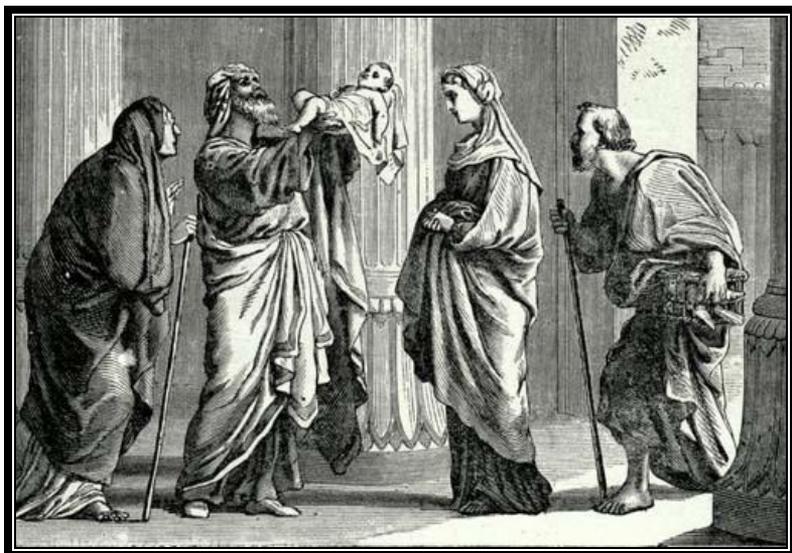


ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH DIVINE SERVICE



The First Sunday after Christmas
27/28 December 2020

The Seed of David Comes to His Temple: A Rod has come forth from the stem of Jesse (Is. 11:1–5)—the Seed of David whose kingdom shall be established forever (2 Sam. 7:1–16). In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son Jesus to redeem us from the judgment of the Law (Gal. 4:1–7). Now He is presented in the temple in fulfillment of the Law and revealed to be “*a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel*” (Luke 2:22–40). Christ has enlightened us in baptism, giving us to be adopted as sons of God and heirs of eternal life. Receiving the Holy Sacrament of His body and blood, we are prepared to depart this world in peace, for our eyes have seen the salvation of God in Him.

The Divine Service

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.
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 You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Ps. 93:1, 3–4; antiphon: Ps. 93:5, 2



Your decrees are very | trustworthy;*
holiness befits your house, O LORD, for- | evermore.

Your throne is established | from of old;*
you are from ever- | lasting.

The LORD reigns; he is robed in | majesty;*
the LORD is robed; he has put on strength | as his belt.

Yes, the world is es- | tablished;*
it shall nev- | er be moved.

The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have
lifted | up their voice;*
the floods lift up their | roaring.

**Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the
waves | of the sea,***

the LORD on high is | mighty!

**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.**

Your decrees are very | trustworthy;*
holiness befits your house, O LORD, for- | evermore.

Your throne is established | from of old;*
you are from ever- | lasting.

Kyrie



☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

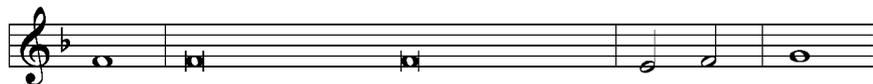


on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis



☐ Glory be to God on high: **♩** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1-5

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 45:2a, 1b

You are the most handsome of the | sons of men;*
grace is poured up- | on your lips.
I address my verses | to the king;*
my tongue is like the pen of a | ready scribe.

Epistle Reading

Galatians 4:1-7

I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. But 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. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

Ps. 93:1



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

The Lord reigns; he is robed in | majesty;*

the Lord is robed; he has put on strength | as his belt.

Holy Gospel Reading

Luke 2:22-40

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

And 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 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” Now 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. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. And 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, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for

glory to your people Israel.” And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. And 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 (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.” And 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, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And 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. And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

389 Let All Together Praise Our God



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our
5 He is a ser - vant, I a lord: How great a



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His
mys - ter - y! How strong the ten - der Christ Child's love! No



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.
tru - er friend than He, No tru - er friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door
To blessèd paradise;
The angel bars the way no more.
To God our praises rise,
To God our praises rise.

7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield
And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament



P The Lord be with you.



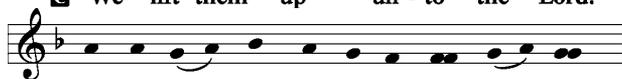
C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing you in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



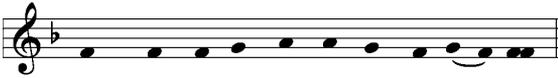
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”
- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



G A - men.

Agnus Dei



G O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

The Distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ

A Prayer before receiving the Sacrament

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A Prayer after receiving the Sacrament

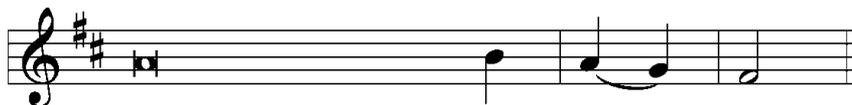
Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the Holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal, through Jesus Christ, My Lord. Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. 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.

Thanksgiving

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

A Let us pray. O God The Father, ... now and forever.



C A - men.

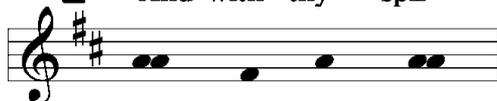
Salutation and Benedicamus



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Announcements for the First Sunday after Christmas

Pastor Ball and family – are at his mother's in Michigan this week. If there are any pastoral care needs, please contact Pastor Gleason.

Looking forward to the Epiphany of Our Lord – January 6th. There will be Divine Services at 8:20am and 7:00pm. Please sign up online or on the forms in the narthex.

Bible Class – Our Wednesday Evening Bible Class will resume on Wednesday, January 13, 2021. We will be studying the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. The class will be live in the Church or on Zoom.

2021 Offering Envelopes – The Offering Envelopes for 2021 can be picked up in the church basement. Do not use the envelopes until January 1, 2021. If you did not use offering envelopes this past year, one was not assigned to you, if you did not get an envelope box and would like to have one, please contact the church office. Thank you – Finance Committee

Food Pantry – Many thanks to all of you who donated food and gifts of money to the Pantry in November. We were able to use everything! In November the Pantry served 56 families, 10 of them being new. This represented 110 adults and 53 children. At present the pantry can use anything, but is low on canned fruit, coffee, pancake mix/syrup, ketchup/mustard, sugar, flour, cooking oil, hamburger helper, salad dressing, tuna, cake mix/frosting, instant potatoes, baked beans, and toilet paper. Thank you again for your ongoing support!

Metro-East Lutheran High School – is now accepting applications for the 21/22 school year. Any new students (freshmen or transfer) interested in seeking enrollment at Lutheran High School please go to the school website at www.melhs.org and download the admission and enrollment packet or contact the school office at 618-656-0043. If you have additional questions, please contact Dr. Jay Krause, Principal, or email him at jay.krause@melhs.org. Come be a part of this dynamic ministry in the future.

Luke 2:39 – “**And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord...**” The Law of God is good. Of course, it always shows us our sins, but that is good, too! We need to be driven back to the forgiveness of Christ. And the Law also shows us the truly blessed way to live. As Mary and Joseph found their joy in a godly life, so should we see the Law as a guide for Christian living and the roadmap for saying thank you to the Lord for all His grace and mercy to us.

Just a reminder when you do come to church – As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, it is vital that you think of your neighbor as you come. If you have any symptoms at all, please refrain from coming. Stay home, follow the guidelines, consult your physician, etc. It is better to err on the side of caution. May our Lord grant us all health and strength in these days.

IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- For the spread of the Holy Gospel
- For the Holy Church throughout the World, For our Synod
- For our country, that we might be at peace and live in harmony
- For our families as we seek to live together in holy love and peace
- For those who live alone
- For all doctors, nurses and medical personnel
- For first responders in our communities
- For the sick, the suffering, the dying of Covid-19

Healing and Comfort for: ***SONYA WOODS***, recovering from surgery; ***BETTY STEINMANN***, hospitalized; ***LYNN STEINMANN***, hospitalized; ***LILLIAN SCHMIDT***, recovering from COVID; ***MILLY HALTERMAN***, Dave Huckleberry’s grandmother, diagnosed with stage 4 lung cancer and pneumonia; ***RICKEY MILLER***, Alhambra Rehab & Healthcare; ***DORENE LANE***, friend of Dave DeVries, spiritual and health issues; ***STEVE SCHWEIZER***, brother of Julie Johnson, cancer diagnosis; ***KEITH QUADE***, son-in-law of Dave DeVries, recovering from COVID and health issues with mold; ***NORMAN MICNHEIMER***, Neil’s father, health issues; ***TIM DILLON***, grandson of Dave DeVries, severe headaches from falls; ***EMILY KIEHL***, niece of Cindy Gleason, vision problems; ***BARBARALYNN DEVRIES***, niece of Dave DeVries, rehab for leg amputation and health issues; ***MARY GRAFF***, friend of Dave DeVries, cancer treatments; ***KIM TOBIN***, niece of Dave DeVries, drug issues; ***TOMIKO JUEDEMANN***, mother of Linda Behrhorst, cancer treatments; ***DALE GROTEFENDT***, friend of Paula Kipp, brain cancer; ***KAY GROTEFENDT***, friend of Paula Kipp, radiation treatments; ***THOMAS SEXTON***, grandchild of Keith and Judy (Sievers) Loemker, health issues; ***TINA THORLEY***, former St. Paul member and student, health issues; ***STRENGTH FOR ALL PREGNANT MOTHERS***



Issues, Etc.

Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio

Talk Radio and Podcasts for the Christmas Season

December 23-January 1

Early Church Fathers on the Birth of Christ

Rev. Will Weedon of “The Word of the Lord Endures Forever”

The Birth of Jesus Foretold in Micah

Dr. Jason Soenksen of Concordia University Wisconsin

Holiday Depression

Dr. Beverly Yahnke of Doxology

The New Year Hymn “Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year”

Dr. Arthur Just of Concordia Theological Seminary

The Top Religion Stories of 2020

Terry Mattingly of GetReligion

Listen at www.issuesetc.org



**LUTHERAN
PUBLIC RADIO**

Sacred Music for the Christmas Season

Christmas music returns Christmas Eve

at WWW.LUTHERANPUBLICRADIO.ORG