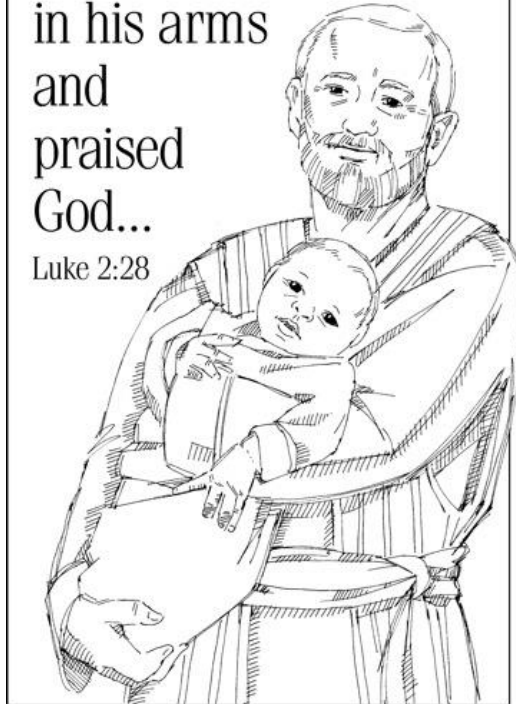


**First Sunday after Christmas**  
**December 27, 2020 10:30 a.m. Service**

Simeon took him  
in his arms  
and  
praised  
God...

Luke 2:28



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



## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Rev. Thomas A. Rhodes, Pastor

PO Box 5 • 600 East Aldrich Road • Bolivar, MO 65613

Phone: 417-326-5506 • [www.zionlutheranbolivar.org](http://www.zionlutheranbolivar.org)

[zionbolivar@windstream.net](mailto:zionbolivar@windstream.net)

Administrative Assistant – Sonya Gorman



THE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Missouri Synod

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 One

December 27, 2020 10:30 a.m.

### *Welcome & Announcements*

+ INVOCATION +

*LSB 151*

*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. *Matthew 28:19b*

**[C]** Amen.

## Opening 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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## Stand

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +      *LSB 151*

**[P]** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**[C]** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination in light of the Ten Commandments.)*

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

**C** 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 151*  
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 152*

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

**© 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.

**© 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.**

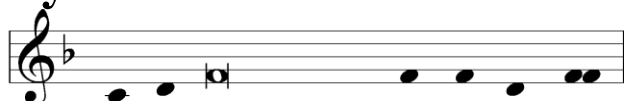
**P** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

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

# Kyrie

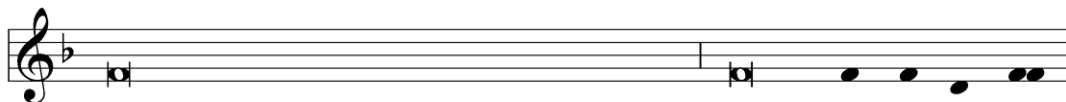
*LSB 152*



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



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



**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



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



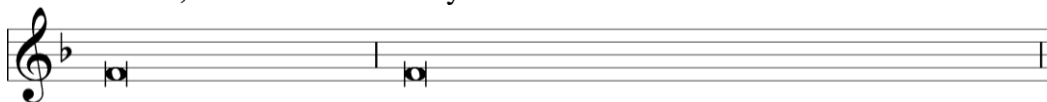
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



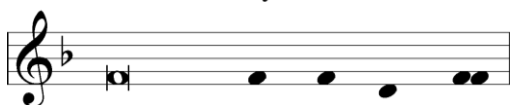
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



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



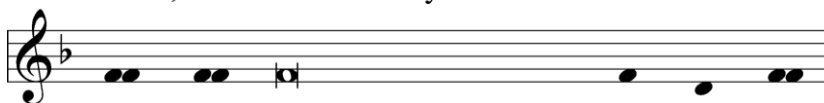
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



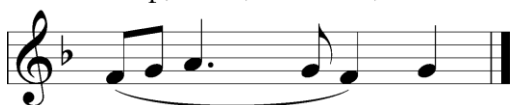
let us pray to the Lord.



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



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



**C** A - men.

## *Hymn of Praise/Gloria in Excelsis*

*LSB 154*



**A** Glory to God in the highest, 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 *LSB 156*

**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.

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading** *Isaiah 61:10-62:3*

10 I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. 11 For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the

Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

62 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her vindication shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch.

2 The nations will see your vindication, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow.

3 You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

**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!

## Epistle Reading

*Galatians 4:4-7*

4 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. 6 Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “*Abba*, Father.” 7 So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Hymn of Praise

*LSB 358 sts. 1, 3, 8, 14, 15*

*“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”*

1 “From heav’n a - bove to earth I come To bear good  
3 “This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your  
news to ev - ’ry home; Glad tid - ings of great  
sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your  
joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:  
Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.

8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,  
Through whom the sinful world is blest!  
You came to share my misery  
That You might share Your joy with me.

14 My heart for very joy must leap;  
My lips no more can silence keep.  
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue  
That sweetest ancient cradlesong:

15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,  
Who unto us His Son has giv'n!  
While angels sing with pious mirth  
A glad new year to all the earth.

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## *Stand*

### **Alleluia and Verse**

*Luke 2:30, 32*

**P** Alleluia.

**P C** My eyes have seen your salvation;  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for  
glory to your people Israel. Alleluia.

### **Holy Gospel**

*Luke 2:22-40*

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



**C** Glo - ry 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 prophetess, 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 367 sts. 1-5*

*“Angels from the Realms of Glory”*



1	An - gels	from	the	realms	of	glo - ry,	Wing	your	flight	o'er
2	Shep - herds	in	the	field	a - bid - ing,	Watch - ing	o'er	your		
3	Sa - ges,	leave	your	con - tem - pla - tions,	Bright - er	vi - sions				
4	Saints	be - fore	the	al - tar	bend - ing,	Watch - ing	long	in		
△ 5	All	cre - a - tion,	join	in	prais - ing	God	the	Fa - ther,		

all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,  
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,  
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,  
hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,  
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.  
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.  
Ye have seen His na - tal star.  
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.  
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;

Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

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## Sermon

## “Believing is Seeing” Pastor Tom Rhodes

### *Stand*

### Apostles’ Creed

*LSB 159*

**[P] [C] 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.**

## Prayer of the Church

*LSB 159*

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

### *Brief silence*

**P** Eternal Lord God, in the fullness of time, You sent forth Your Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, to redeem us and give us the adoption as Your children and heirs. Hear us, Father, as we call to You in His name. Give us grace to rejoice along with Simeon and Anna in Christ's blessed incarnation, and grant us a glad new year. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Heavenly Father, from whom all fatherhood on earth is named, bless families with Your promises. Give parents diligence and delight in their duties, and grant Your favor on all children, that they may grow in strength and in the wisdom

of Your Word. Bless all widows, orphans, and hurt families also with Your mercy, and give them joy in the redemption You have won for us by Christ in His incarnation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** O worthy Judge, from You proceeds the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, of counsel and might, of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. Give wisdom to those who make, administer, and judge our laws, that they may serve faithfully in their tasks, according to Your good pleasure, for the protection of life and for the benefit of all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Gracious Lord, receive our prayers for those who suffer from loneliness. Comfort them with the sure and certain knowledge that they will never be forsaken by You. Give them family and

friends within the household of faith with whom they can find loving companionship. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Blessed Lord, help the sick and suffering, especially those on our prayer list and cards. Surround them with Your love in Christ and, according to Your gracious will, heal them. Comfort all those who mourn the loss of loved ones and fill their hearts with the certain hope of the resurrection through Jesus promise and will. 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.

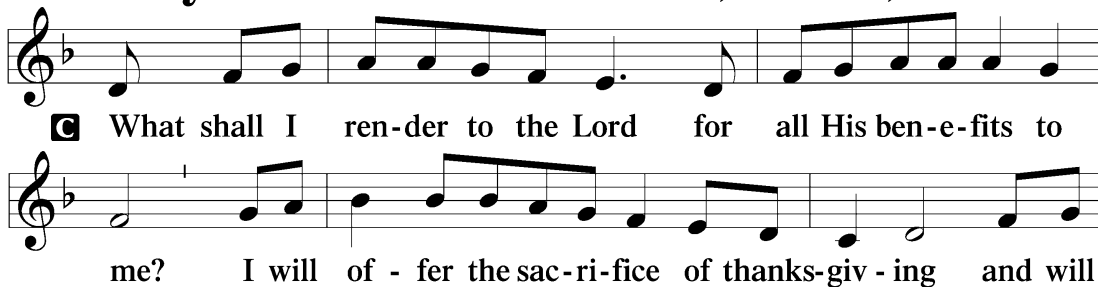
## Offering

*In quiet devotion and responding in personal stewardship of God's abundant provision to you, please use the offering plates 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!)*

## Stewardship Prayer

**P C** O Lord God, grant us a giving spirit, that we may not neglect the poor nor fail to provide resources to the Church to fulfill Your bidding and spread the Gospel to every place. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## Offertory *Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19; LSB 159*



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13, LSB 162*

**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.

**Benediction** *Numbers 6:24-26, LSB 166*

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

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

*Closing Hymn*

*LSB 379 sts. 1-4*

*“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*



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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