

**First Sunday after Christmas**  
**December 26, 2021    10:30 a.m. Service**



**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
***'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL.'***



## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

***'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'***

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THE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Missouri Synod

Administrative Assistant – Sonya Gorman

You are invited to use the yellow Prayer Cards located in the pew for prayer requests. Please hand this card to an usher or place it in the offering plate.

*\* Please turn off cellphones\**

## FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Divine Service – Setting Four

December 26, 2021 10:30 a.m.

### *Welcome & Announcements*

+ INVOCATION + *LSB 203*

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

**P** We begin in the name into which we are baptized; In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen. *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

## Opening Hymn

LSB 366 sts. 1-4

### *“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”*



1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo - rious song of old,  
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un - furled,  
3 All you, be - neath your heav - y load, By care and guilt bent low,  
4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,



From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
And still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world.  
Who toil a - long a drea - ry way With pain - ful steps and slow:  
When down in - to the cir - cling years Came Christ as was fore - told.



“Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav’n’s all - gra - cious king.”  
A - bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov - ’ring wing,  
Look up, for gold - en is the hour, Come swift - ly on the wing,  
His word of peace shall to the earth God’s an - cient prom - ise bring,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.  
And ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.  
The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an - gels sing.  
And all who take this gift will hear The song the an - gels sing.

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*Stand*

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION + *LSB 203*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** who made heaven and earth.

*Psalm 124:8*

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins,  
O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness;  
therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.

*(Silence for self-examination and confession to God. Reflect on His Word and consider your life according to the Ten Commandments: This and whatever comes to mind, confess now, and receive God's total absolution.)*

Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: *Luke 18:13*

**☐ God, be merciful to me, a sinner.  
Almighty God, have mercy upon us,  
forgive us our sins, and lead us to  
everlasting life. Amen.**

**☐** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. *LSB 292*

**☐ Amen.**

**P** Do you believe that my forgiveness is God's forgiveness?

**C** Yes. *LSB 293*

**P** Let it be done for you as you believe.

**P** Almighty God in His *LSB 203*  
mercy has given His Son to  
die for you and for His sake forgives you  
all your sins. As a called and ordained  
servant of Christ, and by His authority, I  
therefore forgive you all your sins, in the  
name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and  
of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +      *LSB 204*

**Introit**      *Ps. 98:1-4; antiphon: Is. 52:10*

**P** The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all 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!

**P 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 nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

## **Kyrie**

*Mark 10:47, LSB 204*



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



# Hymn of Praise/Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 204*

*Luke 2:14, John 1:29*



- C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 205*

**P** The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

**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.

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading** *Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15*

13 The LORD said to Moses, 2 “Consecrate to me every firstborn male. The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to me, whether human or animal.”

3 Then Moses said to the people,  
“Commemorate this day, the day you came  
out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery,  
because the LORD brought you out of it with  
a mighty hand...

11 “After the LORD brings you into the land  
of the Canaanites and gives it to you, as he  
promised on oath to you and your ancestors,

12 you are to give over to the LORD the first  
offspring of every womb. All the firstborn  
males of your livestock belong to the LORD.

13 Redeem with a lamb every firstborn  
donkey, but if you do not redeem it, break its  
neck. Redeem every firstborn among your  
sons.

14 “In days to come, when your son asks  
you, ‘What does this mean?’ say to him,  
‘With a mighty hand the LORD brought us

out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

15 When Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed the firstborn of both people and animals in Egypt. This is why I sacrifice to the LORD the first male offspring of every womb and redeem each of my firstborn sons.'

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Gradual**

*Is. 9:6; Ps. 98:1a*

**A C** To us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder. And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

# Hymn

LSB 393 sts. 1-2

## “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”



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

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## Epistle Reading

Colossians 3:12-17

12 Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness

and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. 15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Hymn of Praise*

*LSB 389 sts. 1-4, 7*

*“Let All Together Praise Our God”*



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



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To  
in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies  
at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The  
hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.  
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.  
splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.  
glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

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

*Stand*

## **Alleluia and Verse**      *John 20:31, LSB 205*



**C** Al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia.



**C** These things are writ - ten      that      you      may be - lieve      that



Je - sus      is      the Christ,      the      Son      of God.



**C** Al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia,      al - le - lu - ia.

## **Holy Gospel**

*Luke 2:22-40*

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

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.



22 When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord  
23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), 24 and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”

25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. 26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s

Messiah. 27 Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, 28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: 29 “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. 30 For my eyes have seen your salvation, 31 which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: 32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.” 33 The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined

to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, 35 so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

36 There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, 37 and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. 38 Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

39 When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. 40 And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

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

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

*Sit*

*Hymn of the Day*

*LSB 383 sts. 1-5*

*“A Great and Mighty Wonder”*



1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:  
2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,  
3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,  
4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,  
5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!  
And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.  
Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.  
The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.  
And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

*Refrain*



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

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## Sermon

**“Believing is Seeing”  
Pastor Tom Rhodes**

*Stand*

**Apostle's Creed**

*LSB 207*

**☐ ☑ I believe in God, the Father  
Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day  
He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven and sits at the  
right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

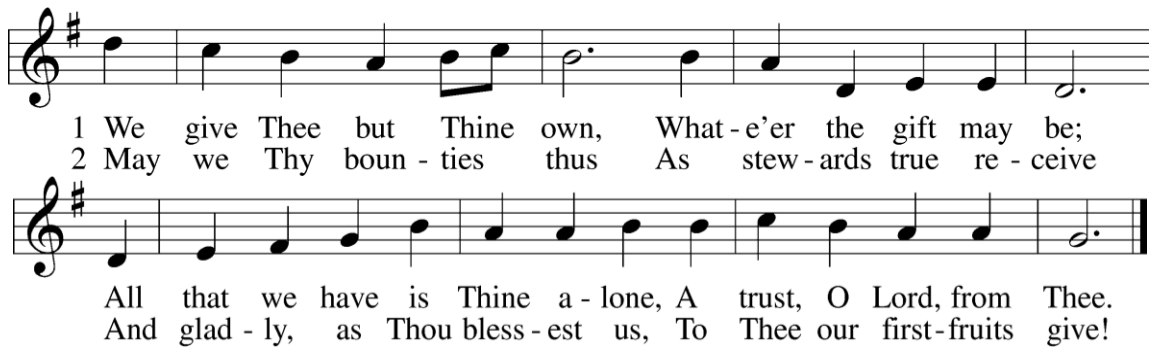
# Offering

*In quiet devotion and responding in personal stewardship of God's abundant provision to you, please use the offering plate in the back as you enter or exit. (This is just as it says: An offering to God through His church. As a reassurance to those in worship today, especially our guests - this is not an obligation - the good news of Jesus is free to all!)*

## Offertory (no intro)

*LSB 781 sts. 1-2*

### *We Give Thee But Thine Own*



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive

All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.  
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

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## Prayer of the Church

*LSB 207*

**P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Brief silence*

**P** Father in heaven, You made Your Son the firstborn among many brothers. Open our eyes to see Your salvation in Him for all the world. As you did for Simeon and Anna, stir up our hearts and hands by Your Holy Spirit to participate in and support the mission of Your Church of proclaiming Christ and His righteousness to the nations. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**



**P** Eternal God, our lives are in Your hands. Preserve the lives of children – protecting them in the womb, at birth and as they grow. Guide their parents to provide for them in all things, but especially in bringing them to Baptism and nurturing them in faith. Bind us to You in every stage of our earthly life, and as You kept Simeon and Anna in faith, give to all Your people true faith until this life's end when You take us to be with You. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Lord God, as Your baptized children, holy and beloved, clothe us in Christ's righteousness, putting on His compassion,

kindness, humility, meekness, patience, forgiveness and, above all, love, that He, being our peace, might rule in our hearts with thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** God, our King, You rule the nations of the world, giving government to oppose injustice and oppression. Give wisdom and compassion to all who rule this land, that they may serve faithfully to promote all that is good and right and prevent and punish evil. Wherever our courts or laws are unjust and contrary to Your will, reform them for Your mercy's sake. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Precious Lord, Your mercies are new each day. Show forth Your mercy to those who are in distress of body or soul especially those on our prayer list and cards. Grant healing, relief from pain and a peaceful spirit to these, Your children, in accord with Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## **Lord's Prayer** *Matthew 6:9-13, LSB 209*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom  
and teach us to pray:

**C** **Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## Benedicamus and Benediction *LSB 212*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

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

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

*Closing Hymn*

*LSB 380 sts. 1-3*

*“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”*



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!  
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

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