



Welcome
WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

Order of Worship

December 31, 2023 First Sunday After Christmas

Welcome

Call To Worship

- P** To us a Child is Born
C **to us a son is given**
P And He will be called
C **Wonderful Counselor**
P Mighty God
C **O come, let us worship Him**
P Glory be to the Father and to the Son
C **And to the Holy Spirit.**
P As it was in the beginning,
C **Is now and will be forever. Amen.**

Opening Hymn – LSB 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

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| 1 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home: | 2 Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure. |
| 3 Before the hills in order stood
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same. | 4 A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the
night Before the rising sun. |
| 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day. | 6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles
last And our eternal home! |

Confession and Absolution

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

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Salutation and Collect

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

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.

(Please be seated)

Old Testament Reading, Isaiah 61:10—62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;

he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

L This is the Word of the Lord **C** **Thanks be to God**

Epistle Reading, Galatians 4:4–7

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.

L This is the Word of the Lord **C** **Thanks be to God**
(Please stand as you are able)

The Holy Gospel, Luke 2:22–40

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

C **Glory to You, O Lord**

When 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.

L This is the Gospel of the Lord **C** **Praise to You, O Christ!**

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Sermon Song : A Hearing Heart (lyrics by Linda Lemond)

Give us, O Lord, a hearing heart:	Help us be faithful, full of grace,
A heart aware of You.	Sincere as Sol'mon's prayer;
A heart that sees our fellows' needs	And let us always seek Your face,
And knows just what to do.	And offer love and care.

May Christ Himself, our Prince of Peace, Make us pure, set apart.

As we pursue God's purposes Give us a hearing heart.

Lyrics by L. N. Lemond; Tune: Nun Danket All (Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds)

(Please stand, as you are able)

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.**

Peace of the Lord *(Please greet the people in your family group with God's peace, and extend to those near to you the peace with a wave.)*

Prayers of the Church

After each petition respond:

☐ Lord in your mercy ☑ Hear our prayer

Lord's Prayer

P Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

C **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.

Preface

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 Him thanks and praise.**

The Word of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Lamb of God by Marty Haugen

Lamb of God you take away the sin of
the world: have mercy on us,
mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God you are the way of mercy
and love: have mercy on us,
mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world:
Grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Distribution *(Please be seated)*

"Change My Heart, Oh God" (Eddie Espinosa)

Change my heart, oh God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, oh God, may I be like You.
Change my heart, oh God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, oh God, may I be like You.
You are the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Change my heart, oh God, make it ever true.
Change my heart, oh God, may I be like You.
You are the potter, I am the clay.
Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Change my heart, oh God, make it ever true; Change my heart, oh God, may I be like You.
Change my heart, oh God, make it ever true; Change my heart, oh God, may I be like You.
May I be like You, May I be like You.

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386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

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| <p>1 Now sing we, now rejoice,
Now raise to heav'n our voice;
 He from whom joy streameth
Poor in a manger lies;
 Not so brightly beameth
The sun in yonder skies.
 Thou my Savior art!
 Thou my Savior art!</p> <p>3 Now through His Son doth shine
The Father's grace divine.
 Death was reigning o'er us
Through sin and vanity
 Till He opened for us
A bright eternity.
 May we praise Him there!
 May we praise Him there!</p> | <p>2 Come from on high to me;
I cannot rise to Thee.
 Cheer my wearied spirit,
O pure and holy Child;
 Through Thy grace and merit,
Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
 Draw me unto Thee!
 Draw me unto Thee!</p> <p>4 Oh, where shall joy be found?
Where but on heav'nly ground?
 Where the angels singing
With all His saints unite,
 Sweetest praises bringing
In heav'nly joy and light.
 Oh, that we were there!
 Oh, that we were there!</p> |
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388 Go Tell It on the Mountain

ref Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

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

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

Text: Public domain

3 Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. Refrain

(Please Stand, as you are able)

Post-Communion Collect

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 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 Amen**

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

P Go in peace!

C Serve the Lord

P Let us bless the Lord

C Thanks be to God

Closing Song: More Love, More Power

More love, more power, more of You in my life;

More love, more power, more of You in my life.

More love, more power, more of You in my life;

More love, more power, more of You in my life.

Chorus And I will worship You with all of my heart, And I will worship You with all of my mind;
And I will worship You with all of my strength, You are my Lord, You are my Lord!
You are my Lord, You are my Lord!

Repeat All

Instrumental Interlude

Repeat chorus

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Announcements