



The Nativity of Our Lord

Christmas Day

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

OLNEY, MARYLAND

DECEMBER 25, 2025 | 10:30 AM

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Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
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Welcome

Prelude

Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Exhortation

LSB 151

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **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 on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

Absolution

LSB 151

- P** 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.
C **Amen.**



1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known The kind-ness of the Lord,
 2 What Ad-am lost, none could re - claim, And Par-a - dise was barred
 3 He came to that which was His own, But He was not re-ceived;
 4 Lord Je-sus Christ, You deigned to dwell A - mong us here on earth



E - ter - nal Word made flesh and bone So we could be re - stored.
 Un - til the sec - ond Ad - am came To mend what sin had marred.
 Yet still through Him God's glo - ry shone, And some His name be - lieved.
 As God with us, Em - man - u - el, To bring this ho - ly birth.



Up - on our frail hu - man-i - ty God's fin - ger chose to trace
 For when the time was full and right God sent His on - ly Son;
 To these He gave the right to be The heirs of heav'n a - bove,
 Though rich, You will - ing - ly be - came One with our pov - er - ty,



The full-ness of His de - i - ty, The i - con of His grace.
 He came to us as life and light And our re - demp-tion won.
 Born not of hu - man an - ces - try But born of God in love.
 That we might share Your wealth and name For all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: English; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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Tune: Public domain

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
 and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
**and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
 Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!
 His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

**The LORD has made known his salvation;
 he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
 and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
 and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
 Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Kyrie

LSB 186

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

Gloria in Excelsis

Angels We Have Heard on High

LSB 368

1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.
Refrain
 Glo - - - - - ri - a



Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.
Text and tune: French
Text and tune: Public domain

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

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

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7–10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

⁸The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

¹Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
²**The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD and against his anointed, saying,**
³“Let us burst their bonds apart
and cast away their cords from us.”
⁴**He who sits in the heavens laughs;
the Lord holds them in derision.**
⁵Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
and terrify them in his fury, saying,
⁶**“As for me, I have set my King
on Zion, my holy hill.”**
⁷I will tell of the decree:
The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have begotten you.
⁸**Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.**
⁹You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”
¹⁰**Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.**
¹¹Serve the LORD with fear,
and rejoice with trembling.
¹²**Kiss the Son,
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.**
Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be to him a father,
and he shall be to me a son”?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

Let Our Gladness Have No End

LSB 381

1 Let our gladness have no end, al - le - lu - ia!
2 Proph - e - sied in days of old, al - le - lu - ia!

For to earth did Christ de - scend, al - le - lu - ia!
God has sent Him as fore - told, al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain
On this day God gave us Christ, His Son, to save

us; Christ, His Son, to save us.

Text (sts. 1, ref): tr. unknown, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Vincent Pisek, 1859–1930
Text and tune: Bohemian, 15th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

Holy Gospel

John 1:1–18

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In

him was life, and the life was the light of men. 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 bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And 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.

¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") ¹⁶And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

See amid the Winter's Snow

LSB 373



1 See a - mid the win - ter's snow, Born for us on earth be - low,
2 Lo, with - in a sta - ble lies He who built the star - ry skies,
3 Sa - cred In - fant, all di - vine, What a ten - der love was Thine,
4 Teach, O teach us, ho - ly Child, By Thy face so meek and mild,



See, the gen - tle Lamb ap - pears, Prom - ised from e - ter - nal years.
He who, throned in height sub - lime, Sits a - mid the cher - u - bim.
Thus to come from high - est bliss Down to such a world as this!
Teach us to re - sem - ble Thee In Thy sweet hu - mil - i - ty.



Hail, O ev - er - bless - ed morn! Hail, re - demp - tion's hap - py dawn!



Sing through all Je - ru - sa-lem: "Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!"

Pastor Timothy Boerger

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

**☩ 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.**

Sit



1 Where shep-herds late - ly knelt and kept the an - gel's word,
 2 In that un - like - ly place I find Him as they said:
 3 How should I not have known I - sa - iah would be there,
 4 Can I, will I for - get how Love was born, and burned



I come in half - be - lief, a pil - grim strange - ly stirred;
 Sweet new - born babe, how frail! And in a man - ger bed:
 His proph - e - cies ful - filled? With pound - ing heart I stare:
 Its way in - to my heart— un - asked, un - forced, un - earned,



But there is room and wel - come there for me,
 A still, small voice to cry one day for me,
 A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me,
 To die, to live, and not a - lone for me,



But there is room and wel - come there for me.
 A still, small voice to cry one day for me.
 A child, a son, the Prince of Peace for me.
 To die, to live, and not a - lone for me?

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008

Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929-2021

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Tune: © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002360

Offering

Stand

Offertory

All My Heart Again Rejoices

LSB 360



1 All my heart a - gain re - joic - es As I hear Far and near
 3 Should we fear our God's dis - plea - sure, Who, to save, Free - ly gave



Sweet - est an - gel voic - es. "Christ is born!" their choirs are sing - ing
 His most pre - cious trea - sure? To re - deem us He has giv - en



Till the air Ev - 'ry-where Now with joy is ring - ing.
His own Son From the throne Of His might in heav - en.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, abr., adapt.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

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.**

Proper Preface (Full)

P It is truly good, 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

O holy, holy Lord of hosts,
Your praise the earth is singing.
Hosanna, blest is He who comes,
Salvation to us bringing.
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

[P] Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
[C] **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.

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."

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 always.
[C] **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God who takes away
 The whole world's sin, have mercy.
 O Lamb of God, grant peace to us,
 That we from sin may be free.
 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!

Distribution (*Rail*)

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

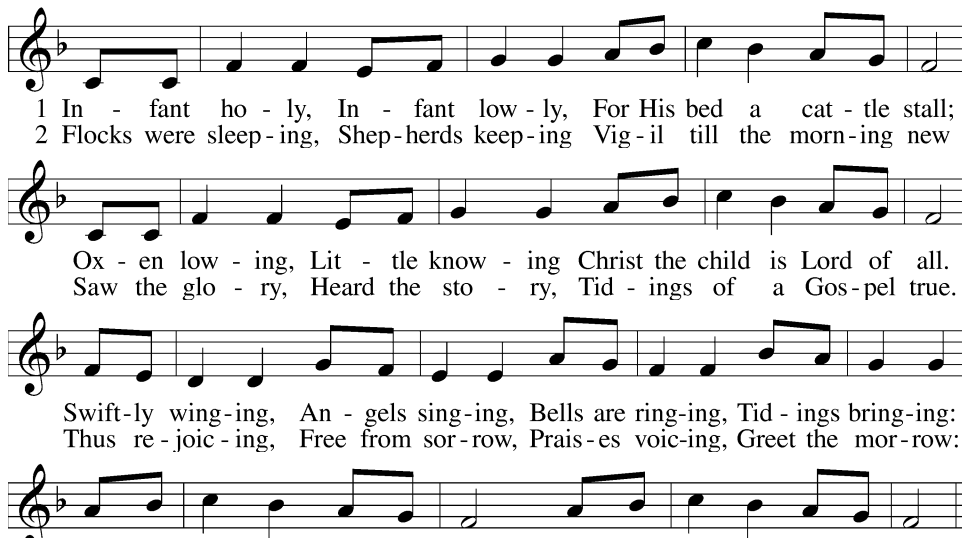
Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

Distribution Hymn

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

LSB 393



1 In - fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, Shep - herds keep - ing Vig - il till the morn - ing new
Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a Gos - pel true.
Swift - ly wing - ing, An - gels sing - ing, Bells are ring - ing, Tid - ings bring - ing;
Thus re - joic - ing, Free from sor - row, Prais - es voic - ing, Greet the mor - row:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt.
Text and tune: Polish
Text and tune: Public domain

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

C Amen.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Now let Your servants go in peace,
Salvation have we seen here.
The Gentiles' light, for Israel joy,
In Jesus, Savior most dear.

Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby,
Joy, joy for Christ is born,

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

LSB 166

P 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.

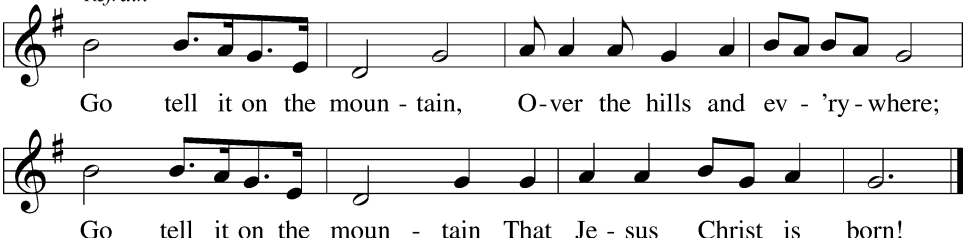
C Amen.

Hymn to Depart

Go Tell It on the Mountain

LSB 388


Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;
Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled When lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain



Be - hold, through - out the heav-ens There shone a ho - ly light.
Rang out the an-gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Text (sts. 1-3): John W. Work II, 1873-1925, alt.
Text (ref) and tune: African American spiritual
Text and tune: Public domain

Announcements

Dismissal

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

The Christmas tree in our sanctuary was donated by Jean and David Krueger in memory of their son, Christopher Krueger.

The beautiful poinsettias which grace the Sanctuary were given by:

Ann & Bob Wolters	Dedicated to the Memory of Mr & Mrs Elmer Wolters & Mr & Mrs John Cameron
Ann & Bob Wolters	In Honor of Dovanon, Camero, Fiona, & Sean
Andy & Lisa Carpenter	In Memory of Andy's parents
Andy & Lisa Carpenter	In Memory of Lisa's stepfather
Cheryl & John Malina	In Honor of Kristen & Reid Laidlaw
Mary & Mike Rajnik	In Memory of Loved Ones
Carl & Jackie Schulten	In Memory of Duart Crabtree
Carl & Jackie Schulten	To Honor our faith family at Good Shepherd
Greg & Nina Mullen	To the Glory of God
Jim & Connie Strachan	In Memory of Our Parents
Chuck & Sherrie Dean	In Memory of Our Parents



Welcome to worship at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. Please scan the QR Code to register as our guest. You can also sign the Guest Registry located at the entrance to our Sanctuary.

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Reverend Timothy M. Boerger, Pastor

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