



St. Luke's Lutheran Church



4801 Anderson Ave
Manhattan, KS 66503
785-539-2604
www.stlukesmanhattan.org

Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

December 25, 2023 – 10:00 AM

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor
Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music*

CHRISTMAS DAY

WELCOME

We are glad you are here to worship our Savior with us. Please remember to turn your cell phone to silence. Restrooms are on the west side of the sanctuary. Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office through email, office@stlukesmanhattan.org, or by calling 785-539-2604. On Communion Sundays, if you need non-gluten wafers at communion, or need to have communion brought to you, please notify the elder who is serving. We hope you will join us again so that you may experience Jesus.

AS WE GATHER

One of the most stirring beginnings of a Christmas hymn is the line “Break forth, O beauteous heav’nly light” (LSB 378), which has become well known from the setting by Johann Sebastian Bach in his Christmas Oratorio. The poetic text was included in a hymn collection called Himmlischer Lieder (Heavenly Songs) written by German Lutheran Pastor Johann Rist in 1641. In his extended poem, author Rist invites all of creation, including the stars and moon and even the animals at the manger, to participate in welcoming the infant Jesus, who is the Savior, Christ the Lord. Certainly it is more than appropriate that the “beauteous heav’nly light” would break forth and “usher in the morning,” joining in to welcome its Creator, now on earth as the babe in the manger. Today we join with all of creation, including the angels and shepherds and those gathered in this place for worship, to welcome Jesus, who will defeat Satan, be our confidence and joy, and make peace between God and His people. May our joyful praise break forth!

IMAGE ON THE COVER

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” *Isaiah 52:7*

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Please use this time to prepare your hearts for coming into the presence of Jesus.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

WELCOME

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING CAROL

379 O Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
Je - sus, to Thee be glo - ry giv'n!

Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain

O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,

O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Stand

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

Holy Baptism of Isla Rose Benne

LSB, p. 268

When candidates are unable to speak for themselves, the sponsors answer the questions on their behalf.

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

P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19). In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16a). And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you" (1 Peter 3:21).

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world (1 John 2:2), that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).

The pastor addresses each candidate:

P How are you named?
R Isla Rose Benne

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying:

P Isla Rose Benne, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your ✝ forehead and upon your ✝ heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all (1 Peter 3:20). You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism (Exodus 15:4; 1 Corinthians 10:2). Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Isla Rose Benne according to Your boundless mercy and bless her with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in her, which has been inherited from Adam and which she herself has committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that she be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, she would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, *“Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.”* And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them (Mark 10:13-16).

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The pastor places his hands on the head(s) of the candidate(s), and the congregation joins in praying:

LORD’S PRAYER

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.

P The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even ✠ forevermore.

C Amen.

Sit

The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks the following questions:

P Isla Rose Benne, do you renounce the devil?

R *Yes, I renounce him.*

P Do you renounce all his works?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R *Yes, I renounce them.*

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

R *Yes, I believe.*

P Isla Rose Benne, do you desire to be baptized?

R *Yes, I do.*

The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:

P Isla Rose Benne, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptized while saying:

P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit (John 3:5) and has forgiven you all your sins (Acts 22:16), strengthen you with His grace to life ✝ everlasting.

C Amen.

The pastor may place a white garment on the newly baptized while saying:

P The white garment you are wearing shows that you have been clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness (Isaiah 61:10; Revelation 7:13-14; 19:13; 22:14) that covers all your sin. So shall you stand without fear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the inheritance prepared for you from the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4).

The pastor may light a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:

P The burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world (John 8:12). Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb (Revelation 19:9) in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

The newly baptized may be welcomed with the following:

P In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir (Romans 8:17) with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our sister in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9).

C Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Isla Rose Benne the new birth in Holy Baptism and made her a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. (Romans 8:17) We humbly implore You that, as she has now become Your child, You would keep her in her baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure she may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Peace ☩ be with you.

C Amen.

All return to their places.

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.**

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

CONFESSION

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.

CAROL

386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

sts. 1-3



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to Thee.
3 Now through His Son doth shine The Fa-ther's grace di - vine.



He from whom joy stream - eth Poor in a man-ger lies;
Cheer my wea-ried spir - it, O pure and ho - ly Child;
Death was reign-ing o'er us Through sin and van - i - ty



Not so bright - ly beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.
Through Thy grace and mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
Till He o - pened for us A bright e - ter - ni - ty.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!
Draw me un - to Thee! Draw me un - to Thee!
May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!

Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir - it.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a series of chords: a whole note chord (F4, A4), a half note chord (F4, A4), a half note chord (F4, A4), a half note chord (F4, A4), a half note chord (F4, A4), and a whole note chord (F4, A4). The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a series of chords: a whole note chord (F3, A3), a half note chord (F3, A3), a half note chord (F3, A3), a half note chord (F3, A3), a half note chord (F3, A3), and a whole note chord (F3, A3). The lyrics 'And with thy spir - it.' are written below the top staff, with hyphens under 'spir' and 'it'.

P Let us pray.

O God who has given us grace at this time to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, the light of the world, we thank You for the countless blessings that He has brought to us and to our world. We ask that our worship bring joy to You and that Your life-giving light be shown forth through us; this we ask through Jesus Christ, the newborn Babe and our eternal King and Lord.

A - men.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a series of chords: a whole note chord (F4, A4), a half note chord (F4, A4), a half note chord (F4, A4), a half note chord (F4, A4), and a whole note chord (F4, A4). The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a series of chords: a whole note chord (F3, A3), a half note chord (F3, A3), a half note chord (F3, A3), a half note chord (F3, A3), and a whole note chord (F3, A3). The lyrics 'A - men.' are written below the top staff, with a hyphen under 'A'.

Sit

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

P Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
C the light no darkness can overcome.

P Let Your light scatter the darkness
C and illumine Your Church.

We light the advent wreath as we sing the following hymn:

We Light the Advent Candle

5 We light the Christ - mas can - dle And sing with peace and
joy. Our hope is now be - got - ten In
Christ, the in - fant boy. God's love with us is
dwell - ing, All dark - ness now dis - pel - ling. We
cel - e - brate with light, For God makes all things right!

✠WORD✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 52:7-10

(God's salvation is made known to all.)

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

⁸The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The 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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

P To us a child is born, to us a son is given;

C and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

P And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

C Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

P Sing to the Lord a new song,

C for he has done marvelous things!

EPISTLE

Hebrews 1:1–6

(Buried and raised with Christ, we walk in newness of life.)

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,
 “You are my Son,
 today I have begotten you”?
Or again,
 “I will be to him a father,
 and he shall be to me a son”?
⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,
 “Let all God’s angels worship him.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

CHRISTMAS ALLELUIA and VERSE

Tune: Sussex Carol (LSB 377)

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. For Christ was born to

4
7
save man-kind. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. The

7
an - gels sang of His glor - ious birth. "Peace on the

10
earth and good will to men." Al-le-lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Text by: Michael Schmidt

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1–14

(The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

LAMB'S MESSAGE

CAROL

358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

sts. 1, 3, 5, 7



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
5 "These are the signs that you shall mark: The swad-dling
7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes, And see what
news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
clothes and man - ger dark. There you will find the
in the man - ger lies. Who is this child, so
joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
in - fant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."
young and fair? It is the Christ Child ly - ing there.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Geistliche lieder, Leipzig, 1539, ed. Valten Schumann

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

VOTUM

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

C Amen.

OFFERING

Luke 2:12 – “And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” Truly, as St. Paul said, He who was rich for our sakes became poor, for behold the King who must be laid in a manger, no crib for His bed! There in the manger is the very picture of self-giving generosity.

There are several ways to give.

1. **A basket** is available in the narthex as you exit.
2. Please **send** your offerings to
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
4801 Anderson Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66503
3. Give through our **website**:
<https://stlukesmanhattan.org/about-us/financial-support/>
4. **Electronic Funds Transfer** - Sign up through the church office.

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Gathered as God's people and as heirs of an eternal inheritance, let us pray for the whole Church and for all people according to their needs, confidently bringing our prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, who is our light and our salvation.

Adoration, praise, and thanksgiving be to You, O Lord God Almighty, that when darkness covered the earth, and gross darkness the people, You provided a Savior, able to help, and strong to deliver.

C Praise to You, O God!

P Adoration, praise, and thanksgiving be to You, that You gave Your eternal Son to become incarnate, that through Him light and pardon, power and peace, life and eternal salvation, might come to the fallen and lost children of men.

C Praise to You, O God!

P Adoration, praise, and thanksgiving be unto You, that by the holy nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ we, who by sin were driven out of the earthly paradise, are begotten again to a new Kingdom and to an endless paradise in heaven.

C Praise to You, O God!

P God of all mercy, let it please You to add grace to grace; and as You have given Your Son to be our Redeemer, pour out upon us Your Holy Spirit, that with pure hearts we may celebrate His birth, and with joyful devotion welcome Him. Grant we ask You, O Lord, that the good tidings of great joy in which we rejoice this day may everywhere be known. Bless the Church throughout the world that it may faithfully prosper in all things. Guide the rulers of nations that pathways of peace may be found. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer!

P Grant the needs of all people be met according to Your good and gracious will. Grant that the ill and those burdened by many cares find respite from their challenges. Grant that those who sorrow this day look up to Your throne and find abundant consolation in Him who came to ransom us from every fear and every foe. Send the joy of Your salvation into all penitent and burdened souls, that they may rejoice and give glory to God that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer!**

P Help, defend, and keep us all, through Him who was born at Bethlehem, so that when He comes in glorious majesty to complete our redemption we may have our perfect fulfillment and joy in His eternal kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose blessed name we make all of our prayers.

C **Amen.**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir - it.

This musical system consists of a treble and a bass staff, both in a key with one flat (B-flat). The treble staff begins with a C-clef and contains four measures of music: a half note G4, a half note F4, a whole note E4, and a whole note D4. The bass staff begins with an F-clef and contains four measures: a half note G3, a half note F3, a whole note E3, and a whole note D3. The lyrics 'And with thy spir - it.' are written below the treble staff, with the first syllable 'And' aligned under the first measure and 'spir - it.' aligned under the last measure.

P Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up un - to the Lord.

This musical system consists of a treble and a bass staff, both in a key with one flat (B-flat). The treble staff begins with a C-clef and contains seven measures: a half note G4, a half note F4, a whole note E4, a whole note D4, a half note C4, a half note B3, and a whole note A3. The bass staff begins with an F-clef and contains seven measures: a half note G3, a half note F3, a whole note E3, a whole note D3, a half note C3, a half note B2, and a whole note A2. The lyrics 'We lift them up un - to the Lord.' are written below the treble staff, with 'We' aligned under the first measure and 'the Lord.' aligned under the last measure.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

This musical system consists of a treble and a bass staff, both in a key with one flat (B-flat). The treble staff begins with a C-clef and contains seven measures: a half note G4, a half note F4, a whole note E4, a whole note D4, a half note C4, a half note B3, and a whole note A3. The bass staff begins with an F-clef and contains seven measures: a half note G3, a half note F3, a whole note E3, a whole note D3, a half note C3, a half note B2, and a whole note A2. The lyrics 'It is meet and right so to do.' are written below the treble staff, with 'It' aligned under the first measure and 'do.' aligned under the last measure.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, because in Your loving kindness You sent forth Your only Son, Jesus, to be the true light that enlightens all people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your holy name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANTUS – Sing Holy, Holy, Holy

(Tune: LSB 386)



Sing ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of pow'r and might;
Heav'n and earth, Your glo - ry, You fill from depth to height.
With our high ho - san - nas, We wel - come Him who comes
In the Lord God's name. Blest the Christ who comes!

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Tune: Public domain

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 197

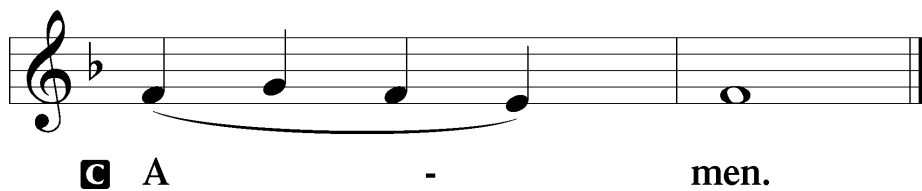
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



AGNUS DEI – O Christ, The Lamb of God, You Take (Tune: LSB 366)



O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take The
world's sins all a - way. O Lamb of God be
mer - ci - ful, Up - on us all we pray. O
Lamb of God be mer - ci - ful, And take our sins a -
way, And grant us peace, O
grant us peace, Your per - fect peace, we pray.

Tune: Public domain

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Sit

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an elder. For further study, see Matt. 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

DISTRIBUTION

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first. They then distribute the body and blood of Christ to those in the pews who are unable to come forward, and then finally to those who come forward.

Distribution and dismissal will be done by half tables.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

What Feast of Love

Tune: GREENSLEEVES (LSB 370)

What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven?

What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?

This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven.

Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!

What feast of truth is offered here, what covenant from heaven?

What hope of everlasting life, what wondrous word is given?

This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heaven.

Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is given!

What wine of love is offered here, what holy drink from heaven?

What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given?

This, this is Christ the king, the sweetest wine of heaven.

Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given.

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

624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born

1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
 2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
 3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
 4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who

ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
 of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
 al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
 hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the

forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
 sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
 hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
 Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.

- 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see,
 As at the rail on bended knee
 Our hungry mouths from Him receive
 The bread of immortality.
- 6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.
- 7 With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Text: Chad L. Bird, 1970

Tune: Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature, 1778, London; adapt. Edward Miller, 1731–1807

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Tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

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

Stand

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE *Tune: Angels from the Realm of Glory (LSB 367)*

Thank the Lord, His praises voicing For His promised faithfulness!
All who seek the Lord, rejoicing Tell His love, His name confess
For He leads us, with thanksgiving in the paths of righteousness.

At Your Word, Lord, let Your servant Go in peace, for with my eyes
I have seen Your bright salvation, Israel's Light, begin to rise
As the Glory of the nations, Leading us to Paradise.

POST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

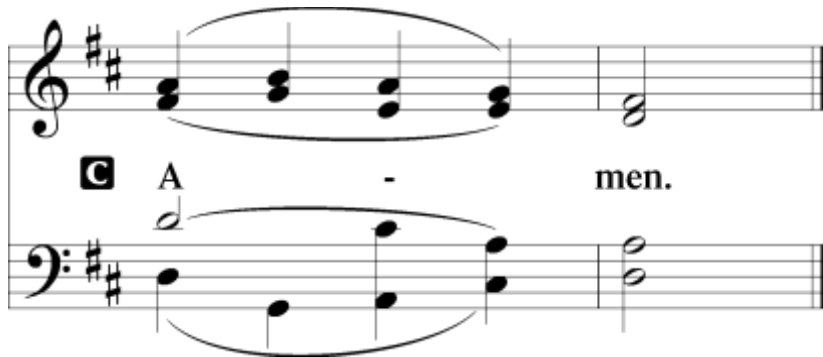
LSB 200

- P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks, heavenly Father, that You have refreshed us through this Sacrament, and we pray that, walking in the true light of Christ, we shall ever put our hope in Jesus, Your Son and our King; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

LSB 202

P The Lord be with you.



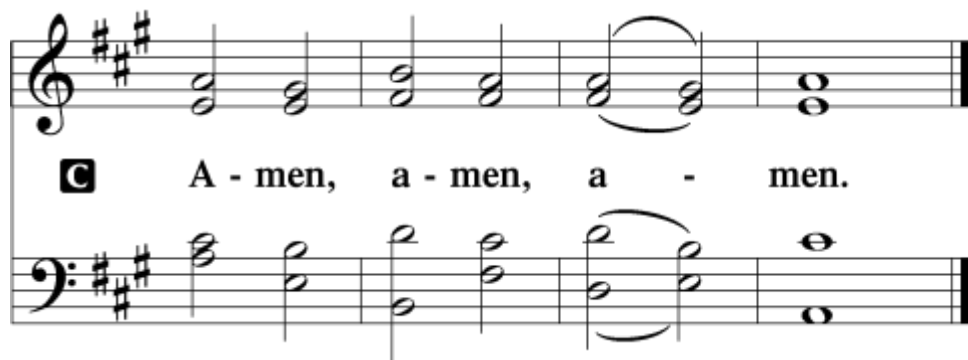
P Bless we the Lord.



BENEDICTION

LSB 202

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.



GREET ONE ANOTHER

Please greet one another with “Merry Christmas!”

388 Go Tell It On the Mountain

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;
Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled When lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain

Be - hold, through - out the heav-ens There shone a ho - ly light.
Rang out the an-gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Tune and text: Public domain

POSTLUDE

Merry Christmas!
Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Please continue to greet the people around you as you exit the Sanctuary.

