

Order of Worship Bulletin



The Nativity of Our Lord

12/25/2022

8:30am & 10:30am

Shepherd of the Woods Lutheran Church and School

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Worship Services

Saturday at 5:30pm

Sunday at 8:30am & 10:30am

Prelude

Musicians

Welcome, Announcements, Greeting

Call to Worship

Jesus, Messiah

Gathering Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Green Hymnal # 60

Confession and Forgiveness *(please be seated or kneel as you are able)*

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

C. Amen.

P. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your Holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Amen

P. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P. Most merciful God,

C. we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C. Amen**

The Apostolic Greeting *(please rise)*

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. And also with you.

Prayer of the Day: *Almighty God, grant that the new birth of your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set free all who are held in servitude under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

First Lesson: Isaiah 52:7-10

The word which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. 2 It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, 3 and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 4 He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. 5 O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Psalm 2 (read responsively, **congregation reads the bold verses**)

P. Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?

C. The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying,

P. "Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us."

C. He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision.

P. Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying,

C. "As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill."

P. I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

C. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

P. You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

C. Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.

P. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

C. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-6

In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. 3 He reflects the glory of God and bears the very stamp of his nature, upholding the universe by his word of power. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, 4 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has obtained is more excellent than theirs. 5 For to what angel did God ever say, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? 6 And again, when he brings the first-born into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

The Gospel Verse (please rise)

Al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words
of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

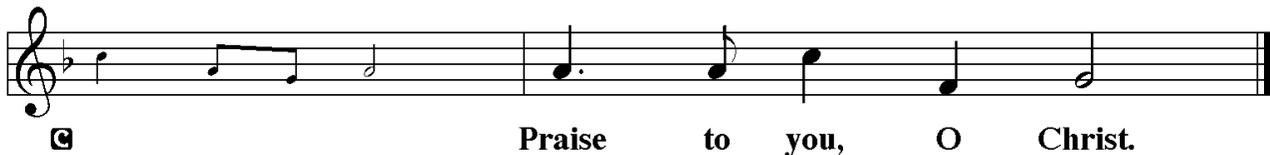
The Holy Gospel: John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. 9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. 14 And 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.

P. The Gospel of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.



The Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Love Has Come

Red Hymnal # 256

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

The Prayers of the People

A. Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Please be seated or kneel as you are able.

(The congregation's response to the petition, "Lord in your mercy," is "**Hear our prayer.**")

Sharing of the Peace (wave to one another!)

The offering will be received as you leave worship tonight. The offering plates are located in front of the baptismal font at the entrance to the sanctuary where you can place your donations and yellow connect/sign-in insert. Thank you for your stewardship and support of the mission!

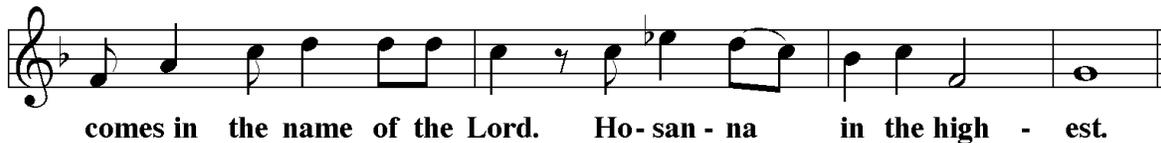
Preparation of the Elements for Holy Communion

The Offertory Prayer

- A. Let us pray, Merciful Father,
- C. **We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Great Thanksgiving

- 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 indeed right and salutary... we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:



The Consecration of the Elements for Communion

- P. In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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, for ever and ever. Amen

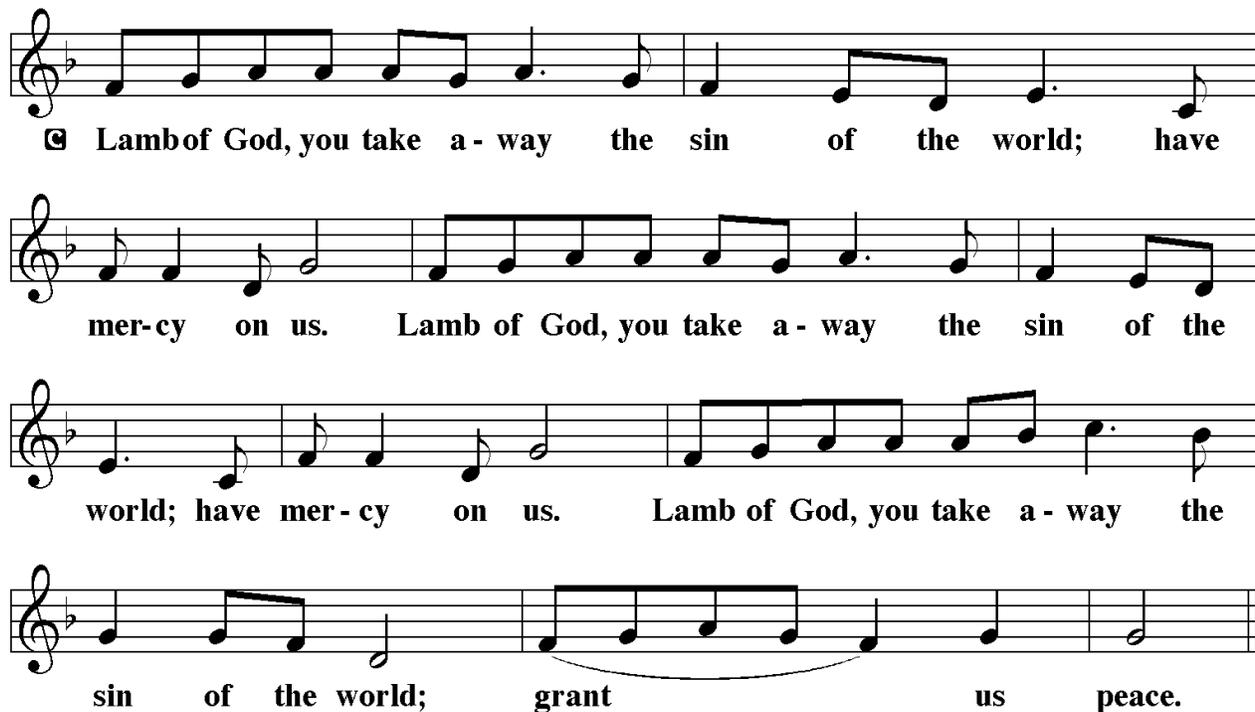
Communion Distribution

At the direction of the ushers, we invite all who recognize the body and blood of Christ and seek forgiveness in His name, to receive communion today. You are invited to kneel or stand at the altar or you may receive in your pew by letting an usher know.

As is our custom, both the common cup for intinction and individual glasses are made available. If you wish to intinct from the chalice, please hold on to the host after you receive it and dip it carefully in the chalice. The center glasses in each tray contain grape juice. If you would like a gluten-free host, please indicate this to the Pastor.

Children who do not yet receive communion are invited to come to the altar to receive a blessing indicating that desire by crossing their arms over their chests.

Lamb of God



☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Green Hymnal # 54

Dismissal from Communion (please rise)

P. May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C. Amen.



Post-Communion Canticle



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer after Communion

A. Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive Him always with thanksgiving and to conform our lives to His; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Prayer

P. Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Benediction

P. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless us now and forever.

C. Amen.

Sending Hymn

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Green Hymnal # 70

The Dismissal to Serve

A. "Go in peace, Serve the Lord!"

C. "Thanks be to God!"

Postlude

Musicians

Next Sunday's readings: *Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Romans 6:1-11; Matthew 3 13-17*
Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License number is: 26566