

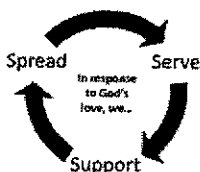
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

2695 S. Franklin St., Denver, Colorado 80210

303-722-1424 / email:marcella@christlutherandenver.org

www.christlutherandenver.org

www.christlutheranecc.org



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 77

December 26, 2021

No. 52

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Order of Worship –9:00 AM

AS WE GATHER – Are you prepared for heaven? Admittedly, this is an odd question when we are celebrating Jesus' birth. Yet, Jesus was born to die to save His people from their sins. As Simeon held the Christ Child, he couldn't help but say, "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word," while also telling Mary, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed." That opposition eventually brought about His death on a cross. Yet, Jesus was born to die and rise to life again so that all who believe in Him might live! That is the best Christmas gift ever.

PRESERVICE MUSIC "Come, Your Hearts & Voices Raising" by Kevin Hildebrand

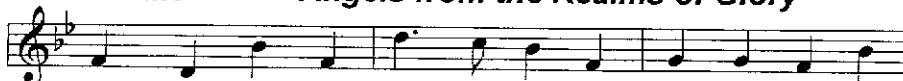
WELCOME

[♯]Means please stand; [♯]Means please be seated]

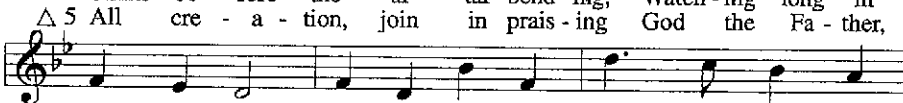
♯OPENING HYMN

Angels from the Realms of Glory

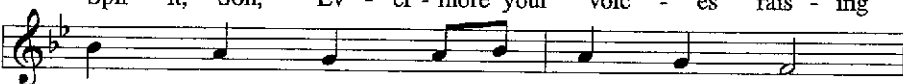
LSB 367



1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,



all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing



Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
Ye have seen His na - tal star.
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

- P** *In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
C Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

- 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 *Let us confess our sins to God our Father.*
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are sinful and unclean. We have taken for granted the free gift of salvation You give us through Jesus. Help us to focus on the reason for the season, the birth of Your Son. Forgive us, O God, and let us depart in peace, according to Your Word, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus, who came to save us from our sins.**
P *Receive the free gift that Jesus offers: the forgiveness of sins. As a called and ordained servant of our newborn King, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
C **Thank You, Jesus! Amen.**

INTROIT

Psalm 98:1–4; Isaiah 52:10

- P** *The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,*
C **and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**
P *Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!*
C **His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**
P *The LORD has made known his salvation;*
C **he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**
P *He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.*
C **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**
P *Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;*
C **break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**
All: **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
P *The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,*
C **and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

KYRIE

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

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For the peace of our newborn King, which is beyond our understanding, let us pray to the Lord.*

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For our salvation from Christ, the Prince of Peace, for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.*

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P *For the Holy Christian Church, for we have seen Your salvation that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.*

C **Lord, have mercy.**

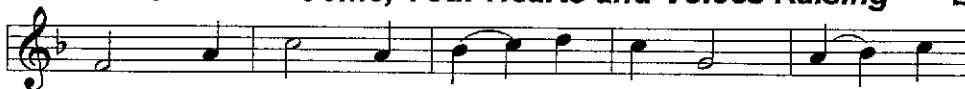
P *Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.*

C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

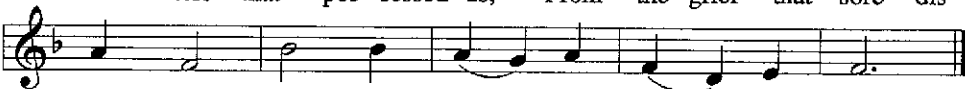
LSB 375



1 Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the
2 Christ, from heav'n to us descending 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, Forc - 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.

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.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000864; Tune: Public domain

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **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.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

L *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Colossians 3:12–17

(lesson is on the last page of the bulletin)

L *This is the Word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

P *For 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*

C **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

P *Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!*

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)

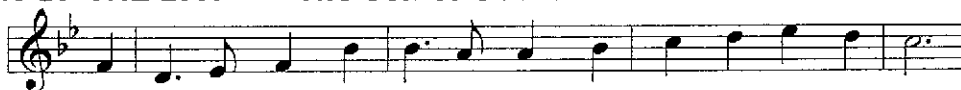
P *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Son of God Goes Forth to War

LSB 661



1 The Son of God goes forth to war A king - ly crown to gain.
2 The mar - tyr first, whose ea - gle eye Could pierce be - yond the grave,
3 A glo - rious band, the cho - sen few, On whom the Spir - it came,
4 A no - ble ar - my, men and boys, The ma - tron and the maid,



His blood - red ban - ner streams a - far; Who fol - lows in His train?
Who saw his mas - ter in the sky And called on Him to save.
Twelve val - iant saints—their hope they knew And mocked the cross and flame.
A - round the Sav - ior's throne re - jice, In robes of light ar - rayed.



Who best can drink His cup of woe, Tri - umphant o - ver pain,
Like Him, with par - don on His tongue In midst of mor - tal pain,
They met the ty - rant's bran - dished steel, The li - on's gor - y mane;
They climbed the steep as - cent of heav'n Through per - il, toil, and pain.

(continued)



Who pa - tient bears his cross be - low— He fol - lows in His train.
 He prayed for those who did the wrong— Who fol - lows in his train?
 They bowed their necks their death to feel— Who fol - lows in their train?
 O God, to us may grace be giv'n To fol - low in their train!

Tune and text: Public domain

SERMON *“FROM BETHLEHEM TO BEDLAM”* **Acts 7:54-60**

- I. It is odd to remember St. Stephen's martyrdom the day after Christmas.
- II. But his death reminds us that Jesus is with us in joyful days and sorrowful days.

† APOSTLE'S CREED

☑ 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 *“O Sing of Christ”* **by Kevin Hildebrand**

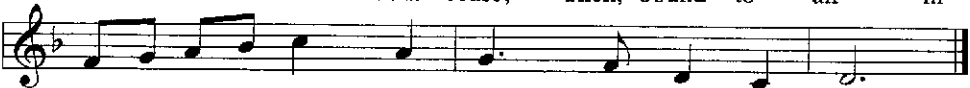
♩ OFFERTORY *“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”* **LSB 843**



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,”
 2 How can Your par - don reach and bless
 3 In blaz - ing light Your cross re - veals
 4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls



You taught us, Lord, to pray; But You a - lone can
 The un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and
 The truth we dim - ly knew: What triv - ial debts are
 And bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, bound to all in



grant us grace To live the words we say.
 will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
 owed to us, How great our debt to You!
 bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

Text: © Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000664; Tune: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P *Let us pray for the whole people of God and all people according to their needs. Wonderful Counselor, we praise and thank You for guiding us with the Word of Christ, which dwells richly in us. Bless all pastors and teachers of Your Word, that they teach and admonish Your people with all of Your wisdom so that whatever we do, in word or deed, we do it in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. O God of our salvation,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *Mighty God, You created this world and everything in it through Your powerful Word and still take care of it. Continue to watch over and work through all who lead and serve our nation, state, and local communities. Lead and guide all first responders and members of the military as they carry out their duties to protect and serve. O God of our salvation,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *Everlasting Father, You are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We ask for Your encouragement, healing, and care for all who are struggling with their health, [especially . . .]. Heal the broken hearts of those who grieve the loss of those close to them. O God of our salvation,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *Prince of Peace, we praise and thank You for the peace we have in You. Empower us and all of your missionary people to embrace the opportunities You give us to share the gift of Your redemption. O God of our salvation,*

C **hear our prayer.**

P *We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our newborn King.*

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

Numbers 6:24-26

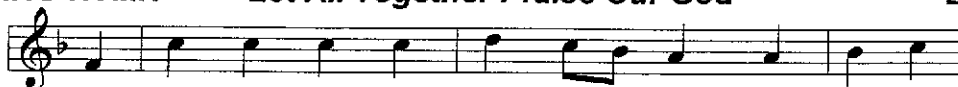
P *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you His peace.*

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Let All Together Praise Our God

LSB 389



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

(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

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.

5. He is a servant, I a lord:
How great a mystery!
How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
No truer friend than He,
No truer 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. Amen.

Text (st. 2) and tune: Public domain; Text (sts. 1, 3–7): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000664

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

by Kevin Hildebrand

From *Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish*, Series C, Quarter 1.
Copyright © 2021 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

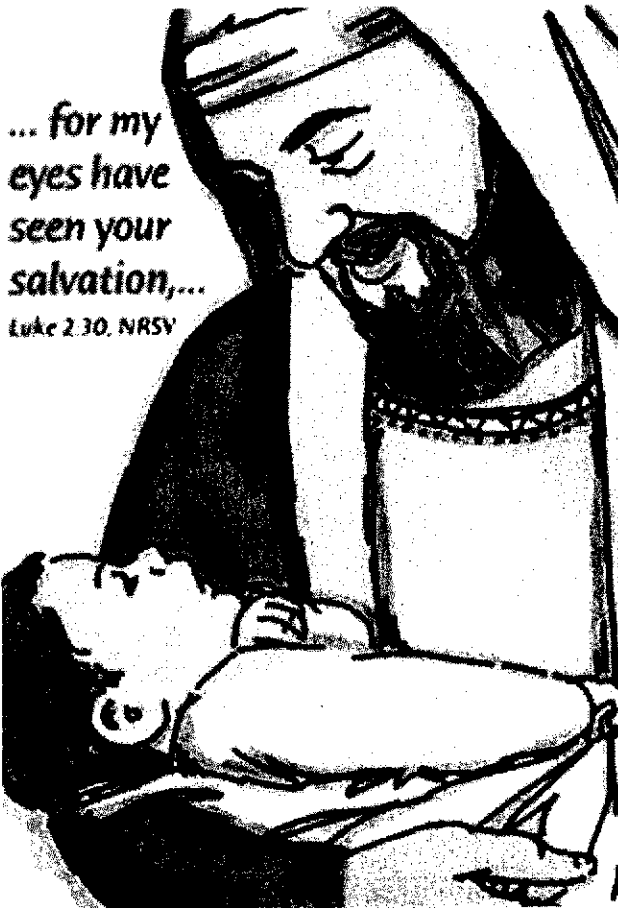
~~~~~

Roger C. Wohletz, Pastor .....720-283-8128 / email: [pastorroger@christlutherandenver.org](mailto:pastorroger@christlutherandenver.org)  
Renee Ortado, ECC Director / Preschool Teacher .....303-828-6735 / email: [renee@christlutherandenver.org](mailto:renee@christlutherandenver.org)  
Beth Buss, Music Director.....970-778-5696 / email: [bethbuss4@gmail.com](mailto:bethbuss4@gmail.com)  
Rob Hatton, Congregation Chairman..... 303-906-9395 / email: [roberthatton1@googlemail.com](mailto:roberthatton1@googlemail.com)

~~~~~

WE WISH TO THANK the following for their participation in our worship service this morning:

Acolyte..... Steve Rolen
Altar Guild..... Elsie Leiker & Sharon Milliken
Counters..... Carl Kurth & Mike Gilbert
Elder on Duty..... Doug Harder
Greeter..... Meghan Ruwet
Organist / Music Director..... Beth Buss
Service Web Recorder..... Robert Showalter
Service Live Streaming..... Renee Ortado
Ushers **Phil Vandre, *Naomi Kettner, Cameron Hatton, Brad Meythaler



*... for my
eyes have
seen your
salvation,...*
Luke 2:30, NRSV