

# The Lutheran Church of the Atonement

## 12/25/2020 The Nativity of our Lord Christmas Day

Stand

### Opening Versicles

260

- L This is the day which the Lord has made;  
 C **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**  
 L From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
 C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**  
 L Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;  
 C **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**  
 L Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.  
 C **Teach me Your paths.**  
 L Sanctify us in Your truth.  
 C **Your Word is truth.**  
 L From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
 C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**
- C **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.**

### Old Testament Canticle

LSB 261

*Refrain*

☐ The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
 He has be - come my sal - va - tion.  
 With joy will you draw wa - ter from the  
 wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that  
 day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,  
 make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -  
 claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."  
*Refrain*  
 The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done  
glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the  
earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -  
hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the  
Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

*Refrain*  
The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.  
Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son  
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will  
be for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*  
The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

## Readings From Holy Scripture

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 52:7–10*

L A reading from Isaiah, the fifty-second chapter.

<sup>7</sup>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.”

<sup>8</sup>The 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.

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

<sup>10</sup>The 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Psalms, hymns, or choral music may be sung between the readings.*

### Psalms Reading

*Psalms 98*

<sup>1</sup>Oh sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done | marvelous things!\*

His right hand and his holy arm  
have worked salva- | tion for him.

<sup>2</sup>The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;\*  
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

<sup>3</sup>He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness  
to the house of | Israel.\*

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation | of our God.

<sup>4</sup>Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;\*  
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

<sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD | with the lyre,\*  
with the lyre and the sound of | melody!

<sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound | of the horn\*  
make a joyful noise before the | King, the LORD!

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that | fills it;\*  
the world and those who | dwell in it!

<sup>8</sup>Let the rivers clap their hands;  
let the hills sing for joy together

<sup>9</sup>be- | fore the LORD,\* for he comes  
to | judge the earth.

He will judge the world with | righteousness,\*  
and the peoples with | equity.

## Epistle Reading

*Hebrews 1:1–6*

<sup>1</sup>Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but 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. <sup>3</sup>He 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, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup>For 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”?

<sup>6</sup>And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

## Reading Response

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading

*John 1:1–18*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And 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. <sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) <sup>16</sup>And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

## Reading Response

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

## Responsory

*LSB 263*

- L Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**
- L Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**
- L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

*Stand*

## Apostles’ 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 thence 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.**

### 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.**

### The Second Article

*p. 322*

**L *Redemption***

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 thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**C *What does this mean?***

**I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,**

**who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,**

**that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,**

**just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.**

**This is most certainly true.**

## 387 Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
 ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
 plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
 flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
 ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

## Offering

Stand

## Prayer

p. 265

- L In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 L For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 L For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 L For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 L For reasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 L For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 L For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 L For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 L For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:  
 C **Lord, have mercy.**  
 L Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:  
 C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

### Collect of the Day

- L Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

### Collect for the Word

- L Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

### Morning Prayer

- C **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.**

### New Testament Canticle

LSB 266

*Refrain*

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

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

Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.

Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.

Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.

*Refrain*

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

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

Dy - ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv - ing, He

lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to

sin and a-live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.

*Refrain*  
Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

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

## Blessing

### Benedicamus

*LSB 267*

- L Let us bless the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

### Benediction

*LSB 267*

- L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.  
C **Amen.**

### Acknowledgments

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