



1st Sunday after Christmas

December 29, 2024

Opening Hymn #136

Angels from the Realms of Glory

1. Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship,
Come and worship;
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

2. Shepherds in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the Infant Light:
Come and worship:
Come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

3. Sages, leave your contemplations;
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star:
Come and worship,
Come and worship;
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

4. Saints, before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His Temple shall appear:
Come and worship,
Come and worship;
Worship Christ, the new-born King.

Invocation

P We worship today in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C ♪ **Amen.**

Confession & Absolution

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C ♪ **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord

C ♪ **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sins.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P & C **O most merciful God, who has given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgiveth us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the sons of God and hath promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C ♪ **Amen.**

Gloria Patri

C ♪ **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

The Kyrie

C ♪ **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Gloria in Excelsis – (Hymn #238 v.1)

All glory be to God alone,
Forevermore the Highest One,
Who doth our sinful race befriend,
And grace and peace to us extend.
Among mankind may His good will
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.

The Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

The Collect for the Day

P Let us pray..... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C ♪ **Amen**

The First Lesson – Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

¹The Lord said to Moses, ²“Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.” ³Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the Lord brought you out from this place. . . .

¹¹“When the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, ¹²you shall set apart to the Lord all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the Lord’s. ¹³Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. ¹⁵For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the Lord killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the Lord all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’”

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 111

Antiphon – You turned my wailing into dancing; I will give You thanks forever.

1 Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,*

in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

2 Great are the works | of the LORD,*

studied by all who de- | light in them.

3 Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,*

and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

4 He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;*

the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

5 He provides food for those who | fear him;*

he remembers his covenant for- | ever.

6 He has shown his people the power | of his works,*

in giving them the inheritance of the | nations.

7 The works of his hands are faith- | ful and just;*

all his precepts are | trustworthy;

8 they are established forever and | ever,*

to be performed with faithfulness and up- | rightness.

9 He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.*

Holy and awesome | is his name!

10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.*

His praise endures for- | ever!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Antiphon – You turned my wailing into dancing; I will give You thanks forever.

The Second Lesson – Colossians 3:12-17

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in

word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Verse of the Day – Luke 2:30, 32

Alleluia. My eyes have seen your salvation; a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel. Alleluia.

The Gospel – Luke 2:22-40

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, ²⁹“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation ³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.” ³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.” ³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the

temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Confession of Faith ***Apostle's 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 Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day #105 ***Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men***

1. Praise God the Lord, ye sons of men,
Before His highest throne;
Today He opens heaven again
And gives us His own Son.
2. He leaves His heavenly Father's throne,
Is born an infant small,
And in a manger, poor and lone,
Lies in a humble stall.

3. He veils in flesh His power divine
A servant's form to take;
In want and lowliness must pine
Who heaven and earth did make.

4. He nestles at His mother's breast,
Receives her tender care,
Whom angels hail with joy most blest,
King David's royal heir.

5. 'Tis He who in these latter days
From Judah's tribe should come,
By whom the Father would upraise
The Church, His Christendom.

6. A wondrous change which He doth make!
He takes our flesh and blood,
And He conceals for sinners' sake
His majesty of God.

7. He serves that I a lord may be;
A great exchange indeed!
Could Jesus' love do more for me
To help me in my need?

8. He opens us again the door
Of Paradise today;
The angel guards the gate no more,
To God our thanks we pay.

Sermon Text – Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

Sermon

***The Firstborn Son of God Is Our Redemption
from Sin and Death***

Offertory

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer of the Church

(Congregation may remain seated)

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

P: Almighty God, You have chosen us from the foundation of the world to be Your people. Strengthen our hearts by Your grace and open our lips to sing Your praises, that Your Holy Word would dwell richly within us from generation to generation.

**1. Church of God, elect and glorious,
Holy nation, chosen race;
Called as God's own special people,
Royal priests and heirs of grace:**

P: Heavenly Father, grant Your blessing to the whole Church on earth, that Christ's people may set their hearts and minds on the things above and be clothed with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

**Know the purpose of your calling,
Show to all His mighty deeds;
Tell of love that knows no limits,
Grace that meets all human needs.**

P: Lover of mankind, bind our families together in perfect harmony and rule our hearts with the peace of Christ. Cause His Word to dwell richly among us, and let fathers and heads of the household teach and admonish their families in all wisdom. Let our songs, words and deeds be done in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, with thanksgiving.

**3. Once you were an alien people,
Strangers to God's heart of love;
But He brought you home in mercy,
Citizens of heav'n above.**

P: Merciful Lord, You wounded Your own Son to bring us the eternal healing of Your love. Bless all who suffer wounds of body and soul [*especially* _____ and *those we name before*

You in our hearts]. Grant them healing according to Your will, and sustain them unto the day of the resurrection of all flesh.

**Let His love flow out to others,
Let them feel a Father's care;
That they too may know His welcome
And His countless blessings share.**

P: Gracious Father, as blessed St. Anna waited in the temple for the consolation of Israel, give to Your people who await the second advent of our Savior endurance in our vocations, that we would do the good works You have prepared in advance for us to do.

**4. Church of God, elect and holy,
Be the people He intends;
Strong in faith and swift to answer
Each command your Master sends:**

P: O Lord, as blessed Mary treasured all things in her heart, grant us to know what is worthy of our attention and what will pass away.

**Royal priests, fulfill your calling
Through your sacrifice and prayer;
Give your lives in joyful service—
Sing His praise, His love declare.**

M: All these things we pray, O Lord, in confidence of Your mercy, trusting that You will grant us all things needful and prevent all things harmful to our faith, ***please stand*** for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

The 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.

The Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you,
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
C ♪ **Amen, Amen, Amen.**

Closing Hymn #137

In Peace and Joy I Now Depart

1. In peace and joy I now depart
At God's disposing;
For full of comfort is my heart,
Soft reposing.
So the Lord hath promised me,
And death is but a slumber.

2. 'Tis Christ that wrought this work for me,
My faithful Savior,
Whom Thou hast made mine eyes to see
By Thy favor.
Now I know He is my Life,
My Help in need and dying.

3. Him Thou hast unto all set forth
Their great Salvation
And to His kingdom called the earth,
Every nation,
By Thy dear and wholesome Word,
In every place resounding.

4. He is the Hope and saving Light
Of lands benighted;
By Him are they who dwelt in night
Fed and lighted.
He is Israel's Praise and Bliss,
Their Joy, Reward, and Glory.

Silent Prayer

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

Portions of the Liturgy from the Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book.

Prayer of the Church - Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns Ltd; admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission. Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014283. Hymn 646 vv 1, 3-4