LIVING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Second Sunday after Christmas

01-03-2021

Welcome to Worship! "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us...." Today's readings remind us that God's Christmas gift is more than just a wish and greater than an idea. Jesus, the Son of God, is heavenly wisdom incarnate in real flesh and blood just like ours! In the Old Testament reading, Solomon asks God for wisdom, and God grants it to him. In the Gospel, however, One who is greater than Solomon has no need to ask God for wisdom, because "all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers!" In the Epistle Paul enumerates the gifts this all wise God-in-the-flesh brings: "redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight." What a reason for joy! The God with all wisdom and insight is one of us!

Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper in which He feeds us with His body and blood. The Lutheran Church recognizes the real presence of the body and blood of Christ in this Sacrament, and we ask all who attend the Sacrament to share this faith with us. Members of our sister congregations in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are welcome to commune. **If you are a guest and want to receive the Sacrament, please speak with the pastor or an elder before the Service prior to communing.** Please indicate your attendance at communion by signing the communion registration sheet on the desk by the outer door. At the center of the communion tray, there are glasses with a reduced amount of wine for those who don't wish to have as much wine when they commune. **Please speak to the pastor before the service if you wish to receive a gluten-free communion wafer.**

Divine Service Setting 1

Pastoral Greeting

395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright Morn-ing Star, how 10 fair and bright! You shine with God's 2 Come, heav'n-ly Bride-groom, Light di - vine, And deep with - in 3 Lord, when You look on us in love, once there At falls 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in Your Son You loved us when with grace own truth and light, A - glow and mer cv! There light our hearts now shine; flame un - dy a _ ing! a - bove est plea from God Α ray of pur sure. Was this old earth's foun - da not yet be - gun tion! Of Da-vid's son, race, King Our Lord and mas -Ja - cob's bod - y Spir - it, liv - ing branch -In Your one let us be As Your Word and flesh and blood Re - fresh our souls Your Son has ran - somed us in love To live in Him You have won Our hearts ly! You ter, to serve on of а tree. Your life our lives sup - ply ing. es with heav'n-ly food. You dear are our est trea sure! a - bove: This is and Your great sal - va here tion. ly! Great and glo-rious, All Low - ly, ho vic - to - rious, -Now, though dai ĺy Earth's deep sad - ness May per - plex us -Your mer and cheer us! Let Warm 0 draw near us! cy Al - le - lu _ ia! Christ the liv - ing, То giv - ing us $\mathbf{\sigma}$ Rich in bless-ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess ing! You bless And dis - tress us, Yet with heav'n - ly joy us. For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us. Life for - ev - er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev er!

2

- 5 O let the harps break forth in sound!
 Our joy be all with music crowned, Our voices gladly blending!
 For Christ goes with us all the way— Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
 His love is never ending!
 Sing out! Ring out!
 Jubilation!
 Exultation!
 Tell the story!
 Great is He, the King of Glory!
- 6 What joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love is first and last, The end and the beginning! He will one day, oh, glorious grace, Transport us to that happy place Beyond all tears and sinning! Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness! We are yearning For the day of Your returning!

+ Confession and Absolution +

Stand

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

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

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

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. 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. Amen.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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 H Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Stand

+ Service of the Word +

Introit

Psalm 147:1, 5, 11-12; antiphon: John 1:14

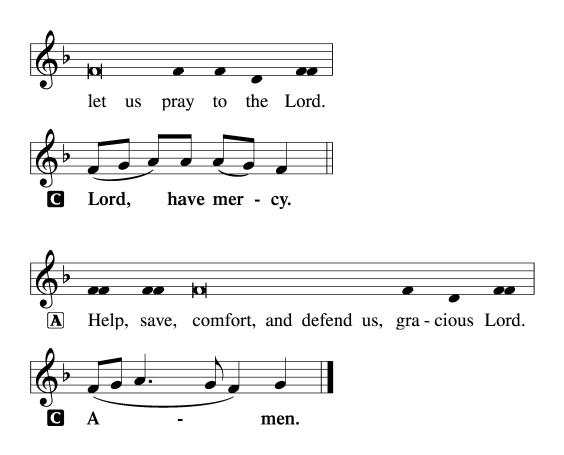
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory,* glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God;* for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;* his understanding is beyond measure. But the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,* in those who hope in his steadfast love. Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem!* Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem!* Praise your God, O Zion! 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. 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.

Mark 10:47





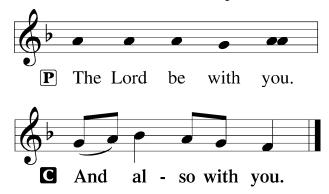


This Is the Feast



7

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 3:4–15

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³I give you also what you

have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

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

and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

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

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Sing to the Lord a new song,*

for he has done marvelous things!

Epistle

Ephesians 1:3–14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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



Holy Gospel

Luke 2:40–52

John 6:68

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



⁴⁰The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



THE CATECHISM The Apostles' Creed

AS THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY SHOULD TEACH IT IN A SIMPLE WAY TO HIS HOUSEHOLD

- **The Third Article [SANCTIFICATION]** 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. *What does this mean?*
- **G**: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

Sit



Sermon

Stand

Apostles' 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 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.

Prayer of the Church

- Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs....Heavenly Father, in this New Year, give us confidence to trust in Your mercy, goodness, and guidance. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **G** Hear our prayer.
- In this New Year, help us to fight against greed and live lives of charity and generosity toward You and our neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

In this coming year, give wisdom to our elected leaders at the national, state and local level, that they may govern with good judgment and serve the welfare of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

- Comfort and strengthen all those who are sick, in body, mind or in spirit, especially... Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** Hear our prayer.
- In this New Year, guide and direct Living Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church, that we may bear witness to others and grow as the body of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **G** Hear our prayer.

Keep us in communion with your saints , who bore witness to Your appearing, and who now rest in the blessed peace of Your presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

G Hear our prayer.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

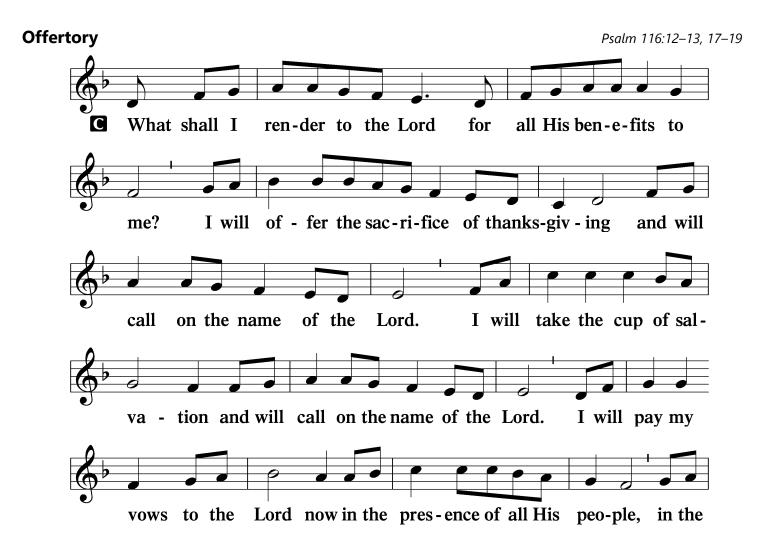
C Amen.

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Sit

Offering

Stand





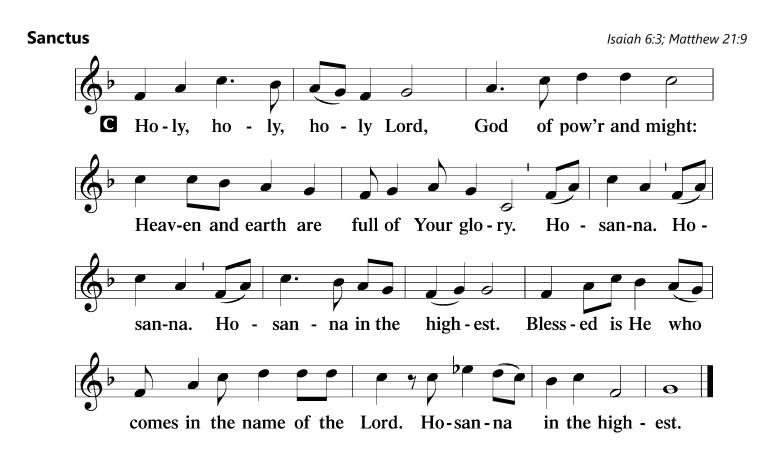
+ Service of the Sacrament +

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the

company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the allavailing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

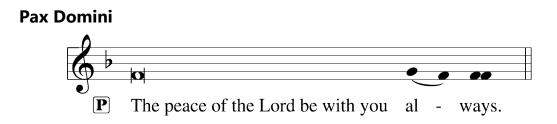
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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."

- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

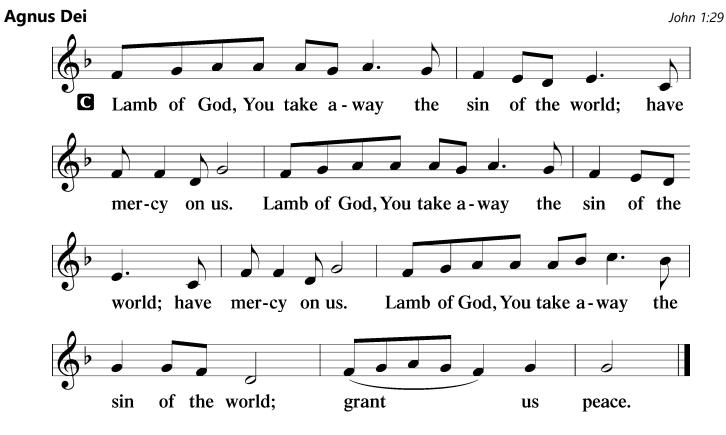
Lord's Prayer

 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.



John 20:19





Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

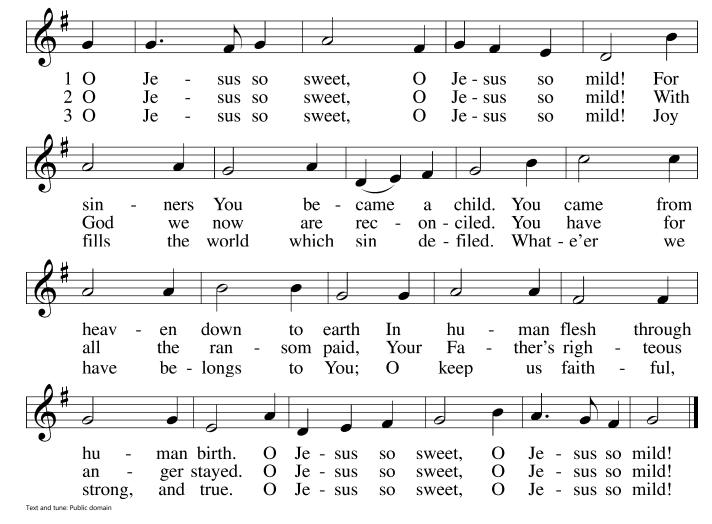
Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins. **Amen.**

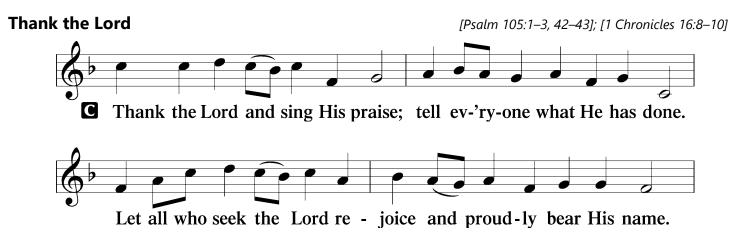
In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

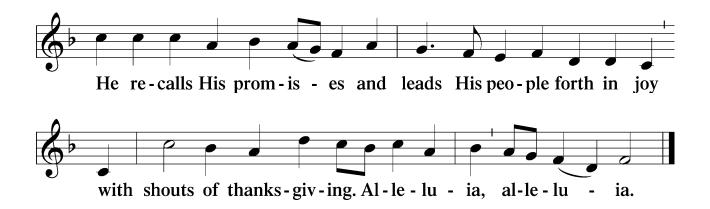
- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.
- C Amen.



546 O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild

Stand





Post-Communion Collect

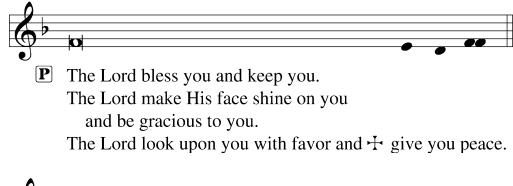
A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26





370 What Child Is This



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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