



*And
Wonders
of His Love*

*For unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given.*

Isaiah 9:6

Of the Father's Love Begotten

December 25, 2019 - 10:00 AM

Pastor's Welcome

Part 1, It All Starts with God.

Invocation

P: In the Name of God the Father, God the Son ☩ and God the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Hymn

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

LSB 384 V. 1

*Of the Father's love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.*

Responsive Reading

John 1:1-5, 9-12, 14

P: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

C: **He was with God in the beginning.**

P: Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.

C: **In Him was life, and that life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it...**

P: The True Light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. He was in the world,

C: **And though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him.**

P: He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him.

C: **Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God...**

P: The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.

C: **We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

Meditation & Prayer

Part 2, God Had a Plan.

Hymn

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

LSB 384 V. 3

*This is He whom seers in old time
Chanted of with one accord,
Whom the voices of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the long-expected;
Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.*

Reading

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned... For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

Micah 5:2

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.”

Hymn

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” LSB 361, Vs 1 & 4

*O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.*

*O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!*

Meditation & Prayer

Part 3, And It Came to Pass.

Hymn

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” LSB 384 V. 2

*Oh, that birth forever blessed,
When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the Savior of our race,
And the babe, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face
Evermore and evermore.*

Reading

Luke 2:1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Solo

“Away in a Manger”

Julia Wenndt

Meditation & Prayer

Part 4, Good News for All.

Hymn

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

LSB 384 V. 4

*O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing,
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him
And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Ev'ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.*

Reading

Luke 2:8-14

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.”

Hymn

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

LSB 368 Vs 1&3

*Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

Meditation & Prayer

Part 5, The Faithful Respond.

Hymn

“Silent Night”

LSB 363 Vs. 2-3

*Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!*

*Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.*

Reading: Luke 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Hymn

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

LSB 379 Vs 1 & 4

*O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him
Born the king of angels;*

Refrain:

*O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!*

*Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father*

Now in flesh appearing! [Refrain]

Meditation & Prayer

Part 6, Our Worship at the Altar.

Hymn

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

LSB 384 V. 5

*Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unending praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore.*

Reading

Luke 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Meditation & Prayer

Hymn "Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising" LSB 375 Vs 1 & 5

*Come, your hearts and voices raising,
Christ the Lord with gladness praising;
Loudly sing His love amazing,
Worthy folk of Christendom.*

*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.*

Offering

The Prayer for Christmas Day

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*Special Prayers will be made at this time
Petitions will end with the words, "Lord in Your mercy"
The congregation may respond, "Hear our prayer."*

P: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught 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.

Confession and Absolution

P: "Unto us is born a Savior, Christ the Lord." [Lk 2:11]

C: He was born to save us from our sins. [Mt 1:21]

P: "My soul glorifies the Lord

C: And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." [Lk 1:46-47]

P: With repentant Christmas joy, let us confess our sins. Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

C: We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to be born for you, to live for you, to be for you the way, the truth and the life. For you He died and for His sake God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Holy Communion

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, through

Jesus Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh You have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of Your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

*A great and mighty wonder,
A full and holy cure
The virgin bears the Infant.
With virgin honor pure!
Repeat the hymn again:
"To God on high be glory.
And peace on earth to men!"*

*The Word becomes incarnate.
And yet remains on high.
And cherubim sing anthems.
To shepherds from the sky.
Repeat the hymn again:
"To God on high be glory.
And peace on earth to men!"*

P: On the night when he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to the disciples saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." For as often as we drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes.

C: Christ was born. Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of His birth, life, death and resurrection, we await His coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Almighty God, send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of His Church, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C: **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Communion Distribution

"Were You There on that Christmas Night"

Julia Wenndt

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

LSB 380 Vs 1-3

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

Refrain:

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

*Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel! [Refrain]*

*Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,*

*Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. [Refrain]*

Post Communion Prayer

P: Almighty God, Heavenly Father, we revel in the glory of Christmas.

C: We thank You for a glimpse of the glory of the light of heaven.

P: We thank you for sending Jesus to be our Savior, to be Light in our darkness, Truth amid the falsehood of the world, Life where death rules and the Way of salvation.

C: We pray that this divine taste of the bread and wine, the body and blood of Christ would sustain us in the one true faith

P: And nurture our faithfulness in word and deed until He comes again.

C: Amen.

Benediction

Concluding Hymn “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

LSB 393 Vs 1-2

*Infant holy, Infant lowly,
For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, Little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, Angels singing,
Bells are ringing, Tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child is Lord of all!*

*Flocks were sleeping, Shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, Heard the story,
Tidings of a Gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow,
Praises voicing, Greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!*