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Organist: Jean Loberger

## THE PRELUDE

## OPENING HYMN:

*Hark the Glad Sound*

**LSB#349**

1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come

prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a  
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His  
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es

throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.  
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

## THE INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## \*RESPONSIVE PSALM: *Psalm 72:1-7*

- P** <sup>1</sup>Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the royal son!  
**C** <sup>2</sup>May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice!  
**P** <sup>3</sup>Let the mountains bear prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness!  
**C** <sup>4</sup>May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the children of the needy, and crush the oppressor!  
**P** <sup>5</sup>May they fear you while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations!  
**C** <sup>6</sup>May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth!  
<sup>7</sup>In his days may the righteous flourish, and peace abound, till the moon be no more!

## \*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**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.**

**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.**

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray together.

**C** **Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Isaiah 11:1–10*

<sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. <sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. <sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins. <sup>6</sup>The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den. <sup>9</sup>They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup>In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

**EPISTLE READING:** *Romans 15:4–13*

<sup>4</sup>For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup>May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup>For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God’s truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, <sup>9</sup>and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.” <sup>10</sup>And again it is said, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.” <sup>11</sup>And again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him.” <sup>12</sup>And again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope.” <sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

*Mary’s Little Boy Child*

**OSB#141**

**1 Long time ago in Bethlehem,  
so the Holy Bible say  
Mary’s boy child, Jesus Christ  
Was born on Christmas day! (Refrain)**

***Hark! Now hear the angels sing:  
“New King’s born today  
And man will live for evermore  
Because of Christmas Day!”***

**2 While shepherds watched their flocks by  
night  
They saw a bright new shining star  
And heard a choir from heaven sing  
The music came from afar (Refrain)**

**4 By and by they found a little nook  
In a stable all forlorn.  
And in a manger cold and dark  
Mary’s little boy child was born**

**3 Now Joseph and his wife Mary  
Came to Bethlehem that night.  
They found no place to bear her Child,  
Not a single room was in sight.**

**Trumpets sound and angels sing,  
Listen to what they say!  
That man will live forevermore  
Because of Christmas Day!**

**\*HOLY GOSPEL:** *Matthew 3:1-12*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, <sup>2</sup>“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” <sup>3</sup>For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’” <sup>4</sup>Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>5</sup>Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan were going out to him, <sup>6</sup>and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>7</sup>But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. <sup>9</sup>And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We

have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>10</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>11</sup>"I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>12</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### **\*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.**

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

#### **SERMON HYMN**

*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

**LSB#344**

*\*\*Congregation please rise in singing verse 5*

**1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake and hearken, for he brings  
Glad tidings of the King of kings!**

**3 We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord,  
Our refuge and our great reward;**

**Without Thy grace we waste away  
Like flow'rs that wither and decay.**

**5 All praise, eternal Son, to Thee  
Whose advent sets Thy people free,  
Whom with the Father we adore  
And Holy Spirit evermore.**

### **SERMON**

*Come To My Heart Lord Jesus*

**OSB#35**

**1 Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown,  
When Thou camest to earth for me;  
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room  
For Thy holy nativity.**

*O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,  
There is room in my heart for Thee.*

### **OFFERING**

### **\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

## LORDS 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.

## \*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### COMMUNION HYMNS

#### *What Child Is This*

LSB#370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

#### *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

LSB#341



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates! Be - hold, the  
2 A righ - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot



King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing  
is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -



near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -  
ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of



va - tion He doth bring; There - fore re - joice and glad - ly sing.  
all our woe He brings; There - fore the earth is glad and sings.



To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.  
To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.

Continue singing next page

**3** How blest the land, the city blest,  
Where Christ the ruler is confessed!  
O peaceful hearts and happy homes  
To whom this King in triumph comes!  
The cloudless sun of joy is He  
Who comes to set His people free.  
To God the Spirit raise  
Your happy shouts of praise.

**4** Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
Make it a temple set apart  
From earthly use for heav'n's employ,  
Adorned with prayer and love and  
joy.  
So shall your Sov'reign enter in  
And new and nobler life begin.  
To God alone be praise  
For word and deed and grace!

**5** Redeemer, come and open wide  
My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide!  
O enter with Thy grace divine;  
Thy face of mercy on me shine.  
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on  
Until our glorious goal is won.  
Eternal praise and fame  
We offer to Thy name.

**CLOSING SONG:**

*What Child Is This*

*LSB#370*

**3** So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

**\*BENEDICTION**

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

**C** Amen.

