

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
† Christmas Day—The Nativity of Our Lord †  
December 25, 2021



Pastors:

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# Important Announcements

For those who watch services on Live-Stream  
during the Coronavirus Pandemic

**Maintaining Piety when Worshiping at Home:** The best way to get the most out of this temporary set-up is to keep things in your household as regular as possible:

- Print the bulletin or use your hymnals
- Dress like you would dress for church
- Stand when we stand, sit when we sit
- Sing along with the hymns
- Watch at the live time, Sunday morning, setting it aside as first priority instead of looking for whatever time is most convenient for you
- Limit the distractions, toys, and tech so that the time is truly "sacred" (set-apart) for Christ and His means of grace

These ideas can help you focus on the Service of the Word and will also help you prevent bad habits from developing during our temporary suspension of Divine Services

# The Nativity of Our Lord

## Christmas Day

December 25, 2021

### 378 Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light



1 Break forth, O beau - teous heav'n - ly light, And  
2 O dear - est Child, whom I a - dore, Whose  
3 All bless - ing, thanks, and praise to Thee, Lord



ush - er in the morn - ing. Ye shep - herds, shrink not  
grace sur - pass - es mea - sure, My Broth - er, whom I  
Je - sus Christ, be giv - en: Thou hast my Broth - er



with af - fright, The day of grace is dawn - ing. This  
cher - ish more Than earth with all its trea - sure: Haste  
deigned to be, Thou Lord of earth and heav - en. Help



Child, though weak in in - fan - cy, Our con - fi -  
from Thy man - ger to de - part, O come and  
me through - out this day of grace To praise Thy



dence and joy shall be, The pow'r of Sa - tan  
dwell with - in my heart; With joy will I re -  
love and seek Thy face; And when I stand be -



break - ing, Our peace with God now mak - ing.  
ceive Thee, A cra - dle there will give Thee.  
fore Thee For - ev - er to a - dore Thee.

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### The Holy Gospel for Christmas Dawn

*Luke 2:15–20*

<sup>15</sup>When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup>And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. <sup>18</sup>And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

### 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

sts. 1, ref. 2-4



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;  
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

*Refrain*



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



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

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### Kyrie

LSB 168



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a - bove and for our sal - va - tion let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



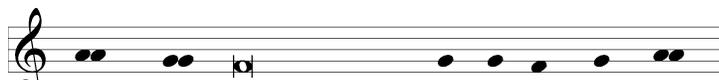
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

### Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 170



**A** Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we



praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a - lone are the

Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al - so 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** A - men.

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading**

*Exodus 40:17–21, 34–38*

<sup>17</sup>In the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was erected. <sup>18</sup>Moses erected the tabernacle. He laid its bases, and set up its frames, and put in its poles, and raised up its pillars. <sup>19</sup>And he spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent over it, as the LORD had commanded Moses. <sup>20</sup>He took the testimony and put it into the ark, and put the poles on the ark and set the mercy seat above on the ark. <sup>21</sup>And he brought the ark into the tabernacle and set up the veil of the screen, and screened the ark of the testimony, as the LORD had commanded Moses. . . .

<sup>34</sup>Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. <sup>35</sup>And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. <sup>36</sup>Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. <sup>37</sup>But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. <sup>38</sup>For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Gradual**

*Psalms 118:26a, 27a, 23*

**Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!\***

The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine up- | on us.

**This is the LORD's | doing;\***

it is marvelous | in our eyes.

## Epistle

Titus 3:4-7

<sup>4</sup>When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

## 358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

sts. 1-3, 13

1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good  
2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,  
3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your  
13 Ah, dear - est Je - sus, ho - ly Child, Pre - pare a  
news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great  
cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of  
sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your  
bed, soft, un - de - filed, A qui - et cham - ber  
joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:  
low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.  
Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.  
set a - part For You to dwell with - in my heart.

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## Holy Gospel

John 1:1-14

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

**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

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

<sup>14</sup>And 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.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### 382 We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth



1 We praise You, Je - sus, at Your birth; Clothed in flesh You  
 2 Now in the man - ger we may see God's Son from e -  
 3 The vir - gin Mar - y's lul - la - by Calms the in - fant  
 4 The Light E - ter - nal, break - ing through, Made the world to



came to earth. The vir - gin bears a sin - less boy  
 ter - ni - ty, The gift from God's e - ter - nal throne  
 Lord Most High. Up - on her lap con - tent is He  
 gleam a - new; His beams have pierced the core of night,



And all the an - gels sing for joy. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Here clothed in our poor flesh and bone. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Who keeps the earth and sky and sea. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 He makes us chil - dren of the light. Al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 The very Son of God sublime  
Entered into earthly time  
To lead us from this world of cares  
To heaven's courts as blessed heirs.  
Alleluia!
- 6 In poverty He came to earth  
Showing mercy by His birth;  
He makes us rich in heav'nly ways  
As we, like angels, sing His praise.  
Alleluia!
- 7 All this for us our God has done  
Granting love through His own Son.  
Therefore, all Christendom, rejoice  
And sing His praise with endless voice.  
Alleluia!

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### Sermon: The Glory of the Incarnation: God with Us (John 1:1-14)

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.

## Prayer of the Church

*Following the prayers, the Live Stream ends and the Service of the Sacrament begins.*

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book  
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## † Chrismons †

*"Chrismons" speak of our Lord Jesus Christ. The word "Chrismon" combines two words--Christ and monogram (a sign formed by the combined initials of a name).*

*All Chrismons are made of either white or gold or a combination of the two colors. White, the liturgical color for Christmas, suggests the innocence, purity, and perfection of our Savior. In our culture, it is also a color of joy. Scripture often uses white to portray purity and equates it with light to denote completeness (see Isaiah 1:18, Mark 9:3, Revelation 20:11).*

*Gold symbolizes the glory and majesty of God (see Exodus 25:11 ff, Revelation 1:13-16, Revelation 21:18-21).*

*Our Chrismons include some twenty-one different designs symbolizing various aspects of our Lord's person and work. The crosses of different types always remind us of our Lord's sacrifice; stars having either six points (the six days of creation) or five points (representing the human nature of Christ) or even eight points (representing baptism); the triangles and entwined circles represent the Trinity; crowns represent the Lordship of Christ; the fish was an ancient symbol for Christ (each Letter in the Greek word for "fish", "ichthus", represented a word: "I"--Jesus, "Ch"--Christ, "TH"--God's, "U"--Son, "S"--Savior). Various Greek letters decorate some of the Chrismons including the letters "IHS" which are the first three letters of the Greek word "IHSOUS" (or, Jesus), "XP" which are the first two Greek letters in the word "XPISTOS" (or, Christ ["X" is a "ch" sound in greek and "P" is our English "r"]), "A" and "O" or "alpha" and "omega" (the first and last letters in the Greek alphabet).*



**Assisting in the Divine Service this Day:**

**Preacher:** Pr. Matthew V. Moss  
**Liturgist:** Pr. Matthew P. Johnson  
**Organist:** Dr. Katie Moss

**Choir:** St. John's Adult Choir

**Altar Corp:** Adam Kiesow, Ben Kiesow, Andy Mock

**Announcements:**

**FEAST DAYS THIS & NEXT WEEK –**

<i>Sunday,</i>	<i>December 26:</i>	<i>The Feast of St. Stephen, Martyr</i>
<i>Monday,</i>	<i>December 27:</i>	<i>The Feast of St. John</i>
<i>Tuesday,</i>	<i>December 28:</i>	<i>The Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs</i>
<i>Friday,</i>	<i>December 31:</i>	<i>The Eve of the Name of Jesus</i>
<i>Saturday,</i>	<i>January 1:</i>	<i>The Circumcision of Our Lord</i>
<i>Thursday,</i>	<i>January 6:</i>	<i>The Epiphany of Our Lord</i>

**PUBLIC SCHOOL CATECHESIS** will resume on Wed. evening, Jan. 5, at 6:00 pm.

*Your pastors and staff wish each of you a most blessed Christmas and a happy New Year!  
Sing and Rejoice! Christ is born! Alleluia!*



**WE WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS OUR  
SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR ALL THOSE  
WHO MADE OUR CHURCH SO FESTIVE FOR  
THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON.**

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THE POINSETTIAS:

*John Barrett in memory of Arleen and loved ones*  
*Diana Cahlander & Family in memory of Bill Cahlander*  
*Marv & LeAnn Cummins in celebration of Christ's birth*  
*Larry & Marcy Dalchow in memory of Len Dalchow*  
*Rick & Lois Foggia in memory of our parents and our grandson Nathan*  
*Mike & Theresa Gaffer in celebration of Jesus, the Word who became  
flesh and dwelt among us*  
*Doris Gangelhoff in memory of Ron*  
*The Goskey Family in memory of Lyle Goskey*  
*Patti Hansen in memory of Bruce W. Hansen*  
*Kim & Andrew Heinen in celebration of God's mercy*  
*Shirley Holthus given to the glory of God*  
*Carol Jobses & Family in memory of Larry Jobses*  
*Ed & Sally Kemna in memory of grandsons Nathanael Schilling and  
Bill Harper and great-grandson Milow Kent*  
*The Kruse Family in memory of Paula Kruse*  
*Bradley, Jackson, Robert, Faith, Kaylee, & Della in memory of  
Grandma Kruse*  
*The Kulberg Family in celebration of our Savior's Birth*  
*The MacMillan Family in thanksgiving for faithful parents and  
grandparents*  
*John & Sandy Meyer in memory of loved ones*  
*Ross Meyer and Family in memory of lost loved ones*  
*Tom Parduhn in memory of parents Laura & Victor Parduhn*  
*Mary & Mark Pruhs in memory of Helen Wenzl and Bud & Doris Pruhs*  
*Paul & Diane Radintz in celebration of the birth of our Savior*  
*Russ & Sue Reznecheck in celebration of Jesus' birth*  
*Dana Rossow in memory of Dr. Crystal Rossow*  
*Jack & Marcia Schalo in memory of our parents and close family,  
Vicente Arruda, Paul Galle, and Roy Friendshuh*  
*DJ, Nichole, Danny, Naomi, & Diana Schilling in memory of Nathanael*  
*Paul & Gayle Schlueter in memory of Dan Schlueter*  
*Gary & Debbie Volberding in celebration of family*  
*Tom & Chris Wood in celebration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ*



THANK YOU TO THE ALTAR GUILD AND TO EVERYONE WHO  
HELPED DECORATE THE CHRISTMAS TREES AND THE SANCTUARY.  
ALSO, OUR GRATITUDE TO THOSE WHO PURCHASED AND SET UP  
THE CHRISTMAS TREES.

