



January 1, 2023

Second Sunday of Christmas

Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary*

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

♪ 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:

~O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,

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

♪ Highest, most holy, Light of Light eternal, Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;

Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing! ~O come,...

♪ Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation, Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God In the highest: ~O come,...

♪ Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning; Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!

Word of the Father Now in flesh appearing! ~O come,....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 379-Text & Tune: John F. Wade c.1711-86; tr. Frederick Oakeley 1802-80;
Setting: The Hymnal 1940; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Christ, our Savior, is born!

O come, let us adore Him!

When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

O come, let us adore Him!

Galatians 4:4-5

The law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

Galatians 3:24-26

O come, let us adore Him!

Confession and Absolution

As we begin a new year in God's grace, we acknowledge and repent of our sinfulness and failure to keep His Law. "Everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin." *John 8:34*

Lord, we confess to You our sins, those of which we know, and those of which we are unaware. We have not always viewed Your Law as a gift, but instead at times as a burden to obey. Though we desire to be free, we find ourselves enslaved and unable to help ourselves. Forgive us.

Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed.

Galatians 3:23

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 Law and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name.

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:1

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.

Amen.

The Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Eternal Father, strong to save, You gave Your Son the name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. You made Your Son subject to the Law to shed His blood on our behalf. Grant us circumcision of the heart by Your Spirit that we may be made pure and in faith rejoice in the freedom achieved through Christ for us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise *Please Be Seated*

“Once in Royal David’s City”

- ♪ Once in royal David’s city Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.
- ♪ He came down to earth from heaven, Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable, And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly Lived on earth our Savior holy.
- ♪ For He is our childhood’s pattern, Day by day like us He grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless, Tears and smiles like us He knew;
And He feels for all our sadness, And He shares in all our gladness.
- ♪ And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own redeeming love;
For that child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heav’n above;
And He leads His children on To the place where He is gone.
- ♪ Not in that poor, lowly stable With the oxen standing by
Shall we see Him, but in heaven, Set at God’s right hand on high.
Then like stars His children, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 376-Text: Cecil F. Alexander 1818-95; Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett 1805-76;
Setting: Arthur H. Mann 1850-1929; ©1957 Novello & Company Limited, London;
Used by permission; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Old Testament Reading

Numbers 6:22–27

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²³“Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,

²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

²⁷“So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

Galatians 3:23–29

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

- ♪ 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 newborn King.
- ♪ Shepherds in the field abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the Infant Light. ~Come...
- ♪ Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations, Ye have seen His natal star. ~Come...
- ♪ Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending, In His temple shall appear. ~Come...

Please Stand

- ♪ All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising To the eternal Three in One. ~Come....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 367-Text: James Montgomery 1771-1854, vv.1-4; Salisbury Hymn Book 1857, v.5
Tune: Henry T. Smart 1813-79, setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:21–38

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

Children’s Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn

“What Child Is This”

- ♪ What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mary!
- ♪ Why lies He in such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!
- ♪ 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!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 370-Text: William C. Dix 1837-98; Tune: English 16th cent.;
Setting: John Stainer 1840-1901; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Proclamation of the Word

“The Hand that Blesses Us”

Numbers 6:22–27

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand*

Each petition is concluded with the following:

In Christ alone,

We praise You, Lord.

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Colossians 3:1

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Psalm 136

Proper Preface

Sanctus Hymn *Music: "Away in a Manger," Hymn 364*

♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord God, Almighty. The earth and the heavens all magnify Thee.
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest praise, O blessed is He that comes in Your great name.

Words of Our Lord

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei Hymn *Music: "Away in a Manger," Hymn 364*

♪ O Jesus, our Savior, the true Lamb of God; Forgiveness in Your name, have mercy on us.
O Jesus, our Savior, the true Lamb of God, Give peace to Your people, have mercy on us.

Distribution Hymns *Please Be Seated* "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

♪ 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.

♪ 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.

♪ 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.

♪ 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.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 366-Text: Edmund H. Sears 1810-76;
Tune: Richard S. Willis 1819-1900; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

♪ O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:

♪ Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.

♪ Before the hills in order stood Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same.

♪ A thousand ages in Thy sight Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.

♪ Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.

♪ O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 733-Text: Isaac Watts 1674-1748; Tune: William Croft 1678-1727;
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

Dismissal

Benediction

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.

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

Recessional Hymn

“In Christ Alone”

♪ In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

♪ In Christ alone, who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones he came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;
For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

♪ There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine— Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

♪ No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath. Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home — Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

*In Christ Alone-Text & Tune: Keith Getty and Stuart Townend; Copyright © 2001 Thankyou Music
Adm. by worshiptogether.com songs; Christian Copyright License International #1217384*

Postlude