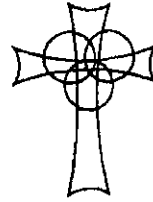


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Church Web Site: [www.tlcmr.org](http://www.tlcmr.org)*

*A Member Congregation of  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

First Sunday after



**December 26, 2021**

***WELCOME TO WORSHIP!!!***

In the Name of Jesus Christ, Welcome! We are pleased that you have come to worship our loving Lord with us today. Even though, to the world, Christmas is over, we still take the time to unpack and rejoice over the great Gift that God has given—His only Son, Jesus Christ. We hope that you will celebrate with us the gift of life and love that Jesus came to bring as He still comes among us even now in His holy Word and Sacraments.

***A PRAYER AS WE GATHER***

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.



THE DIVINE SERVICE  
OF WORD AND SACRAMENT  
IN THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS

✘ *In the Name of Jesus Christ* ✘

✘ **The Preparation** ✘

The Christmas Music for Meditation

The Prelude

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

The Words of Welcome

*The Congregation rises.*

The Opening Hymn

*Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 380*

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

- 1 **Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the\_angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!” *Refrain***
- Refrain* Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”**
- 2 **Christ, by highest heav’n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the\_incarinate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel! *Refrain***
- 3 **Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Ris’n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth. *Refrain***

*Text: Public domain*

The Invocation:

- P** In the Name of the Father and of the  $\text{†}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

The Confession of Sins and Absolution:

- P** Hear the words of the angel to Joseph: “You shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” Let us then seek the forgiveness of God through Jesus the Savior of the world. *Matthew 1:21*

- P** Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
**C** He is to be feared above all gods.

- P** He will judge the world in righteousness,  
**C** and the peoples in His faithfulness. *Psalm 96:4, 13*

*Silence is kept for a time of reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination*

- 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.
- 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  $\text{†}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

The Introit of the Day

*Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:10*

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

- P** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
- C** **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.**
- P** The 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.

The Hymn of Praise

*Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 368*

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

- 1** Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains. *Refrain*

*Refrain Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

- 2** Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav’nly song? *Refrain*
- 3** Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*

*Text: Public domain*

The Salutation and Collect of the Day:

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.
- P** Let us pray.  
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** Amen.

*The Congregation is seated*

**Peace Love JOY Peace Love JOY**

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>“Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”

<sup>3</sup>Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .

<sup>11</sup>“When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, <sup>12</sup>you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD’s. <sup>13</sup>Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. <sup>14</sup>And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. <sup>15</sup>For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## The Epistle

*Colossians 3:12-17*

<sup>12</sup>Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup>bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*The Congregation rises*

“Let Our Gladness Have No End”

- 1 Let our gladness have no end, alleluia!  
For to earth did Christ descend, alleluia! Refrain**

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

- 4 Into flesh is made the Word, alleluia!  
He, our Refuge and our Lord, alleluia! Refrain**

*Text: Public domain*

The Holy Gospel

*Luke 2:22-40*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.  
**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup>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. <sup>26</sup>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. <sup>27</sup>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, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup>“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,  
according to your word;

<sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation

<sup>31</sup>that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup>And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup>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 <sup>35</sup>(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup>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, <sup>37</sup>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. <sup>38</sup>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.

<sup>39</sup>And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>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 to You, O Christ.

The 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

*The Congregation is seated*



“See amid the Winter’s Snow”

- 1 See amid the winter’s snow,  
Born for us on earth below,  
See, the gentle Lamb appears,  
Promised from eternal years. *Refrain*

*Refrain* Hail, O ever-blessèd morn!  
Hail, redemption’s happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem:  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

- 2 Lo, within a stable lies  
He who built the starry skies,  
He who, throned in height sublime,  
Sits amid the cherubim. *Refrain*

- 3 Sacred Infant, all divine,  
What a tender love was Thine,  
Thus to come from highest bliss  
Down to such a world as this! *Refrain*

- 4 Teach, O teach us, holy Child,  
By Thy face so meek and mild,  
Teach us to resemble Thee  
In Thy sweet humility. *Refrain*

*Text: Public domain*

The Meditation

Singing Salvation’s Song

The Congregational Carol Sing

See the Carols on the next 4 Pages





# CAROLS OF CHRISTMAS



1

Silent night! Holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing, "Alleluia!"  
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night! Holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light!  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

2

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by:  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary;  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth;  
And praises sing to God, the King,  
And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him still,  
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
Descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in,  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
Our Lord Emmanuel!

3

It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth,  
To touch their harps of gold;  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men  
From heaven's all gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

Still thro' the cloven skies they come,  
With peaceful wings unfurled;  
And still their heavenly music floats  
O'er all the weary world;  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hovering wing,  
And ever o'er its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

O ye beneath life's crushing load,  
Whose forms are bending low,  
Who toil along the climbing way  
With painful steps and slow;  
Look now, for glad and golden hours  
Come swiftly on the wing;  
Oh, rest beside the weary road  
And hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hast'ning on,  
By prophets seen of old,  
When with the ever-circling years  
Shall come the time foretold,  
When the new heaven and earth shall own  
The Prince of Peace their King,  
And the whole world send back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

4

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods,  
                    rocks, hills and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love.

5

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th' angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."  
Hark, the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold Him come  
Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail th' Incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.

6

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
All seated on the ground,  
The angel of the Lord came down,  
And glory shone around.

"Fear not!" said he; for mighty dread  
Had seized their troubled mind,  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring,  
To you and all mankind.

"To you, in David's town, this day  
Is born of David's line,  
The Savior, who is Christ the Lord;  
And this shall be the sign:

"The heavenly babe you there shall find  
To human view displayed,  
All meanly wrapped in swathing-bands,  
And in a manger laid.

"All glory be to God on high,  
And on the earth be peace:  
Good will henceforth from heaven to men,  
Begin and never cease!"



From heaven above to earth I come,  
To bear good news to every home,  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,  
Whereof I now will gladly sing.

To you this night is born a Child  
Of Mary, chosen mother mild;  
This little Child, of lowly birth,  
Shall be the joy of all the earth.

Glory to God in highest heaven,  
Who unto us His Son hath given!  
While angels sing with pious mirth,  
A glad New Year to all the earth.

## 8

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming  
As men of old have sung.  
It came, a flow'ret bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
The Rose I have in mind,  
With Mary we behold it,  
The Virgin Mother kind.  
To show God's love aright  
She bore to men a Savior,  
When half spent was the night.

## 9

Angels, from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing,  
Yonder shines the infant light;

Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations,  
Ye have seen His natal star:

## 10

What Child is this, who, laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

O bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
Come peasant, king to own Him;  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

## 11

God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
Let nothing you dismay,  
Remember Christ our Savior  
Was born on Christmas Day;  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray.

O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

In Bethlehem, in Jewry,  
This blessed Babe was born,  
And laid within a manger,  
Upon this blessed morn;  
The which His mother Mary  
Did nothing take in scorn.

From God our Heavenly Father,  
A blessed angel came;  
And unto certain Shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same:  
How that in Bethlehem was born  
The Son of God by Name.

## 12

We three kings of Orient are,  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.

O star of wonder, star of night  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
King forever, ceasing never  
Over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I,  
Incense owns a Deity nigh;  
Prayer and praising, all men raising,  
Worship Him, God on high.

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Glorious now behold Him arise,  
King and God and Sacrifice;  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Earth to heaven replies.

## 13

All my heart this night rejoices  
As I hear, far and near,  
Sweetest angel voices.  
"Christ is born," their choirs are singing,  
Till the air everywhere  
Now with joy is ringing.

Hark! a voice from yonder manger,  
Soft and sweet, doth entreat,  
"Flee from woe and danger!  
Brethren, come! from all doth grieve you,  
You are freed; all you need  
I will surely give you."

Come, then, let us hasten yonder!  
Here let all, great and small,  
Kneel in awe and wonder!  
Love Him who with love is yearning!  
Hail the star that from far  
Bright with hope is burning!

## 14

While by my sheep I watched at night,  
Glad tidings brought an angel bright:

How great my joy, great my joy,  
Joy, joy, joy,  
Joy, joy, joy,  
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high,  
Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high.

There shall be born, so He did say,  
In Bethlehem a Child today:

There shall He lie in manger mean,  
Who shall redeem the world from sin:

Lord, evermore to me be nigh,  
Then shall my heart be filled with joy!

## 15

Good Christian men, rejoice,  
With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ is born today;  
Ox and ass before Him bow,  
And He is in the manger now,  
Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice,  
With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Now ye hear of endless bliss:  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He hath ope'd the heavenly door,  
And man is blesséd evermore,  
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice,  
With heart, and soul, and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave:  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all  
To gain His everlasting hall,  
Christ was born to save!

## 16

Jesus, our brother, kind and good,  
Was humbly born in a stable rude.  
The friendly beasts around Him stood,  
Jesus, our brother, kind and good.

"I," said the donkey, all shaggy and brown,  
"I carried His mother up hill and down,  
I carried her safely to Bethle'm town."  
"I," said the donkey, all shaggy and brown.

"I," said the cow, all white and red,  
"I gave Him my manger for a bed,  
I gave Him my hay to pillow His head."  
"I," said the cow, all white and red.

"I," said the sheep with the curly horn,  
"I gave Him my wool for a blanket warm,  
He wore my coat on Christmas morn."  
"I," said the sheep with the curly horn.

"I," said the dove from the rafters high,  
"I cooed Him to sleep so He would not cry,  
We cooed Him to sleep, my mate and I."  
"I," said the dove from the rafters high.

So every beast, by some good spell,  
In the stable rude was glad to tell  
Of the gift he gave Emmanuel,  
The gift he gave Emmanuel.

## 17

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels!  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, in the highest!  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy  
morning,  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

## 18

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth;  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
'Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;  
Fall on your knees  
Oh, hear the angel voices!  
O night divine,  
O night when Christ was born!  
O night, O holy night,  
O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,  
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand;  
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,  
Here came the Wise Men from Orient land.  
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger,  
In all our trials born to be our friend;  
He knows our need,  
To our weakness is no stranger  
Behold your King,  
Before Him lowly bend!  
Behold your King  
Before Him lowly bend!

## 19

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;  
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,  
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.

## 20

Oh, come, little children, oh, come, one and all,  
To Bethlehem haste to the manger so small.  
God's Son for a gift has been sent you this night  
To be your Redeemer, your Joy and Delight.

He's born in a stable for you and for me;  
Draw near by the bright, gleaming starlight to  
see,  
In swaddling clothes lying, so meek and so mild,  
And purer than angels—the heavenly Child.

See Mary and Joseph, with love-beaming eyes,  
Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies,  
The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of  
love,  
While angels sing loud alleluias above.

## 21

When I was a seeker,  
I sought both night and day;  
I asked the Lord to help me,  
And He showed me the way.

Go tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain,  
That Jesus Christ is born.

He made me a watchman,  
Upon the city wall;  
And if I am a Christian,  
I am the least of all.

## 22

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to Thee, O Israel.

O come, O come, Thou Lord of Might,  
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,  
In ancient times didst give the law  
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell Thy people save  
And give them victory o'er the grave.

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heavenly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery.

## 23

Thy little ones, dear Lord, are we,  
And come Thy lowly bed to see;  
Enlighten every soul and mind,  
That we the way to Thee may find.

With songs we hasten Thee to greet  
And kiss the dust before Thy feet,  
O blessed hour, O sweetest night,  
That gave Thee birth, our soul's delight.

O draw us wholly to Thee, Lord,  
Do Thou to us Thy grace accord,  
True faith and love to us impart,  
That we may hold Thee in our heart.

## 24

Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle-shed,  
Where a mother laid her Baby  
In a manger for His bed;  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from heaven,  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable,  
And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

## 25

Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains;  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous songs prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem, and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, our newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

*Les anges dans nos campagnes  
ont entonné l'hymne des cieux,  
et l'écho de nos montagnes  
redit ce chant mélodieux:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

## 26

I am so glad each Christmas Eve,  
The night of Jesus' birth!  
Then like the sun the Star shone forth,  
And angels sang on earth.

The little Child in Bethlehem,  
He was a King indeed!  
For He came down from heaven above  
To help a world in need.

I am so glad on Christmas Eve!  
His praises then I sing;  
He opens then for every child  
The palace of the King.

*Jeg er saa glad hver julekveld,  
ti da blev Jesus født;  
da lyste stjernen som en sol,  
og engler sang saa sødt.*

## 27

Joseph, dearest Joseph mine,  
Help me rock the Child divine,  
God reward both thee and thine.  
In Bethlehem, So prays the mother Mary.  
Eia, eia, eia.

He came down at Christmas time,  
In the town of Bethlehem, in Bethlehem.  
Bringing to men far and wide,  
Love's diadem,  
Eia, Eia, Lullaby.

## 28

I heard the bells on Christmas day  
The old familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet the words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come,  
The belfries of all Christendom  
Had rolled along th' unbroken song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

## 29

The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same Star,  
Three wise men came from country far;  
To seek for a King was their intent,  
And to follow the Star wherever it went.

This Star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

Then entered in those wise men three,  
Full reverently upon their knee,  
And offered there in His presence  
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

## 30

Lullay, Thou little tiny Child,  
By, by, lully, lullay;  
Lullay, Thou little tiny Child,  
By, by, lully, lullay.

O sisters, too, how may we do,  
For to preserve this day;  
This poor Youngling for whom we sing,  
By, by, lully, lullay.

Herod the King, in his raging,  
Chargèd he hath this day;  
His men of might, in his own sight,  
All children young, to slay.

Then woe is me, poor Child, for Thee,  
And ever mourn and say;  
For Thy parting nor say nor sing,  
By, by, lully, lullay.

## 31

We wish you a Merry Christmas,  
We wish you a Merry Christmas,  
We wish you a Merry Christmas,  
And a Happy New Year!

Good tidings to you wherever you are;  
Good tidings for Christmas  
And a Happy New Year!

## 32

The happy Christmas comes once more,  
The heavenly Guest is at the door,  
The blessed words the shepherds thrill,  
The joyous tidings: Peace, good will.

O wake, our hearts, in gladness sing,  
And keep our Christmas with our King,  
Till living song, from loving souls,  
Like sound of mighty water rolls.

Come, Jesus, glorious heavenly Guest,  
Keep Thine own Christmas in our breast;  
Then David's harpstrings, hushed so long,  
Shall swell our jubilee of song.

<sup>1</sup>From *Christmas, Its Carols, Customs, and Legends* by permission of Schmitt, Hall & McCreary Co.

## 33

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree!  
Thy leaves are so unchanging;  
Not only green when summer's here,  
But also when 'tis cold and drear.  
O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!  
Thy leaves are so unchanging.

*O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum,  
Wie treu sind deine Blätter!  
Du grünst nicht nur zur Sommerzeit,  
Nein, auch im Winter, wenn es schneit.  
O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum,  
Wie treu sind deine Blätter!*

## 34

When Christmas morn is dawning  
In faith I would repair  
Unto the lowly manger;  
My Saviour lieth there.

How kind, O loving Saviour,  
To come from heav'n above;  
From sin and evil save us,  
And keep us in thy love.

We need thee, blessed Jesus,  
Our dearest friend thou art;  
Forbid that we by sinning  
Should grieve thy loving heart.

*När juldagsmorgon glimmar,  
jag vill till stallet gå,  
der Gud i nattens timmar  
re'n hvilar uppå strå.*

## 35

<sup>1</sup>On December twenty-fifth,  
Fum, fum, fum.  
On December twenty-fifth,  
Fum, fum, fum.  
In a manger lowly there  
Was born this night a Little One,  
Born of Mary, blessed mother;  
Like a small rose was God's Son.  
Fum, fum, fum.

*Veinticinco de diciembre,  
fum, fum, fum.  
Veinticinco de diciembre,  
fum, fum, fum.  
Nacido ha por nuestro amor,  
el Niño Dios, el Niño Dios;  
hoy de la Virgen María  
en esta noche tan fría.  
Fum, fum, fum.*

## 36

<sup>2</sup>In the little village of Bethlehem  
There lay a Child one day,  
And the sky was bright with a holy light,  
O'er the place where Jesus lay:

Alleluia! O how the angels sang,  
Alleluia! how it rang;  
And the sky was bright with a holy light,  
'Twas the birthday of a King.

'Twas a humble birthplace, but oh!  
How much God gave to us that day,  
From the manger bed, what a path has led,  
What a perfect holy way:

<sup>2</sup>Used by permission of G. Schirmer, Inc.

## 37

I saw three ships come sailing in,  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
I saw three ships come sailing in,  
On Christmas Day in the morning.

And what was in those ships all three,  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
And what was in those ships all three,  
On Christmas Day in the morning?

The Virgin Mary and Christ were there,  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
The Virgin Mary and Christ were there,  
On Christmas Day in the morning.

Then let us all rejoice amain,  
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
Then let us all rejoice amain,  
On Christmas Day in the morning.

## 38

Deck the hall with boughs of holly,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.  
'Tis the season to be jolly,  
Don we now our gay apparel,  
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol.

Fast away the old year passes,  
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,  
Sing we joyous altogether,  
Heedless of the wind and weather.

## 39

Here we come a-caroling  
Among the leaves so green;  
Here we come a-wandering,  
So fair to be seen.

Love and joy come to you,  
And to you glad Christmas too;  
And God bless you and send you  
A happy New Year,  
And God send you a happy New Year.

We are not daily beggars  
That beg from door to door;  
But we are neighbors' children,  
Whom you have seen before.

Good master and mistress,  
As you sit by the fire;  
Pray think of us poor children,  
Who wander in the mire.

God bless the master of this house,  
Likewise the mistress too,  
And all the little children,  
That round the table go.

## 40

A great and mighty wonder  
This joyful feast-day brings;  
The Virgin bears the Infant,  
Our Lord, and King of kings.

The Word becomes incarnate,  
Descending from on high;  
And cherubim sing anthems  
To shepherds from the sky.

And we, with them triumphant,  
Repeat the hymn again:  
"To God on high be glory,  
And peace on earth, to men!"

*The Congregation rises*

The Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.
- P** Let us pray for the Church, that all who have been baptized into Christ may enfold in their hearts the Christ Child and so be ready to depart whenever they are called. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Let us pray for our congregation, the Mekane Yesus congregation, and for Christians everywhere, that we may boldly shine the Light of Christ into the dark lives of those we know who do not know or love Him. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Let us pray for the nations of the world and our nation, that our leaders may serve faithfully and wisely, making God-pleasing decisions and walking in integrity. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Let us pray as we come to the passing of time from year to year, that we may commend to the Lord the year now soon passed, give thanks for all of the blessings we have received, asking forgiveness for what we have done amiss, and praying that He who has led us in the past will continue to go with us into this new year supported by His love and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Let us pray for those who are sick and those who suffer, especially \_\_\_\_\_, that they might be surrounded by God's love in Christ and healed according to His gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Let us pray for all those who mourn, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_], that the comfort of the resurrection might fill their hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** With those who have received special blessings from God, especially \_\_\_\_\_, we rejoice; and we pray that all of God's people would continue to offer their thanks and praise to the Lord for every blessing given to them from His gracious hand. Lord, in Your mercy
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Let us pray for all the people and concerns that have been committed to our prayers, especially \_\_\_\_\_ and all those we name before the Lord in the silence of our hearts... We pray that the Lord will indeed hear these prayers and grant them all according to His good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Let us pray for all who partake of the Savior's Body and Blood this day, that welcoming Him with faith like Simeon's they too may face life and death unafraid. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord for the Blessed Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph, Saints Simeon and Anna, Saint Stephen, Saint John, The Holy Innocents, David the King, and all of our brothers and sisters who have departed in the peace of faith. And we pray that we too may be brought with them to see at length with our own eyes Him who is the Light of the nations and the glory of Israel. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

The Sharing of the Peace

**P** Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and His Name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The Peace of the Lord be with you always!

**C** **And also with you.**

*The Congregation is seated*

✠ **The Service of the Sacrament** ✠

The Carol of Preparation

*The New Oxford Book of Carols # 97*

"Good King Wenceslas"

- 1 **Good King Wenceslas looked out  
On the Feast of Stephen,  
When the snow lay round about,  
Deep and crisp and even;  
Brightly shone the moon that night,  
Though the frost was cruel,  
When a poor man came in sight,  
Gath'ring winter fuel.**
- 2 **"Hither, page, and stand by me;  
If thou know'st it, telling—  
Yonder peasant, who is he?  
Where and what his dwelling?"  
"Sire, he lives a good league hence,  
Underneath the mountain,  
Right against the forest fence,  
By Saint Agnes' fountain."**

*The Carol continues on the next page...*

- 3    **“Bring me flesh and bring me wine!  
       Bring me pine logs hither!  
       Thou and I shall see him dine  
       When we bear them thither.”**  
**Page and monarch, forth they went,  
       Forth they went together,  
       Through the rude wind’s wild lament  
       And the bitter weather.**
- 4    **“Sire, the night is darker now,  
       And the wind blows stronger;  
       Fails my heart, I know not how,  
       I can go no longer.”**  
**“Mark my footsteps, good my page,  
       Tread thou in them boldly:  
       Thou shalt find the winter’s rage  
       Freeze thy blood less coldly.”**
- 5    **In his master’s steps he trod,  
       Where the snow lay dinted;  
       Heat was in the very sod  
       Which the saint had printed.  
       Therefore, Christian men, be sure,  
       Wealth or rank possessing,  
       Ye who now will bless the poor  
       Shall yourselves find blessing.**

*Text: Public domain*

**About the Carol:**

*December 26<sup>th</sup> is the Church’s Feast Day to honor the memory of Saint Stephen, Deacon and First Martyr (See Acts 6-7).*

*Wenceslas (Germanized form of Vaclav) [907-929] was duke of Bohemia (now in the Czech Republic) and reigned from 922 to 929. Known as Vaclav the Good, he worked towards the religious and educational improvement of his people. Vaclav was murdered by followers of his brother who sought to gain the throne, after which his brother placed his remains at the cathedral in Prague, was canonized as a saint, and became the Patron of the Bohemian and Czech people.*

*This carol was written by Anglican Priest and hymn writer & translator John Mason Neale around 1853. The text is not based on any known event in the life of Wenceslas, however it does make a pious illustration of the virtue of charity; a virtue connected with this day also known in England as Boxing Day—a traditional day for giving to the poor. The tune is from a Swedish Spring carol from the fourteenth century.*



*The Congregation rises*

The Preface Dialogue and *Sanctus*:

**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.**

**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:

**C** *sung to the tune of "Angels We Have Heard on High"*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of hosts, all praise be giv'n!**

**All Your glory fills the earth,**

**All Your power fills the heav'ns!**

***Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!***

**Blessed is the King who came,**

**Bringing love and light divine!**

**Blessed is the King who comes**

**In the Bread and in the Wine!**

***Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!***

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Thanks be to You, O Lord, because in these last days You did send to us Your beloved Servant, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior and our Redeemer and the Messenger of Your will; Who is Your Word inseparable from You; through whom You made all things and with whom You were well-pleased; whom You did send from heaven into the womb of the Virgin, and who, having been conceived within her, became flesh, and was manifested as Your Son, being born of the Holy Spirit and a virgin.

Who, when He was betrayed to His voluntary suffering, in order that He might abolish death, break the bonds of the adversary, tread hell underfoot, give light to the righteous, establish a memorial, and manifest the resurrection, took bread, gave thanks to You, and said: "Take eat, this is My ✠ Body, which is broken for you." Likewise also the cup, saying: "This is My ✠ Blood which is poured out for you. As often as you do this, you shall do it in remembrance of Me."



Therefore, having in remembrance His death and resurrection, we give thanks to You, because You have counted us worthy to stand before You and to serve you. Gather into one, we pray You, all Your holy people who partake hereof; fill them with Your Holy Spirit for the confirmation of their faith in the truth; and grant that we may praise and glorify You through Your Servant, Jesus Christ; through whom all honor and glory belongs to You, the Father and the Son with the Holy Spirit, in Your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C** Amen.

#### The Lord's Prayer

**P** Commanded by Christ's saving precepts and informed by His divine instruction, we are bold to say:

**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 *Pax Domini*:

**P** The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

#### The *Agnus Dei*

*Sung to the Tune of "Once in Royal David's City"*

**C** **Lamb of God, the world's Redeemer,  
Mercy to Your people give.  
Lamb of God, the world's Redeemer,  
May we in Your mercy live.  
Lamb of God, we all implore:  
Grant us peace forevermore.**

#### *The Congregation is seated*

#### The Distribution of Holy Communion:

*Lutherans believe that in this Sacrament the very Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ are present in, with, and under the physical elements of bread and wine. And this Sacrament is distributed to the Baptized of the Church who believe in the Presence of Christ in the Sacrament, sincerely repent of their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this Holy Meal. Those who are present at this celebration who are baptized, have been instructed in the meaning of this Supper, and believe likewise are welcome to commune with us at this Altar today.*

*Holy Communion is distributed to the congregation in a continuous manner in front of the altar. Please follow the direction of the ushers to make your way to the Altar. The Sacrament is distributed in the following way...Please extend your hand to the Pastor to receive the Body of Christ. Christ's Blood is then received from individual cups from the assistant (wine and white grape juice are available). After receiving, please place your empty cup into the tray at the end of the communion rail and return to your seat by way of the side aisle. Children and those not wishing to receive the Sacrament are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing from the Pastor.*

Music at the Distribution: "Once in Royal David's City"

*After all have communed, the Pastor continues:*

The Eucharistic Blessing:

- 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.

*The Congregation rises.*

The *Nunc Dimittis*

*Sung to the Tune of "Away in a Manger" (Cradle Song)*

- C** Lord, now in Your mercy Your servants release  
As Your word has promised. Oh, grant us Your peace.  
Our eyes Your salvation and mercy behold,  
Prepared for the nations, as prophets foretold,  
  
A Light to the Gentiles, by whom they now see  
The glory of Israel, the Promised One He  
Who lives now and ever, the heaven's bright Sun,  
With Father and Spirit eternally One.

The Thanksgiving and Post-Communion Prayer:

- P** Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.  
**C** And His mercy endures forever.  
  
**P** Let us pray.  
We give You thanks, almighty and merciful God, that You have refreshed us with Your Holy Sacrament, and we beseech You to make us partakers of Your divine life through the Incarnation of Your beloved Son, with whose Body and Blood You have now nourished us; for the sake of the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C** Amen.

The *Benedicamus* and Blessing:

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.  
  
**P** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God!  
  
**P** May Christ, who by His Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with His joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.  
**C** Amen.

“Let Us All with Gladsome Voice”

- 1 Let us all with gladsome voice  
Praise the God of heaven,  
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice,  
His own Son hath given.
- 2 To this vale of tears He comes,  
Here to serve in sadness,  
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes  
We may reign in gladness.
- 3 We are rich, for He was poor;  
Is not this a wonder?  
Therefore praise God evermore  
Here on earth and yonder.
- 4 Christ, our Lord and Savior dear,  
Be Thou ever near us.  
Grant us now a glad new year.  
Amen, Jesus, hear us.

*Text: Public domain*

The Silent Worship

The Parish Announcements

The Postlude

“Let Us All with Gladsome Voice”

✧ *To God All Praise and Glory!* ✧

*Those Who Serve Us Today*

The Celebrant & Preacher  
The Parish Musician

The Rev. Peter A. Schiebel  
Skip Hall

**Acknowledgments**

Divine Service from Lutheran Service Book

The texts of the *Sanctus*, *Agnus Dei*, and *Nunc Dimittis* Hymns are from *Creative Worship Resources* by Creative Communications for the Parish.

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# CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE



*Please join us for worship either in person or by livestream  
as we greet the Lord who comes again to us.*

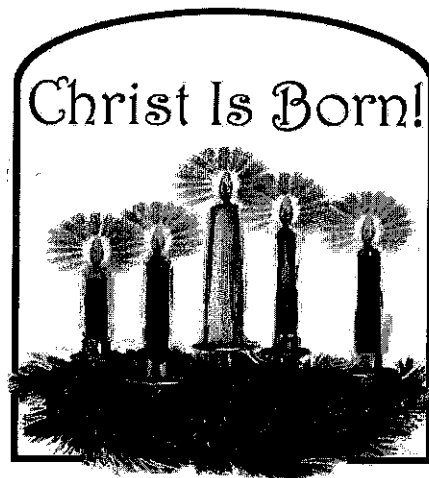
*Livestream Worship is available on our Church Facebook Page  
either live at the scheduled time or at any time from the Facebook Page under "Videos".  
The link to the Facebook Page is available on the Church Website: [www.tlcmr.org](http://www.tlcmr.org)  
Also available are the orders of service on the Church Website.  
Just scroll down on the homepage to the section "Livestreaming Worship"*

## **The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord – January 2, 2022 – 9:30 AM** *Festival Eucharist*

Let us go with the Magi to Bethlehem to greet the One who is our King and as He gives us His gifts of grace which come through His Word and Sacraments.

## **The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord – January 9, 2022 – 9:30 AM** *Festival Eucharist*

We conclude our Christmas celebrations as we remember our Lord Jesus' baptism by John in the Jordan and reconsecrating ourselves as we remember our own baptisms.



## NOTES AND NEWS

*COVID UPDATE* ... As the Prince George's County Council has chosen to retain the current indoor mask mandate in our area through January 23, 2022, we will continue to follow their guidelines. We kindly ask those attending worship in person to continue to wear their masks while inside the church building. Our prayer continues to be that the Lord will continue to look on us and our world in mercy and continue to keep us from harm even as we all do those things which we can to keep one another as safe and healthy as possible.

*PORTALS OF PRAYER*...The January – March 2022 Portals of Prayer are available in the literature table in the rear of the sanctuary.

*2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES* ... have arrived! This annual aid to stewardship is available for you to pick up on the literature table in the rear of the nave. If you do not see a set prepared for you and would like to have one for your use, please speak with Pastor and he will be sure that a set is ready to be given to you. The envelope in the front of the box marked Initial Offering is to be used to help offset the cost of the envelopes for the church. A suggested offering is \$12.00.

*SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY* ... During these holiday weekends, we will not hold our Bible Study time together this Sunday or next. Our Bible Studies will resume on Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>.

*BAPTISM SERVICE* ... Lord willing, we will celebrate a special Baptism Service Monday afternoon for Owen Ricagno, son of Michelle Varona & Andrew Ricagno, and for Penelope Varona, daughter of David and Lizbeth Varona. Their Baptisms were rescheduled from November owing to a family emergency. May God bring these children safely to the waters of life and rebirth that we may rejoice in their being gathered into the number of Christ's flock.

*THE LUTHERAN HOUR*... No one likes to wait! Hear God's promises for impatient people. Listen to the Lutheran Hour next Sunday, January 2, 2022, for this message by Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, "Gospel Power for Personal Patience", on WMZQ 98.7 FM at 7:00 AM or on Sundays at 1:30 PM and 6:30 PM on WFAK 1220 AM. If you are out of the radio station's range you may listen on line to WFAK worldwide at WFAK.com.

### *UPCOMING DATES AS WE CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS:*

Sunday, January 2 at 9:30 AM

Epiphany Festival Divine Service

Saturday, January 8 at 11 AM

Church Undecorating

*OUR PRAYER LIST* ... We are pleased to have an active ministry of prayer among us, attested by the weekly "O Christ, Hear Us" page in the bulletin, inviting us all to remember these persons and needs in our prayer during worship at Trinity and in our own personal prayers during the week. We kindly ask you to also help us keep this list current and up to date by letting us know of any changes or deletions which need to be made. To do this please contact Pastor or the church office with a note that can be placed in the offering basket at church, or with an email.

*REMEMBERING THE SAINTS ...* In our weekly Prayer of the Church, the final petition is dedicated to all of the Faithful Departed who are now with the Lord and a part of the Church Triumphant. As a part of this remembrance, we recall by name the saints who are on the calendar of Feasts, Festivals, and Commemorations of our church and remembered during the current week. Some have asked for more information about these saints; so, biographies for each saint, along with a prayer and suggested Scripture readings, are now available for you on our church website.

*THIS WEEK'S SAINTS...*

December 26     **Saint Stephen**, Deacon and First Martyr (see Acts 6-7)  
December 27     **Saint John**, Apostle of the Lord and Evangelist of the Fourth Gospel  
December 28     **The Holy Innocents**, Martyrs of Bethlehem (see Matthew 2:16-18)  
December 29     **David**, Old Testament King and Prophet

Visit <http://tlcmr.org/worship/celebrating-the-saints/> where you can learn more about the cycle of saints' days on the church calendar and find the biographies for each saint listed by month.

*ALTAR FLOWERS ...* The flower chart for 2022 is available for you to donate floral arrangements to adorn the Lord's Altar in honor of special occasions or in memory of loved ones. The chart can be found on the bulletin board in the narthex. The donation for a single arrangement is \$30.00. If you have any questions, please contact Rona by calling the church office or by email ([trinity-elc-office@verizon.net](mailto:trinity-elc-office@verizon.net)).

*COMPASSION CENTER NEWS...* Our Compassion Center is open and is once again serving members of our community with their needs for food and clothing. Please see the full page announcement in the bulletin for more information. If you are able to volunteer during the Center's open hours, please contact Elma. Thank you all for your continued help and support and prayers.

In an effort to keep the cupboards full at the Compassion Center during this time of great need in our community we will continue to need your generous donations of food. All non-perishable foods are welcome, and especially needed items include:

Peanut Butter; Pasta; Pasta Sauce; Macaroni & Cheese; Canned Tuna and Chicken;  
Canned Fruit; Soup.

There is also a need for diapers, especially sizes 4, 5, and 6.

Donations can be dropped off at the Center during Center hours. And you can also leave your donations at church, and we will make sure that it is delivered to the Compassion Center. Thank you for your loving and generous support.

Elma Pervaiz, Coordinator, LMS Compassion Center, Hyattsville, MD

*PREPARING FOR NEXT SUNDAY ...*

The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord (Observed), January 2, 2022  
Scripture Readings: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

## **Trinity Stay-Safe Rules**

- ❖ If you are sick, PLEASE STAY HOME, and please get under a doctor's care.
- ❖ If you are over 65 or immunocompromised, please be careful, follow the rules here at church, or feel free to stay home with God's blessing and ours. (We'll be here when you are ready to come back to worship.)
- ❖ As the county has reinstated the indoor mask mandate, we ask everyone to once again wear a mask while in the church building.
- ❖ Physical Distancing Requirements have been lifted, so you are free to sit where and as you wish. Use your own best judgement as to how close you wish to sit to others.
- ❖ Wash your hands often. 20 seconds with soap and water. Hand sanitizer is available for you to use as well. Try not to touch your face.
- ❖ Cough and sneeze into a tissue or into your elbow.
- ❖ Please, no handshaking. Use an elbow bump or wave for now.
- ❖ All Worship materials are printed for each service. As we will not be reusing them, please take them home with you to recycle.
- ❖ Offerings will not be collected during the service. Please place your offering in the basket on the table in the rear of the nave, or continue to mail in your offering to the church office.
- ❖ Holy Communion will be distributed in a continuous fashion using individual wafers and cups. Please follow the direction of the usher to go forward and receive the Sacrament, and please keep a distance in line between persons.

*Thank you all for your continued patience and concern for one another during this time.*

**PARISH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 26 – JANUARY 2**  
*May Be Subject to Change*

<b>Today</b>	<i>The First Sunday after Christmas</i>	<i>No Bible Study this morning</i>
	9:30 AM	Worship Service with Christmas Carol Sing and Holy Communion (at church in person and via Facebook Live)
	12:00 PM	EECMYM Worship (at church in person)
<b>Monday</b>	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Compassion Center Open
	1:00 PM	Baptism Service
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Compassion Center Open
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 AM – 2:00 PM	Compassion Center Open
<b>Friday</b>	9:00 PM – 12:00 AM	EECMYM New Year's Eve Worship (at church in person)
<b>Next Sunday</b>	<i>The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord (Observed)</i>	<i>No Bible Study this morning</i>
	9:30 AM	Worship Service with Holy Communion (at church in person and via Facebook Live)
	10:45 AM	Trinity Singers Rehearsal
	12:00 PM	EECMYM Worship (at church in person)

**CHURCH STATISTICS**

Sunday, December 19, 2021      Worship Attendance: 26; Communed: 26.  
*Attendance numbers for Christmas Services will be published next week.*





✠ O Christ, Hear Us! ✠

Intercessions for the Week of December 26, 2021

**Prayers for Continued Healing and Help**

*For Members of Our Trinity Family:*

John, Diane, Julie & Kenny, Elizabeth, Joseph, Diane, John Tyler, Elizabeth, Waymond, Alan, August, Clara, David, Owen, Ernie, Paul, and Angela

*For Those Who Have Asked of Our Prayers:*

Luke, grandson of Charlie & Jean; Betty, mother of Helen; Susan, relative of Gus & Betty; Joe, friend of Cullen; Britnany, niece of Lynda; Juliet, mother of Ras-I; Linda, daughter of Gus & Betty; Alan, cousin of Kim; Lisa, neighbor of Peter & Kim; Dennis & Caron, former Concordia Teachers; Zoila, mother of David; Jeff, husband of Mary; Jari, former Concordia Teacher; Joyce, friend of the Peeles; Cora, aunt of Tracy; Catelyn, step-granddaughter of Ernie; Ray, relative of Kim; Sandy, relative of Kim; Cherra, mother-in-law of Meghan; Scott & Tori, friends of Matt; Barbara, relative of Rick; Nathan, son of Art; Helen, aunt of Judy; John, father-in-law of Kristina; Susan, friend of Kim; Jim, uncle of Paul; Kathy, co-worker of Joyce; Sherri, co-worker of Joyce; Kevin & Stacey, relatives of Susan & Susan

All those affected by or who are in fear of the Coronavirus Outbreak.

For our Medical Community, First Responders, and other Workers who aid us in this time.

**Thanksgivings and Blessings**

Cullen Elias, Beatrice Kelly, Noel Pratico, Alans Sandiford, Cashlan Kelly, and Charles McNear, who celebrate their birthdays this week.

For Owen & Penelope, who will be Baptized this week.

**Those Who Mourn**

The Family of Rena Barnwell, aunt of Cullen Elias, who passed away on December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**We Keep In Our Prayers**

- ✠ Our Trinity family, our ministries, and our mission.
- ✠ For Pastor Gugssa Biru and the people of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus in Maryland
- ✠ For the Lord to continue to move the hearts of our Trinity members to a deeper realization of our part in His mission to the world and to be *Ablaze!* with a desire to tell the Good News about Jesus with those whom we come into contact in our lives.
- ✠ For Elma Pervaiz, our Center Coordinator, and for the work of our Compassion Center.
- ✠ Our government leaders, and for the members of our armed forces.
- ✠ For peace and justice among the residents of our nation's cities and towns where there is unrest from fear and distrust.
- ✠ For all those still affected and recovering from the effects of natural disasters.
- ✠ For our brothers and sisters in Christ who suffer persecution for the faith and Name of Jesus, even to the point of the shedding of their blood.
- ✠ Prayers for peace in our world, especially in those places that are affected by war, oppression, or by acts of terror, and for those who find themselves in harm's way in the war on terrorism.
- ✠ All those we know who are sick, who grieve, and who are in any need of prayer.