

Christmas Day

December 25, 2022



https://t4.ftcdn.net/jpg/04/51/76/05/360_F_451760533_NLmc63CPw37mUG3IlgTC6zE5cEnXv5e4.jpg

CHRISTMAS DAY December 25, 2022

THE MARVEL OF THE MIDDLE

PRESERVICE MUSIC “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (arr. Hildebrand); “Angels We Have Heard on High” (arr. Held); “O Come All Ye Faithful” (arr. Behnke)

380 HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

- 1 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**

Refrain Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

- 2 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**
- 3 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**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.

Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- 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** Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

INTROIT

Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

For 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.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations. 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.
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**Glorify 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.**

For 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.

387 JOY TO THE WORLD

sts. 1–2

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Text: Public domain

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P Let us pray. 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.

G Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 52:7–10

⁷How 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.” ⁸The 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. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted
his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The 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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Hebrews 1:1–12

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but 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. ³He 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, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.
⁵For 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”? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he
says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.” ⁷Of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds, and his
ministers a flame of fire.” ⁸But of the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,

the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. ⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”
¹⁰And, “You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; ¹¹they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, ¹²like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

SOLO “Once in Royal David’s City” (arr. Isaacson)

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1–18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵(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.’”) ¹⁶And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

379 O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

sts. 1, ref, 2–4

1 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**

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

2 Highest, most holy,
Light of Light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;
Son of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! **Refrain**

3 Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest: **Refrain**

4 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**

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.; John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786
Text: Public domain

SERMON “The Marvel of the Middle” John 1:1-14

NICENE CREED (*Creed can be found on the screens and in the back of the hymnal*)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, please respond with the following:

P Lord in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

At the end of the prayer:

C **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them 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 truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 208

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

LORD'S PRAYER

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

+ DISTRIBUTION +

SOLO “Noel” (Tomlin)

364 AWAY IN A MANGER

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- 2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

Text (sts. 1–2): Little Children’s Book, 1885, Philadelphia; (st. 3): Vineyard Songs, 1892, Louisville, alt.

Text: Public domain

393 INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY

- 1 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!

2 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!

Text: tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt.; Polish Text: Public domain

366 IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
 From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
 “Peace on the earth, goodwill to all, From heav’n’s all-gracious king.”
 The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.
- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come With peaceful wings unfurled,
 And still their heav’nly music floats O’er all the weary world.
 Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hov’ring wing,
 And ever o’er its babel sounds The blessèd angels sing.
- 3 All you, beneath your heavy load, By care and guilt bent low,
 Who toil along a dreary way With painful steps and slow:
 Look up, for golden is the hour, Come swiftly on the wing,
 The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the angels sing.
- 4 For lo, the days have come to pass By prophets seen of old,
 When down into the circling years Came Christ as was foretold.
 His word of peace shall to the earth God’s ancient promise bring,
 And all who take this gift will hear The song the angels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–76, alt. Text: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 212

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

BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

388 GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

Refrain Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!

- 1 While shepherds kept their watching O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens There shone a holy light. **Refrain**
- 2 The shepherds feared and trembled When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior's birth. **Refrain**
- 3 Down in a lonely manger The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation That blessèd Christmas morn. **Refrain**

Text (sts. 1–3): John W. Work II, 1873–1925, alt.; (ref): African American spiritual Text: Public domain

POSTLUDE “Christmas Medley” (arr. Ellers)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

Invocation In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠ , and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Introit (found on front page)

Catechism Review (found on front page)

Meditation: Portals of Prayer, www.lhm.org/dailydevotions, Other

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday: Isaiah 49:1-18; Matthew 1:1-17

Monday: Isaiah 49:22-26; 50:4-51:8, 12-16; Matthew 1:18-25

Tuesday: Isaiah 51:17-52:12; Matthew 2:1-12

Wednesday: Isaiah 52:13-54:10; Matthew 2:13-23

Thursday: Isaiah 55:1-13; Luke 1:1-25

Friday: Isaiah 58:1-59:3, 14-21; Luke 1:26-38

Saturday: Isaiah 60:1-22; Luke 1:39-56

In Our Prayers This Week (as of Thursday morning)

Herb, health issues

Kathy, cancer

Diane, recovery

Jack, ongoing health issues

Lauren's mother, Phyllis

Shirley, health issues

Kent, recovery

Georgia, recovery

Jim, cancer

Tom, cancer

Aimee, healing and strength

Mike's mother - Jean, health issues Lauren, cancer

Sidney, granddaughter of Steinke's with medical issues

For the family of Ezra, a 3-month-old who died of SIDS

For those who mourn the evil in our world, that God's comfort and peace may point them to the hope of the resurrection.

For those with hearts where evil dwells, that God's kingdom would come and rule over their life.

For our nation, that God would bring about repentance through His Word that He may heal our land.

Our Savior Families: Judy, Amy & Family, Sean & Family, Denise, David & Tina

William, a child with leukemia

Mary, Jan's sister-in-law, cancer

Pierce, an infant with leukemia

Georgia, recovery

Margo, health issues

Duane, cancer

Blake

Dave, health issues

Jim, Parkinson's

Steve, Guillain-Barre Syndrome

Marlys

Hymn of the Week "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light" LSB 378

Collect (found on front page)

Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction