



# *First Sunday of Christmas*

*December 30, 2018*

## **WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

### **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG: *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* (ELW 288)**

**GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE: *Now the Feast and Celebration***



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

*Refrain*

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

*Refrain*

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of

*Refrain*

God; to make all things new.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

A reading from 1 Samuel.

<sup>18</sup>Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. <sup>19</sup>His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. <sup>20</sup>Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD”; and then they would return to their home. <sup>26</sup>Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 148

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;  
praise God | in the heights.

<sup>2</sup>**Praise the LORD, | all you angels;  
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**

<sup>3</sup>Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you | shining stars.

<sup>4</sup>**Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,  
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name | of the LORD,  
who commanded, and they | were created,

<sup>6</sup>**who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not | pass away.**

<sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD | from the earth,  
you sea monsters | and all deeps;

<sup>8</sup>**fire and hail, | snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;**

<sup>9</sup>mountains | and all hills,  
fruit trees | and all cedars;

<sup>10</sup>**wild beasts | and all cattle,  
creeping things and | flying birds;**

<sup>11</sup>sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers | of the world;

<sup>12</sup>**young | men and maidens,  
old and | young together.**

<sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name | of the LORD,  
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup>**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful  
servants,  
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. | Hallelujah!**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*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!

## GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>41</sup>Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. <sup>43</sup>When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

<sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." <sup>49</sup>He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor. The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY: *Love Has Come* (ELW 292)**

## **CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Dwelling in the presence of God with us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all in any need.

God of wisdom, open our ears to hear your grace through the words and deeds of children. Inspire the youngest and oldest in our midst to learn from one another with humility and patience. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of creation, praise to you for hills and mountains, fruit trees and forests, animals wild and tame, sea monsters, birds, and reptiles. Spark delight in our hearts for all that you have made. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of hope, call us to peace and bind us together in perfect unity. Make wars to cease. Guide the leaders of the nations in your way of wisdom, compassion, and tolerance. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of healing, mend the broken hearts of those who suffer this day. Treasure everyone who struggles with addiction, loneliness, hunger, unemployment, mental illness, or sickness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of life, draw us into the body of Christ and make us grow in faith and hope. Fill us with hearts of thanksgiving made visible in our words and actions for the sake of the whole world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of delight, fill us with songs of praise and hope even in the midst of despair and death. Comfort the grieving. Strengthen our faith until the day we will be gathered around your throne singing in eternal praise. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Trusting in the presence of God by the power of the Holy Spirit, we commend all for whom we pray, dwelling in the light and hope of Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*Share God's peace with those around you in these or similar words: "Peace be with you."*

## CONGREGATIONAL / COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OFFERING & ANTHEM

#### OFFERTORY HYMN: *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer  
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.  
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,  
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.  
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

## **EURCHARISTIC PRAYER**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for you Son Jesus the Word made flesh.

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 the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

## COMMUNION

*All are welcome to join in our communion meal. We will commune by intinction.  
After receiving the bread, you may dip it into the cup of wine/grape juice. Those not  
communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

*During the distribution:*

The body of Christ, given for you. **Response: Amen**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Response: Amen**

## COMMUNION SONG



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, grant us peace.

## **TABLE BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG: *Now We Join in Celebration* (ELW 462)**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

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## **SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

Assisting Minister: Patti Mann  
Reader: Linda Engler  
Bread/Wine Presenter: Karen Lanners  
Acolyte: *Volunteer Needed*  
Ushers: Marion Engler and Diane Huske  
Counters: Patti Mann and James Mann  
Altar: Ruth Igoe and Patti Mann  
Greeter(s): June Farrow

## **SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2019**

Assisting Minister: Lisa Mari  
Reader: Karen Lanners  
Bread/Wine Presenter: June Farrow  
Acolyte: *Volunteer Needed*  
Ushers: Karen Lanners and Linda Engler  
Counters: *Volunteers Needed*  
Altar: Irene Ballek and Linda Engler  
Greeter(s): Barbara Moss

### **ACACIA PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

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*Pastor: Rev. David Nelson*  
*Organist/Choir Director: Katherine Kishka*  
*Administrative Assistant: Dawn Olson Parent*