



1st Sunday of Christmas

December 27, 2020

Prelude

Hymn: Let All Together Praise our God

Lutheran Service Book 389

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING PRAYER & OFFERING OF CONFESSION

P: Arise, shine, for your light has come,

(Inspired by Isaiah 9 and 60)

C: and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

P: For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;

C: but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

P: Nations shall come to your light,

C: and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

P: The people who walked in darkness

C: have seen a great light;

P: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness,

C: on them light has shined.

P: Let us celebrate the Light of the world,

C: for upon us has the Light shined.

(Silence for Reflection)

C: 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.

GIFT OF ABSOLUTION

P: 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 ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also with you!

P: We greet one another in the peace of the Lord.

You are welcome to greet each other as forgiven brothers and sisters in Jesus, in your homes and in our chat, or send a text to someone you know sharing the peace of Jesus is for them.

READINGS

A Reading from Isaiah 61:10—62:3

¹⁰I delight greatly in the Lord;
my soul rejoices in my God.

For he has clothed me with garments of salvation
and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,
as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the soil makes the sprout come up
and a garden causes seeds to grow,
so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness
and praise spring up before all nations.

62 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet,
till her vindication shines out like the dawn,
her salvation like a blazing torch.

²The nations will see your vindication,
and all kings your glory;
you will be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will bestow.

³You will be a crown of splendor in the Lord's hand,
a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

A Reading from Galatians 4:4–7

⁴But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. ⁶Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

A: The Holy Gospel according St. Luke, the 2nd Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²² When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷ Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹ “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

³⁰ For my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹ which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of your people Israel.”

³³ The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

A: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Song: He Shall Reign Forevermore

SERMON

P: Let us confess our faith together using the words of the 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 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.

Hymn: O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild

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PRAYERS

A: Lord in Your mercy

C: **Hear our prayer.**

P: In joy we pray,

ALL: 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 for ever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

A: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Song: Hark The Herald Angels Sing / King Of Heaven

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Thompson

Music: Gundermann Family, Bruce Anderson, Jim Radtke and John Schonebaum

Lector: Dan Baker

Production: Dan Savard

Music | Liturgy:

Hymns from *Lutheran Service Book*

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