



LIVING WORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Growing Family of Faith

December 27, 2020

First Sunday after Christmas

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PASTORAL GREETING

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP (please rise as you are able)

P: We are called together to worship today in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen!**

P. Let us go, in heart and mind, to see what has come to pass.

C. Let us go with the shepherds: Let us go to find the Savior!

P. Let us go with the wise ones: Let us go to find God's promise, born for us!

C Let us go with the poor and humble: Let us go to find our King, born in a lowly manger.

P Let us go with all the world, with all the peoples of the nations.

All. Come, let us worship; come, let us adore him: Christ the Lord!

GATHERING CAROL "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

P: Most merciful God,

C. we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. AMEN

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS Congregational response: **AMEN**

(Please be seated)

WORSHIP CAROL "Angels We Have Heard on High"

SCRIPTURE LESSONS **FIRST LESSON**

R. The first lesson is from the book of Galatians 4: 4-7:

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.

R. This is the word of the Lord **C. Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE PSALM R. The responsive Psalm is Psalm 148:

R. ¹Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

C. ² Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!

R. ³ Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!

C. ⁴ Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

R. ⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created.

C. ⁶ And he established them forever and ever; he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

R. ⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps,

C. ⁸ fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word!

R. ⁹ Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

C. ¹⁰ Beasts and all livestock, creeping things and flying birds!

R. ¹¹ Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

C. ¹² Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

R. ¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above earth and heaven.

C. ¹⁴ He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his saints, for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!

R. Here ends the reading of the Psalm. Please join in singing our next worship Carol.

WORSHIP CAROL "Away in a Manger"

GOSPEL LESSON (Please rise as you are able)

P. The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter, verses 22-40:

C. *Glory to you, O Lord*

²² And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him 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") ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵ Now 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. ²⁶ And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ And 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, ²⁸ he 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; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation ³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel." ³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ And 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.”³⁶ And 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,³⁷ and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day.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.³⁹ And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P. This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

APOSTLE’S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

(Please be seated)

SERMON CAROL “Joy to the World”

MESSAGE Pastor Michael Birnbaum

OFFERING PRAYER and PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Offering plates located at rear-thank you thank you, thank you!)

P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**

P. Let us pray, **C. We offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Following general prayers, you are encouraged to share other prayer concerns out loud. Please close your prayer concern with “Lord in your mercy”.

HOLY COMMUNION

P. The Lord be with you. **C. And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts. **C. We lift them to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P. It is indeed right and salutary.....we praise your name and join their unending proclamation: **C. (singing) Holy, holy, holy,**

My heart, my heart adores you!

My heart is glad to say, the words:

You are holy, Lord!

Communion Prayer, Consecration of Elements, Lord's Prayer

(Please be seated during distribution of communion)

We welcome everyone to the Lord's Table who shares the Biblical belief that He is present (1 Cor. 10:16) and our sins are being forgiven as He promises (Matt.26:28). This sacrament is a truly wonderful opportunity to share this miracle and our oneness as the Body of Christ together! (1Cor. 10:17-18)

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE *(please rise as you are able)*

Thank the Lord and sing His praise

tell ev-ery-one what He has done

Let all who seek the Lord re-joice

and proud-ly bear His name.

He re-calls His prom-is-es

and leads His pe-ople forth in joy

With shouts of thanks-giv-ing

Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING/BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

P. Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C. Thanks be to God!**

God Bless You! Have a safe and Blessed New Year.

See you next week. Bring a friend or relative!

Some Years Feel Darker

We make lists of what was lost
We ask each other what went wrong
Who's to blame? Why now? Where is the light?
But He has come, born that dark night, laid in manger straw
The Babe grew so bright they were afraid
"I have come into the world," He said
"Don't say you believe in me and stay in the darkness"
Now, more than ever, we who are His must walk in His light
Free from the shadows, shining boldly in a world weary of despair
Declaring in the open: Light has come, darkness is defeated!
The night is fading, the Savior is born!

(text from video shown after Pastor's message)

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

1-Hark the herald angels sing,
Glory to the newborn King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies
With th'angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem

Chorus Hark the herald angels sing

Glory to the newborn King

2-Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of the Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail th'incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with men to dwell
Jesus our Emmanuel

Chorus

3-Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace
Hail the Sun of Righteousness
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth

Chorus

4-Come Desire of nations come
Fixx in us Thy humble home
Rise the woman's conquering seed
Bruise in us the serpent's head
Adam's likeness now efface
Stamp Thine image in its place
Second Adam from above
Reinstate us in Thy love

Chorus

*CCLI Song # 27738 Charles Wesley | Felix Mendelssohn-
Bartholdy © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain
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Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountain in reply
Echo back their joyous strains

Chorus Gloria in excelsis Deo (2X)

Shepherds why this jubilee
Why your joyous strains prolong
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song
Chorus

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King
Chorus

See Him in a manger laid
Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth
Mary Joseph lend your aid
With us sing our Savior's birth
Chorus

*CCLI Song # 27721 Edward Shippen Barnes | James
Chadwick © Words: Public Domain Music: Public Domain
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Away in a Manger

Away in a manger no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing the Baby awakes
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes
I love Thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh

Be near me Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there

*CCLI Song # 38583 James Ramsey Murray | John Thomas McFarland
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Joy to the World

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

Joy to the earth the Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods
Rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as far as the curse is found

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

*CCLI Song # 24016 George Frideric Handel | Isaac
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Go Tell It on the Mountain

Chorus Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light

Chorus

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth

Chorus

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

Chorus

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