

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MISSION STATEMENT:

*In response to God's love for us, we SERVE God,
SUPPORT Christian fellowship,
And SPREAD the Good News of Jesus Christ to all people*

Volume 74

December 30, 2018

No. 52

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Order of Worship – 9 AM

AS WE GATHER – *Simeon and Anna rejoiced when Mary and Joseph brought week-old Jesus to the temple. He was physical proof that God was keeping His promises made centuries ago. Firstborn males had to be consecrated to God because He had spared them at the time of the exodus. In our Psalm today, God promises redemption for His people, and in Christ we are His chosen people, holy and dearly loved, as Paul writes in the Epistle. Today is the Sunday after Christmas, and we focus on how we exhibit love, forgiveness, and peace, thanking God for His promises kept.*

PRESERVICE MUSIC

“Still, Still, Still”

by Jeffrey Blersch

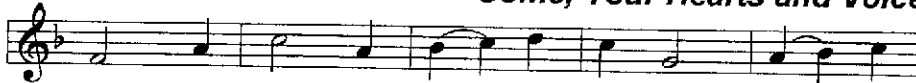
WELCOME

[Please fill out prayer request cards.]

[♫ Means please stand; ♪ Means please be seated]

♪ OPENING HYMN

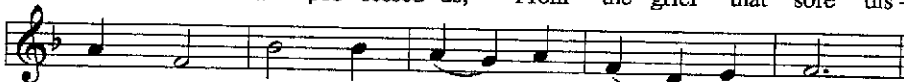
Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising



1 Come, your hearts and voic - es rais - ing, Christ the
2 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing And in
3 Ja - cob's star in all its splen - dor Beams with
4 From the bond - age that op - pressed us, From sin's



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing His love a -
love our race be - friend - ing; In our need His help ex -
com - fort sweet and ten - der, Fore - ing Sa - tan to sur -
fet - ters that pos - sessed us, From the grief that sore dis -



maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.
tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.
ren - der, Break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.
tressed us, We, the cap - tives, now are free.

(continued)

5. Oh, the joy beyond expressing
When by faith we grasp this blessing,
And to You we come confessing
That Your love has set us free.

6. Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us,
From Your lowly manger cheer us,
Gently lead us and be near us
Till we join Your choir above.

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INVOCATION

P *In the name of the Father and of the $\text{-}I$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.* **G** Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P *Let us confess our sins to God our Father.*

G Heavenly Father, although You have called us as Your own people, dearly loved, we confess that we have failed to forgive one another as You have forgiven us. We have neglected to reflect Your love at home, school, and work. We have let discord and conflict drown out the peace that You have given us in Christ. We have failed to thank You for Your great love in our private prayers and with our outward words and actions. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, and guide us by Your Holy Spirit so that our lives may reflect the love with which You surround us by grace each day.

P *Rejoice! By God's love, He gives us forgiveness as a gift for the sake of His Son, whose birth we celebrate. The Holy Spirit clothes us with the very compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience the Father expects. 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 $\text{-}I$ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Freely have you received God's love; freely give it as a gift to all you meet.* **G** Amen!

KYRIE

P *In peace let us pray to the Lord.*

G Lord, have mercy.

P *For the peace from above, for the overflowing love of God, and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.*

G Lord, have mercy.

P *For the peace of the whole world, for the Church of God as it loves and forgives in Christ's name, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.*

G Lord, have mercy.

P *For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs let us pray to the Lord.*

G Lord, have mercy.

P *Help, save, comfort, and defend us, loving Lord.* **G** Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Let All Together Praise Our God



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our
5 He is a ser - vant, I a lord: How great a

(continued)



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
 at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
 hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His
 mys - ter - y! How strong the ten - der Christ Child's love! No



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
 splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
 glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.
 tru - er friend than He, No tru - er friend than He.

6. He is the key and He the door
 To blessèd paradise;
 The angel bars the way no more.
 To God our praises rise,
 To God our praises rise.

7. Your grace in lowliness revealed,
 Lord Jesus, we adore
 And praise to God the Father yield
 And Spirit evermore;
 We praise You evermore.

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** *The Lord be with you.*
- G** **And also with you.**
- P** *Let us pray.*

All: 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. Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

- P** *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*
- G** **And also with you.**
- P** *Let us share this peace with one another.*

(People greet one another saying: "Peace be with you. And also with you.")

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

- L** *This is the Word of the Lord.*
- G** **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE LESSON

Colossians 3:12-17

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

- L** *This is the Word of the Lord.*
- G** **Thanks be to God.**

♩ ALLELUIA VERSE

Luke 2:30, 32

All: Alleluia. My eyes have seen Your salvation; a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

♩ CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

[Prayer requests will be collected at this time.]

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lamb of God

1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have
2 Your Gift of love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, But You have

sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned Him as He died: The hum - ble King they named a
brought me to Your side To be led by Your staff and

sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.
fraud, And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
rod, And to be called a lamb of God.

Refrain
O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!

O wash me in His pre - cious blood, My Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

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SERMON

"A LAMB TO TAKE OUR PLACE"

Exodus 13:1-3, 11-15

- I. In the Old Testament, the firstborn son had to be redeemed, bought back, through the sacrifice of a lamb.
- II. We are redeemed, bought back for God, through the sacrifice of the Lamb of God, born at Christmas.

♪ APOSTLE'S CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And 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 there He will come 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

by Kevin Hildebrand

♪ OFFERTORY

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!

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Colossians 3:12, 15; Matthew 5:23-24

P *Holy and beloved, let us use the encouragement of the Epistle to guide our prayers to God for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various needs.*

Put on compassion:

C **Protect and guide all who serve in the healing professions, O Lord. Give them compassion so that they see their patients as Your dearly loved children.**

P *Put on kindness:*

C **Guide and strengthen all who teach and care for vulnerable teens and senior citizens. Give them wisdom to serve in kindness and love.**

P *Put on humility:*

C **Remind those who fill positions of authority here and around the world to rule with humility as they serve You and the people around them in making, administering, and**

adjudicating the laws of the land.

P *Put on meekness:*

C **Protect and guide those who serve in law enforcement at home and armed forces deployed so that they make appropriate decisions at all times.**

P *Put on patience:*

C **Open doors of opportunity for the spread of the Gospel here and around the world. Give patience to clergy and lay leaders alike as they proclaim the news of Your Son's birth. Make them aware of Your gracious presence to bless their efforts.**

P *Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Heavenly Father, we remember before You those who are not at peace because of illness, conflict, loss, and sadness, [including . . .]. In Your great love,*

C **restore health, resolve conflict, console, and bring renewal of joy as fits Your gracious plans for them.**

P *Into Your hands, loving Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P *O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:*

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.**

BENEDICTION

P *The blessing of God Almighty—the Father who gave the gift of His Son, the Son who gave us the gift of eternal life, and the Holy Spirit who gives us to one another in love—bless you and keep you, now and forever.*

C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

P *Go in peace as you serve our loving Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God!**

CLOSING HYMN

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace



1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,
2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,
3 With saints of old, with saints to come,



Your word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -
The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light. God's glo - ry dwell - ing
To You we lift our voice; To Fa - ther, Son, and

(continued)



va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.
in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.
Spir - it blest Be hon - or, love, and praise.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Birthdays: Colin Davis, Luke Sterk]

POSTLUDE

"Angels and Shepherds"

by Patricia Lou Harris

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THE LUTHERAN HOUR MESSAGE
KOA 850 AM: Sunday @ 6:00 AM

January 6: "The Word Turned Toward"; Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Speaker

People use their words to build bonds of trust with people they love. In Jesus, God does the same—He turns His Word toward us. (John 1:1-18)

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