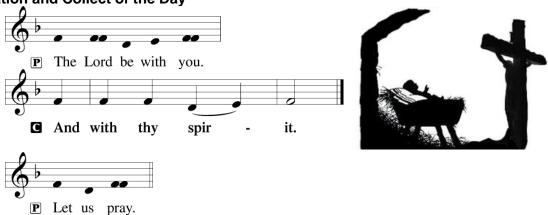


Gloria in Excelsis LSB 187





Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 40:17-21, 34-38

¹⁷In the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was erected. ¹⁸Moses erected the tabernacle. He laid its bases, and set up its frames, and put in its poles, and raised up its pillars. ¹⁹And he spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent over it, as the LORD had commanded Moses. ²⁰He took the testimony and put it into the ark, and put the poles on the ark and set the mercy seat above on the ark. ²¹And he brought the

ark into the tabernacle and set up the veil of the screen, and screened the ark of the testimony, as the LORD had commanded Moses. . . .

³⁴Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the



tabernacle. 35 And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. ³⁶Throughout their iournevs. all whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. 37But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. ³⁸For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was

in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.

- P The Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Gradual *Psalm 118:26a, 27a, 23*

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*

The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine up- on us.

This is the LORD's | doing;*

it is marvelous | in our eyes.

Epistle Reading

⁴When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.



Titus 3:4-7



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





Holy Gospel John 1:1-18



¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did



receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.") ¹⁶And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.



Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

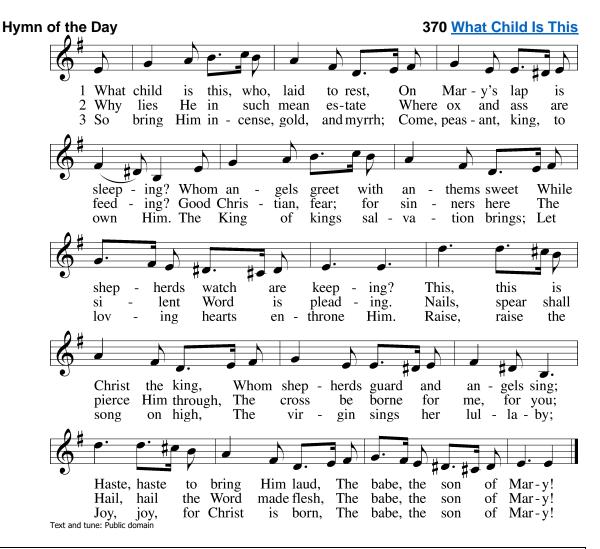
And in one Lord Jesus Christ. the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds. God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God. begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made: who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven 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.





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 *Collected in the Narthex after service.*

Stand



Prayer of the Church

Response to petitions is, "hear our prayer".

P To us a child is born, to us a son is given; let us offer praise, thanks and prayer to God the Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Brief silence

(In Christian freedom, you may kneel, stand, or sit during prayer, as you are able.)

For all who celebrate the incarnation, that the knowledge that their God reigns would cause them to lift up their voices and sing for joy, and that they would always be ready to tell others about the Word made flesh, let us pray to the Lord:

- For all pastors, that God would work through their proclamation of Christ to bring the good news of happiness and salvation to all who hear them, let us pray to the Lord:
- P For the nations of this world, that they would be given a spirit of peace so that conflicts cease and all see in the birth of Jesus the salvation of our God, let us pray to the Lord:

- P For those who suffer persecution for the sake of Christ, that they would be kept firm in their faith as they bear witness to the light of the world, and that they would never lose sight of their identity as children of God, let us pray to the Lord:
- P For the destitute, those recovering from natural disaster and those who find themselves in want, that they would receive the necessities for daily life, that the agencies who serve them would receive generous support, and that those who serve and those who are served would come to see God as the Giver of daily bread, let us pray to the Lord:
- P For those who suffer sickness in mind or body, those who are homebound and all who have asked for our prayers, that God would grant them healing, peace, patience and faith that endures, let us pray to the Lord:
- P For those who commune, that they would receive the body and blood of Jesus worthily with faith in His bodily presence here in the Sacrament for them, and that they would depart having received grace upon grace from His fullness, let pray to the Lord:
- In thanksgiving for all the people of God who have gone before us and now rest in His presence, that we, too, would be kept faithful until that day when He makes all things new, let us pray to the Lord:
- P Hear us, O Lord, for the sake of Your Son, the Word become flesh, the Savior of the nations, Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God.
- 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 of this congregation and those others 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 midnight the eve of 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.

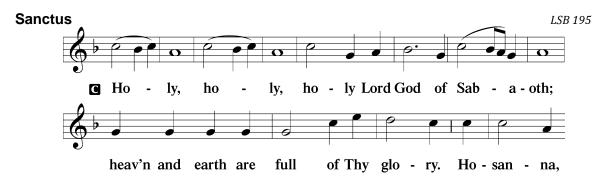
Preface LSB 194

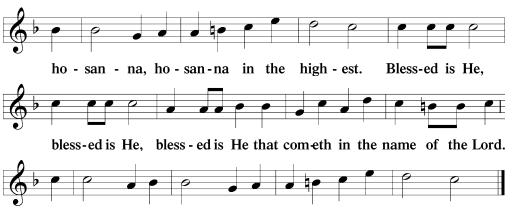


Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

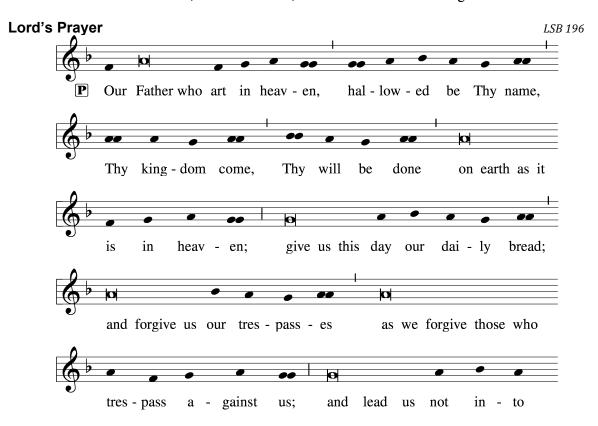
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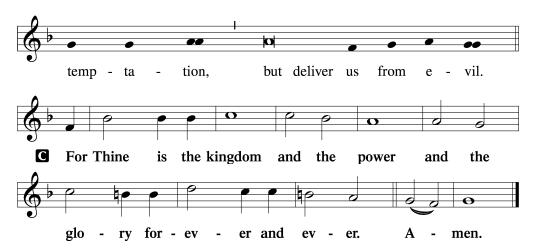
P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

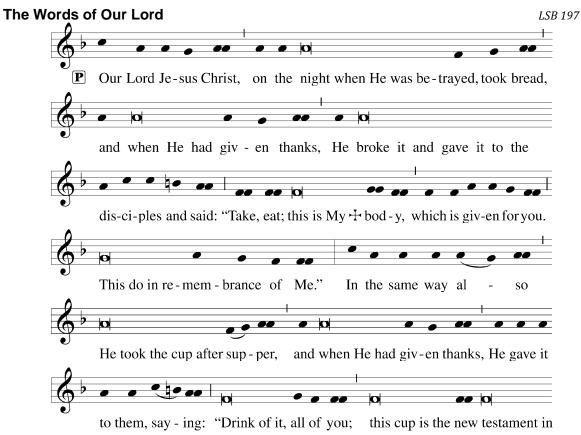




Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

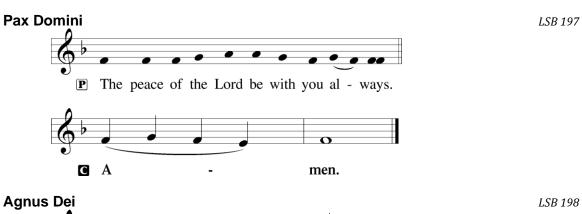


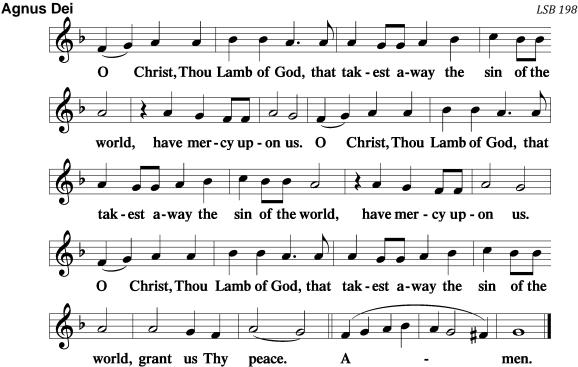






This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."





Distribution

Please approach the altar from the center aisle, and return to your seat via the side aisle. Please keep your mask on and remove only for the moments to receive the Sacrament.

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.

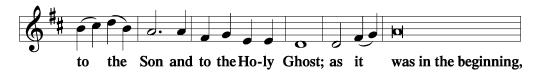
When all have communed, you will be invited to stand, and the following is said:

The Dismissal

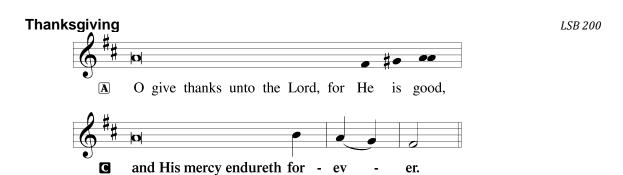
- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart

 → in peace.
- Amen.





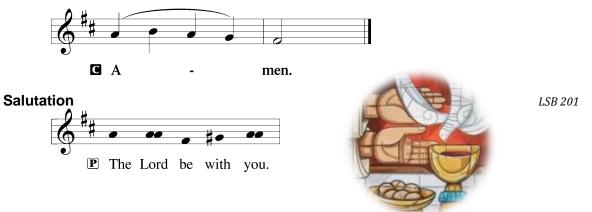




Post-Communion Collect

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.











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



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

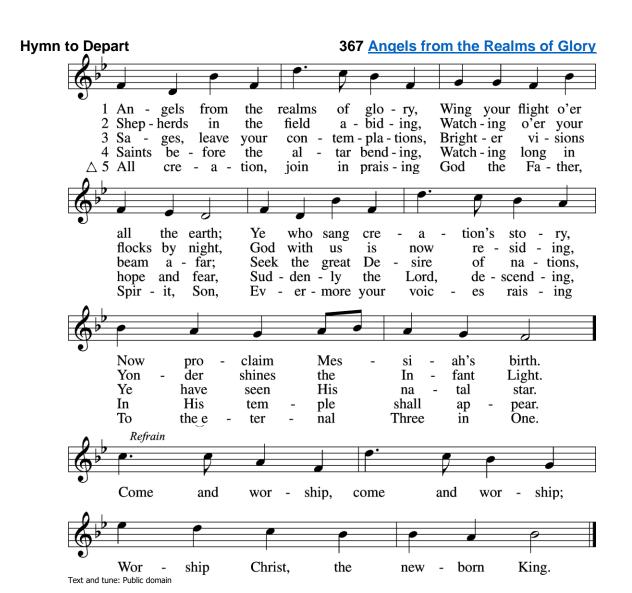


The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



Sit





As the postlude is played, you will be ushered from your pew.

So that this may be done orderly, please wait in your pew until approached.

Please do not congregate in the Narthex, and please wait until you're outside the building for conversations.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Franklin D. Ashdown (B.1942)

Amani ya Bwana na Mungu akubariki!

[Swahili for] The peace of the Lord and God Bless you!

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US English: The Peace of the LORD! Merry Christmas!

Swahili: Amani ya Bwana! Heri la Krismasi!

Finnish: Herran rauha! Iloista joulua!

A Stewardship Thought for Christmas Day

John 1:12 – "But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." What a joy to be called the children of God! We have a Father who cares for us and loves us. Therefore, we have no need to fear. For perfect love casts out fear. And with our fear set aside, we are free to serve the Christ who has become flesh and made His dwelling among us.

Synod Sentences for Christmas Day

The Living and Life-Giving Word of God Dwells among Us in the Flesh

In the beginning God created all things through His Word, His Son. But man fell into sin, and with man all creation was cursed. Therefore, God spoke His Word again, this time



into the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary. The glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle of our human nature (Ex. 40:17–21, 34–38). "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:1–14). The Son of God took on our flesh and blood and died on the cross in order that we might receive the right

to become the children of God through faith. Baptized into Christ's body, we are made partakers of a new Genesis, "the washing of regeneration and

renewal of the Holy Spirit" (Titus 3:4–7). In Christ, the kindness and love of God our Savior toward man has truly appeared.

A Prayer for Christmas Day

Lord God, heavenly Father, we give thanks to You that of Your mercy and compassion You caused Your Son to become incarnate, and through Him redeemed us from sin and

everlasting death: We beseech Holy Spirit, that we may ever be comfort ourselves thereby in all last obtain eternal salvation; Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who Holy Spirit, one true God, now and

Kell I

You, enlighten our hearts by Your thankful for such grace, and tribulation and temptation, and at through the same, Your beloved lives and reigns with You and the forever. Amen.

An Excerpt from Luther's Writings

CHRIST'S FIRST TITLE OF HONOUR AND ATTRIBUTE: HE IS THE WORD.

Again, the Word and he that speaks it, are not one person; for it is not possible that the speaker is himself the Word. What sort of speaker would he be who is himself the Word? He must needs be a mute, or the word must needs sound of itself without the speaker. But Scripture here speaks in strong and lucid words: "God said." And thus God and His Word must be two distinct things. If Moses had written: "There was an utterance," it would not be so evident that there were two, the Word and the Speaker. But when he says: "God

said," and names the speaker and his word, he forcibly states that there are two: that the speaker is not the word, and the word is not the speaker, but that the word comes from the speaker, and has its existence not of itself but from the speaker. But the speaker does not come from the word, nor does he have his existence from it, but from himself. Thus, the words of Moses point conclusively to the fact that there are two persons in the Godhead from eternity, before all creatures, that the one has its existence from the other, and the first has its existence from nothing but itself.

We are blessed this morning to have Rev. Edward Killian assisting Pr. von Hindenburg. Pastor Killian has accepted the call here, at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, and will be starting January 3, 2020.

