



**Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church & School
Grafton, WI
December 25, 2024**

Christmas Day

Today's Focus: This Christmas, celebrate the greatest gift ever given. God sent his Son to heal what is wounded, forgive what is broken, and bring light to a darkened world. The child born that night gave his life for you and rose again to make you right with God.

Stewardship from God's Word: Romans 8:31,32

Christmas means that your greatest need has been met—a Savior from sin. The God who gave you his greatest Gift will certainly also see to it that you have every lesser thing you need. That is the Christian's daily confidence and, in that confidence, we have the power to use all we are and have to his glory.

Welcome!

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding:
Organist

Jonathan Fischer
Bob Klug

Pastor: Jonathan Fischer
Principal: Philip Krueger
Church Office: Lisa Skogstad
School Office: Jill Klug

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The 10:30 service is livestreamed for our members at home.



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OurSaviorGrafton.org
Church 262-377-6363
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O Come, All Ye Faithful

CW 354



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 God from true God, and Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come_ ye to Beth - le - hem!
born of a vir - gin, to earth he comes!
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove!
Je - sus, to thee_ be all glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels:
On - ly - be - got - ten Son of God the Fa - ther:
Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

Stand

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

Amen.

Dialogue

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.

He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.
Our eyes have seen his salvation, which he prepared in the sight of all nations.

The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord,
and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

Being in very nature God, he did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Though he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor, so that we through his poverty might become rich.

God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

CW 350 sts. 1, 3



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

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Exodus 33:18–23; 34:5–7

¹⁸Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

¹⁹And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ²⁰But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

²¹Then the LORD said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock.

²²When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”

⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. ⁶And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

98E Sing a New Song to the LORD

Psalm 98E



1 Sing a new song to the LORD, he to whom won-ders be-
2 Now to the ends of the earth, see, his sal - va - tion is
3 Sing a new song and re - joi-ce! Pub - lish his prais - es a -
4 Join with the hills and the sea thun - ders of praise to pro-



long! Re - joi-ce _____ in his tri - umph and tell _____ of his
shown, and still _____ he re - mem - bers his mer - cy and_
broad! Let voic - es in _____ cho - rus, with trum - pet and_
long! In judg - ment and _____ jus - tice he comes _____ to the



pow'r! O sing to the LORD a new song!
truth, un - chang - ing in love to his own.
horn, re - sound for the joy of the LORD!
earth. O sing to the LORD a new song!

Second Reading

Romans 8:31-32

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Galatians 4:4,5

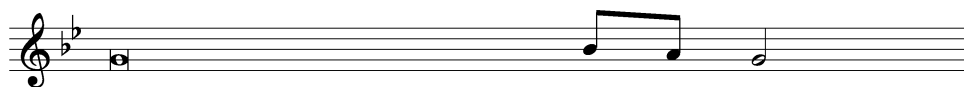


Refrain

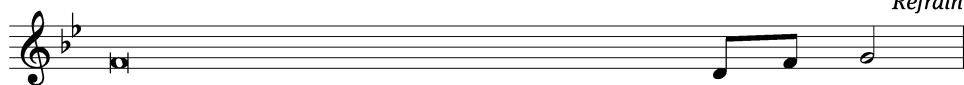


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son,



born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those un - der the law.

Gospel

John 1:1-18

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹²Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— ¹³children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The 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.

¹⁵(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.’ ”)
¹⁶Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Of the Father's Love Begotten

CW 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.

Sermon

Stand

Athanasian Creed (part 2)

It is necessary for eternal salvation that one faithfully believe that our Lord Jesus Christ also took on human flesh. Now this is the true Christian faith:

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.

At his coming all people will rise with their own bodies to answer for their personal deeds.
Those who have done good will enter eternal life, but those who have done evil will go into eternal fire.

This is the true Christian faith.
Whoever does not faithfully and firmly believe this cannot be saved.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

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

Lord, we praise you.

Keep our faith in your Son alive and strong. Nourish us with your Word and sacraments and by your Holy Spirit give us strength to overcome Satan's power and empty promises. Help us to withstand the temptations the world and our sinful nature put on our path.

Give us faith and courage.

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 Synod. Since they cannot enjoy the fellowship of their extended families this Christmas, grant to them the inner joy that comes with service in your kingdom.

Protect all those who proclaim the gospel in our place.

We pray for our city and countryside, for our neighborhoods and subdivisions, and for all who live and work and find delight here. Give to the leaders of government wisdom to make and uphold laws that promote the good of society. Grant our nation peace, health, and prosperity that we may have the opportunity and resources to spread the good news to all people.

Govern and prosper your people.

Fill us with kindness and arouse us to do good to all people, especially those who are less fortunate than we. Bring your healing to those who are sick or diseased in body or mind and comfort those who are mourning the death of someone they love. [Keep in your care...*here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] We especially pray for brothers and sisters who are setting aside their celebration today to care for the sick and stand at the side of the dying.

Sustain those who endure the troubles of life.

Be a source of strength to all your people and fill them with your power and peace. If any are among us today who have lost the true meaning of this festival, let them rediscover the joy that comes from Christ alone.

Let your peace reign in the hearts of all.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.


Silent prayer

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.

We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offering

Our Savior's ministries are supported by the joyful and generous gifts of her members. If you are not a member of Our Savior, please do not feel obligated to give an offering. It is our privilege and pleasure to serve you with God's Word today. You may make your gift in the following ways:

Give In person	The offering is collected during each service.
Give with the App	Download the <i>Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement</i> app. Search near me and select "Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran".
Give Online	Oursaviorgraffton.org/give 

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

CW 183

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whose wonderful and mysterious birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

CW 339



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing



stall; ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the
new saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, ti - dings

child is Lord of all. Swift-ly wing - ing an - gels
of a gos - pel true. Thus re - joic - ing, free from

sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, ti - dings bring - ing: Christ the
sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row: Christ the

child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.
By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

Amen.

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.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my \dagger body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my \dagger blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild

CW 540 sts. 1-2



1 O Je - sus so sweet, O Je - sus so mild, for
2 O Je - sus so sweet, O Je - sus so mild, with



sin - ners you be - came a child. You came from
God we now are rec - on - ciled. You have for



heav - en to ful - fill your Fa - ther's just and
all the ran - som paid, your Fa - ther's right - eous



ho - ly will, O Je - sus so sweet, O Je - sus so mild.
 an - ger stayed, O Je - sus so sweet, O Je - sus so mild.

Be seated

Distribution

Out of sincere love for the truth of God's Word and precious souls, we practice closed Communion in our congregation. This has been the practice of Christians for centuries and is thoroughly scriptural. It neither questions the faith nor judges the heart of any individual, yet expects that there be full doctrinal agreement among those who commune. For this reason, we ask that only members of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) join us for the Lord's Supper today. If you have any questions please speak with Pastor Fischer after the service.

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

CW 331



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
 4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow pre - pared by



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
 God for all be - low, that in his king - dom,



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.
 bright and fair, you may with us his glo - ry share.

- 5 “These are the signs which you shall mark:
the swaddling clothes and manger dark.
There you will find the infant laid
by whom the heav’ns and earth were made.”
- 6 How glad we’ll be to find it so!
Then with the shepherds let us go
to see what God for us has done
in sending us his own dear Son.
- 7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,
and see what in the manger lies.
Who is this child, so young and fair?
It is the Christ Child lying there.
- 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,
through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery,
that you might share your joy with me.
- 9 Ah, Lord, though you created all,
how weak you are, so poor and small,
that you should choose to lay your head
where lowly cattle lately fed!
- 10 Were earth a thousand times as fair
and set with gold and jewels rare,
it would be far too poor and small
a cradle for the Lord of all.
- 11 Instead of soft and silken stuff
you have but hay and straw so rough
on which as king, so rich and great,
to be enthroned in royal state.

- 12 And so it pleases you to see
this simple truth revealed to me:
that worldly honor, wealth, and might
are weak and worthless in your sight.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
prepare a bed, soft, undefiled
within my heart, made clean and new,
a quiet chamber kept for you.
- 14 My heart for very joy must leap;
my lips no more can silence keep.
I too must sing with joyful tongue
that sweetest ancient cradle song:
- 15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,
who unto us his Son has giv'n,
while angels sing with pious mirth
a glad new year to all the earth!

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

CW 363 sts. 1-2, 4



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, now raise to heav'n our voice;
2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to thee.
4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly ground,



he from whom joy stream - eth poor in a man - ger lies;
Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O pure and ho - ly Child;
where the an - gels sing - ing with all his saints u - nite,



not so bright - ly beam - eth the sun in yon - der skies.
thro' thy grace and mer - it, blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
sweet - est prais - es bring - ing in heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!
draw me un - to thee! Draw me un - to thee!
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

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