

The Son of God born of Mary

Our Savior

The Prince of Peace has come!

Christmas Day

2022

CHRISTMAS DAY 2022

WELCOME

THE OPENING HYMN "Joy to the World"

CW, # 353



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

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THE INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

P: To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord.

C: Oh, come, let us adore him!

P: Brothers and sisters, you have received God's Christmas gift. Rejoice and be glad! We are forgiven! God through Jesus Christ assures us of forgiveness of sins and eternal life. The Lord does not hold our sins against us but has washed them away with the blood of Christ. Let us live in joy and thankfulness! Amen!

SCRIPTURE READING: John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail, the heav'n - ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness!



peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see, hail th' in - car - nate De - i - ty!
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,



with th' an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!
 born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.

Refrain



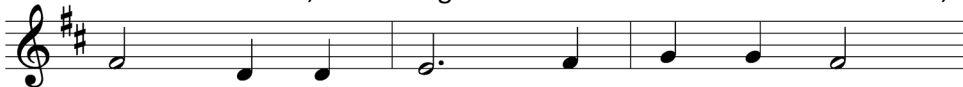
Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

Text and tune: Public domain

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

SCRIPTURE READING: Galatians 4:4-7

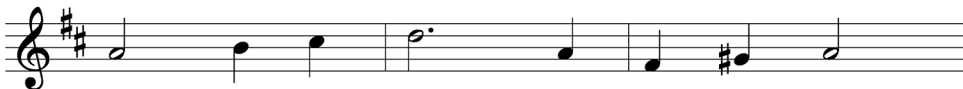
But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.



1 O Je - sus Christ, your man - ger is
 2 He whom the sea and wind o - bey
 3 Dear Chris - tian friend, on him de - pend;
 4 Pon - der a - gain what glo - ry then
 5 The world may hold her wealth and gold;



my par - a - dise at which I am re - clin - ing.
 comes down to serve the sin - ner in great meek - ness.
 be of good cheer and let no sor - row move you.
 the Lord will give you for your earth - ly sad - ness.
 but you, my heart, keep Christ as your true trea - sure.



For there, O Lord, we find the Word
 Now God's own Son with us is one
 For God's own Child in mer - cy mild
 The an - gel host can nev - er boast
 To him hold fast un - til at last



made flesh for us— your grace is bright - ly shin - ing.
 and joins us and our chil - dren in our weak - ness.
 joins you to him— how great - ly God must love you!
 of great - er glo - ry, great - er bliss or glad - ness.
 a crown is yours and hon - or in full mea - sure.

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SERMON TEXT – Colossian 2:9-10

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority.

Sermon Theme: NOW THAT GOD IS ONE OF US

1. The sharing of characteristics
2. The sharing of God's majesty
3. The sharing of actions

HYMN "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

CW21, #358



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed when the vir - gin,
 3 This is he whom seers and sa - ges sang of old with
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him, an - gel hosts his
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing, pow'rs, do - min - ions bow be - fore him
 Ghost, to thee hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he,
 bore the Sav - ior of our race,
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word.
 and ex - tol our God and King.
 and un - end - ing prais - es be,



of the things that are, that have been,
 and the babe, the world's Re - deem - er,
 Now he shines, the long - ex - spect - ed;
 Let no tongue on earth be si - lent,
 hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion



and that fu - ture years shall see ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 first re - vealed his sa - cred face ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 let cre - a - tion praise its Lord ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH – from the Athanasian Creed

**We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son,
is both God and man.**

**He is God, eternally begotten from the nature of the Father,
and He is man, born in time from the nature of His mother,
fully God, fully man, with rational soul and human flesh,
equal to the Father as to His deity,
less than the Father as to His humanity;**

**And though He is both God and man,
Christ is not two persons but one,
one, not by changing the deity into flesh,
but by taking the humanity into God;
one indeed, not by mixture of the natures,
but by unity in one person;**

**For just as the rational soul and flesh are one human being,
so God and man are one Christ.**

**He suffered for our salvation,
descended into hell,
rose the third day from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty,
and from there will come to judge the living and the dead.**

This is the true Christian faith.

THE OFFERING

(The members Our Savior have joined together to spread God's message both in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. You're our guests - we thank you for joining us to worship God today! During the offering, please sign the Friendship register located on the inside aisle of your pew.)

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Eternal Father, we give You thanks and praise on this holy day for sending Your one and only Son to share our humanity, to carry our guilt, and to become for us the perfect Lamb who takes away the sin of the world.

C: **O Lord, we adore You.**

P: Keep our faith in Your Son alive and strong. Nourish us with Your Word and Sacrament and, by Your Holy Spirit, give us strength to overcome Satan's power and pride. Help us to withstand the temptations the world and our sinful nature put in our path.

C: O Lord, give us courage.

P: Remember ministers of the gospel throughout the world who on this day are proclaiming that a Savior has been born. We especially commend to Your care the missionaries we have called as members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Since they cannot enjoy the fellowship of their extended families this Christmas, we pray that You would give them the inner joy that comes with service in Your kingdom.

C: Protect all those who proclaim the gospel in our place.

P: We pray for our country, for our state, for our city, for its neighborhoods and suburbs, and for all who live and work and find delight here in our community. Grant to the leaders of our government wisdom, courage, honesty and a spirit of unity as they address the serious challenges facing our country. Thwart the evil that various institutions promote in our culture. Protect our military personnel all around the world. According to Your will continue to help our economy that we may enjoy blessings from which to bring You our first and best offerings.

C: Govern and prosper Your people.

P: As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, including those who are less fortunate than we. Give us hearts that truly care for people who are in need. Bring Your healing to those who are sick or diseased in body or mind. We especially pray for brothers and sisters who are setting aside their celebration today to care for the sick, to feed the bedridden, and to stand at the side of the dying.

C: Sustain those who endure the troubles of life.

P: Be a source of strength to the members of this congregation. Give us wisdom as we carry out our various ministries and the courage to get done what we plan to do. Comfort those who have lost a loved one during the past year, support those who are troubled, and be with those who are spending Christmas alone. Bless us in Your own good time with a full time pastor to shepherd Your flock here.

C: Let Your peace reign in the hearts of all.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring You our private petitions.

Silent Prayer

P: As You sent Your Son to bring peace to all people on earth, so we pray for all people, those known and those unknown to us.

C: Hear us, O Lord, for the sake of Him who is the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

THE READING OF THE CHRISTMAS ACCOUNT—Luke 2:1-20

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

THE BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN: "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come" #331 (Verses 1-3, 14-15)



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come to bear good
2 "To you this night is born a child of Mar - y,
3 "This is the Christ, our God most high, who hears your
14 My heart for ver - y joy must leap; my lips no
15 Glo - ry to God in high - est heav'n, who un - to



news to ev - 'ry home; glad ti - dings of great
cho - sen vir - gin mild; this lit - tle child of
sad and bit - ter cry; he will him - self your
more can si - lence keep. I too must sing with
us his Son has giv'n, while an - gels sing with



joy I bring, where - of I now will say and sing:
low - ly birth shall be the joy of all the earth.
Sav - ior be from all your sins to set you free.
joy - ful tongue that sweet - est an - cient cra - dle song:
pi - ous mirth a glad new year to all the earth!

Text and tune: Public domain

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE POSTLUDE

Preacher: Pastor Charles Papenfuss

Organist: Bob Klug

A Long List of Thank-You's!

- ❖ Thanks to all who assisted in decorating of the Christmas tree & the sanctuary.
- ❖ Thanks to all who have faithfully cleaned the church these past months.
- ❖ Thanks to the Altar Guild for preparing for our services.
- ❖ Thanks to our ushers for assisting with our public ministry.
- ❖ Thanks to our Sunday School teachers for their steady preparation and presentation of the Word.
- ❖ Thanks to our organists and soloists for their part in our Advent worship.
- ❖ Thanks to anyone else we've missed...you see it takes so many to keep our ministry alive and vibrant, but it is greatly needed and appreciated.

Thank You! The pastor, pastoral assistant, faculty, and their families wish to thank the members of Our Savior's for all the Christmas cards and gifts received during this festive season. Your expressions of love and gratitude for our ministry are genuinely appreciated. God bless you for your care and concern for us.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP AT OUR SAVIOR

NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP

Saturday, December 31st

6:00 pm Worship Service with Holy Communion

NEW YEAR'S DAY WORSHIP

Sunday, January 1st

9:30 am Worship

No Bible Study or Sunday School



OUR SAVIOR EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

(Wisconsin Synod)

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