



**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
***COME TO RECEIVE – GO TO SHARE***  
***December 29, 2024***

## First Sunday after Christmas

### Welcome and Announcements

### Pre-Service Music

*Stand*

**Entrance Hymn: 366 It Came upon the Midnight Clear**

*LSB 366*

✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

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

### Exhortation

*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.**

*Kneel/Sit*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

### Confession of Sins

*LSB 151*

- 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.**

### Absolution

*LSB 151*

- 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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

*Stand*

*The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).*

## ✠ Service of the Word ✠

### Kyrie

152

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** 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 mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

### Gloria in Excelsis

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

*Christmas 1*

**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

*Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15*

<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.'"

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## 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.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia Verse

*LSB 156*

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. 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.

<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.**

## 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 † of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

## Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 393 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

LSB 393

Sermon

Offering

*Stand*

Offertory: 955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

LSB 955



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the  
hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and  
give us A fore - taste of the feast to come.

## Prayer of the Church

**P** Filled with the good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, and for all people.

*A brief silence.*

**P** For those who teach and those who learn, we pray. Bless the education ministries of Your church. Guide Sunday School teachers, Confirmation instructors, college and seminary professors, and Bible study leaders in our ongoing faith formation and learning. God of grace,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

**P** For the well-being of Your people, we pray. Keep watch over all who travel this holiday season. Accompany those who are alone or ill. Console parents and children whose relationships are strained or severed. God of grace,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

**P** For the ministry of this congregation, Grace Lutheran Church, we pray. Let the Word of Christ dwell among us. Bless our ministries within these walls, and in the community. God of grace,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

**P** For all those who are sick and hurting, those without resources, and those who are mourning, we pray (*especially ...*). Lift their spirits by your Holy Spirit, and help them to know your healing presence. God of grace,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

**P** For the nations of the world, we pray. Raise us rulers who lead with compassion, kindness, humility, and patience. Let Your peace rule in their hearts and in all lands. God of grace,

**C** **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**P** We commend these prayers to You, O God, trusting Your grace make known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## ✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

### Preface

**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.**

### Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good and right that we should offer thanks and praise to You, Lord God, eternal Father. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh You have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of Your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

### Sanctus

161



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

161

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

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

**G** **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 Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

163

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

**G** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

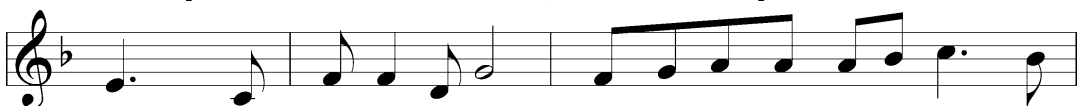
163



**G** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

**Distribution of Holy Communion**

*We believe, teach and confess that those who commune receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord---in, with and under the bread and wine---for forgiveness of sins and strengthening in faith and life. All baptized, believing Christian guests are invited to examine themselves, as exhorted by St. Paul. Those who are in agreement with this statement are invited to join us at the Altar. If you have a question regarding this, please ask to speak with the Pastor or one of the Elders.*

*Both individual and common cups are available. Also, if you would prefer to receive non-alcoholic white grape juice, there are individual cups in the center of the tray.*

*Please hand your completed family attendance card to the usher on your way to receive communion.*

**Distribution Hymn: 361 O Little Town of Bethlehem** LSB 361

**Distribution Hymn: 624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born** LSB 624

**Nunc Dimittis** LSB 165

Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to reveal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;  
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

*Stand*

### The Dismissal

- 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.**

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Holy God, with our eyes we have seen Your salvation, and in this meal have feasted on Your grace.
- C** **May Your Word take flesh in us, that we may be Your holy people, revealing Your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### Benediction

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.**

### Hymn to Depart: 389 Let All Together Praise Our God

*LSB 389 sts. 1-4, 7*

### Christmas Dismissal

- A** Christ, the Savior, is born!
- C** **Joy to the world!**
- A** Go in peace, and serve the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

### Acknowledgments

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