

LARGE PRINT EDITION



HOLY COMMUNION

Second Sunday of Christmas

12th day of Christmas

January 5, 2025 + 9:30 am

God with us:

the incarnation of the Word

Learn Live and Share God's Word

Adopted in baptism as brothers and sisters of God's son

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

GATHERING

The disciples urged Jesus strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening, and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them.

GATHERING MUSIC

"Angel Carols"

At the sound of the bell please stand if you are able and face the worship leaders.

ENTRANCE HYMN

(hymn) ELW 270

"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 you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

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, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! 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 we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. Refrain

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

DIALOG & GREETING

P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

C Blessed be God forever.

A The light shines in the darkness,

C And the darkness has not overcome it.

P The Word became flesh and lived among us,

C And we have beheld Christ's glory

A To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

P Grace to you, and peace, from God who shines among us.

C And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Joy to the Word"

(hymn) ELW 267

stanzas 1, 3, & 4

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her king;

let ev'ry heart prepare him room

and heav'n and nature sing,

and heav'n and nature sing,

and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

3 No more let sin and sorrow grow

nor thorns infest the ground;

he comes to make his blessings flow

far as the curse is found,

far as the curse is found,

far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace

and makes the nations prove

the glories of his righteousness

and wonders of his love,

and wonders of his love,

and wonders, wonders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The presider continues with words of welcome.

WORD

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, Jesus interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

CHILDREN'S WORD

Children are invited forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.

FIRST READING

Joy at the gathering of God's scattered flock Jeremiah 31:7-14
God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile.
In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women
will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

⁷ Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,

“Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel.”

⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;

a great company, they shall return here.
⁹ With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.
¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."
¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.
¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.
¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the LORD.

...Word of God, come down to us.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 147:12-20 (ICEL)

Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion. (147:12)

A Jerusalem, give glory! Praise God with song, O Zion!
For the Lord strengthens your gates
guarding your children within.
The Lord fills your land with peace, giving you golden wheat.
God speaks to the earth, the word speeds forth.

[LEFT/ORGAN then RIGHT/PULPIT side]

**L The Lord sends heavy snow
and scatters frost like ashes.**

**R The Lord hurls chunks of hail.
Who can stand such cold?**

**L God speaks, the ice melts;
God breathes, the streams flow.**

**R God speaks his word to Jacob,
to Israel, his laws and decrees.**

**L God has not done this for others,
no others receive this wisdom.**

R Hallelujah!

**ALL Give praise to the Father Almighty;
to the Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord;
to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts;
both now and forever. Amen.**

SECOND READING

The will of God made known in Christ

Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made know as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

...Word of God, come down to us.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands and welcomes the gospel, singing:

ELW #253:

- 1 He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.**
- 2 He came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have light;
he came down that we may have light;
hallelujah forevermore.**

GOSPEL

God with us: the incarnation of the Word

John 1:1-18

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

The holy gospel according to John.

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Stanzas 3 and 4 bookend the proclamation of the gospel.:

ELW #253:

**3 He came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have peace;
hallelujah forevermore.**

**4 He came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
he came down that we may have joy;
hallelujah forevermore.**

Text Cameroon traditional

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

(hymn) ELW 300

“The First Noel”

stanzas 1 - 3

**1 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.**

Refrain

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

**2 They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. Refrain**

**3 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. Refrain**

Refrain

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

Text: English traditional

APOSTLES' CREED

**A We have been made God's people through our Baptism into
Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Prayers are offered for the Church, the earth, the nations, and those in any need.

A Rejoicing in the Word made flesh,

let us pray for the Church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

each petition concludes:

...in your mercy.

C Hear our prayer.

finally:

P ...through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

MEAL

*When Jesus was at the table with them, he took bread,
blessed and broke it and gave it to them.
Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him.*

PEACE

P Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given.

And his name is Prince of Peace.

The light and peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

The assembly is invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

OFFERING

When bread and wine are broken and shared in the Lord's Supper an offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Please leave your offerings in the baskets in the aisles or give online. During this time, the table is set. Please stand as the offering procession reaches the chancel. Thank you for your generosity.

“On Christmas Night/ Bring a Torch”

Jubilate Bells

Presentation of the Gifts

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray together.

C God of time and eternity,

you have given your only Son,

born of Mary, to save and redeem us.

**Bless us with all good things, that the works of our hands
through all the years of our lives may proclaim**

the news of your redeeming love in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The assisting minister pours out the wine.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

P ...and join their unending hymn. *(tune: Hark the Herald Angels Sing)*

C Holy, holy, holy Lord... God of hosts, by all adored!

Heav'n and earth cannot contain... all the glory of your name.

**Hail, hosanna, God most high!... Blest is he who now draws
nigh...**

In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing:

Hail! Hosanna. Praise be due, evermore Lord God to you!

The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:

Lord's Prayer (1789)

P As Christ teaches, we 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.

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

Communion

“Lamb of God”

setting 3; page 146

C Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin
of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take
away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

silence for reflection concludes the communion

Prayer after Communion

A Let us pray.

God our Father, you loved the world so much that you gave
your only Son for us. Increase and strengthen our faith and
fix it firmly on the mystery of your Word made flesh, that
we may triumph over all evil, through Christ who reigns
forever and ever.

C Amen.

SENDING

That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem.

*They told what had happened on the road and
how he had been made to known to them in the breaking of the bread.*

BLESSING

P May the love of Jesus Christ, the light of the world,
fill your hearts and illumine your path.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

(hymn) ELW 275

“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

stanza 1, 2, & 4

- 1 Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.**
- 2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.**
- 4 All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.**

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.,
sts. 1-3; Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, st. 4

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

DISMISSAL

Please face the worship leaders for the dismissal.

A Go in peace. Christ is your light.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“This Little Light of Mine”.

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor Foy Christopherson, *presiding*

Audrey Erickson, *assisting minister*

Diane Langer, *reader*

Ruth Bills, *director of music & worship*

Jubilate Bells

Myrna Flatland, Anna Matthes, *tech desk*

Janell Partyka, *sacristan/altar guild*

Al Erickson, Wayne Halverson, *ushers*

Doug Jacobsen, *bus ministry*

Jim & Nancy Felicetta, *coffee hosts*

Chancel flowers this weekend are given by Diane Langer
in memory of Mark and Pam Davis.

If you wish to donate flowers sign up in the narthex or call the church office.

Please join us for coffee fellowship in the lower level following worship.

This service is being streamed live on the internet.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

WELCOME

Everyone is welcome. We are a faith community participating in the life of God, a life that is a gift to us and in which we are actively engaged. That gift compels us to be actively engaged in the neighborhoods of Northeast Minneapolis as well. We are a multigenerational community that proudly celebrates our history while joining together with younger generations to follow where God is leading. We build our community through faith practices like prayer, dwelling in the Word and hospitality.

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. If you would like more information about Mt. Carmel, please contact us at 612-781-2796, or email pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org

Children are welcome at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available outside the sanctuary.

Welcome to the Lord's Table. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to you where you are seated if you require accessibility accommodation. Please inform the ushers. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. White grape juice is available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

Welcome to the Holy Baptism. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Baptism. Please visit with any worship leader, staff member, hospitality volunteer, contact the church office, or complete an information card, indicating that you wish to be baptized. Our pastor will contact you.

Friends of Mt. Carmel...Stay connected

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church – people who feel a connection both to the history and the ongoing mission of this congregation. If you're one of them, we invite you to join a new network of Friends of Mt. Carmel. Email pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org for more information or to join.



Digital giving is available at Mt. Carmel. You can easily donate online through our website at mountcarmelmpls.org and click on **Give**. Mt. Carmel Lutheran is supported by generous people like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-781-2796.

MT. CARMEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

learn, live and share God's word

1701 St. Anthony Pkwy NE • Minneapolis, MN 55418
612-781-2796 • www.mtcarmel.net



