

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

JANUARY 1, 2023

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Hermiston, Oregon



CALL TO WORSHIP

John 1:14, Isaiah 60:1 & 3, Isaiah 9:6

P: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory,

C: glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P: Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.

**C: For to us a Child is born,
to us a Son is given,
and the government shall be upon His shoulder.**

P: And His name shall be called

**C: Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.**

P: Of the increase of His government and of peace there will be no end.

HYMN #379 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Philippians 2:7-8 NIV

P: We confess, Almighty God, that like lost sheep we have erred and strayed from Your ways.

C: We have followed the desires of our own hearts.

We have offended You by disobeying Your laws.

We have fallen short of Your expectations and demands.

P: We have not done that which we ought to have done; and we have done that which we ought not to have done.

C: In the midst of this assembly I confess to You that I am a sinner.

P: On New Year's Day it is wholly appropriate that we acknowledge that it was because of our sin that Jesus "made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death,

C: even death on a cross!"

We pause to reflect on our sin AND on the Lord's mercy

P: O Lord, have mercy;

C: O Christ, have mercy;

O Lord, have mercy.

P: Lord, spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared to us in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

**C: And grant, for His sake, that we may live sober, upright,
and godly lives,
to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

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.

THE PSALM

Psalm 111

P: Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,

C: in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

P: Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

Full of splendor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.

He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered;

the LORD is gracious and merciful.

He provides food for those who fear Him;

C: He remembers His covenant forever.

P: He has shown His people the power of His works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy;

they are established forever and ever,

to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever.

C: Holy and awesome is His name!

P: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;

all those who practice it have a good understanding.

C: His praise endures forever!

COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

P: 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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 63:7-14

I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD, the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD has granted us, and the great goodness to the house of Israel that he has granted them according to his compassion, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely." And he became their Savior. ⁹In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. ¹⁰But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit; therefore he turned to be their enemy, and himself fought against them.

¹¹Then he remembered the days of old, of Moses and his people. Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is he who put in the midst of them his Holy Spirit, ¹²who caused his glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses, who divided the waters before them to make for himself an everlasting name, ¹³who led them through the depths? Like a horse in the desert, they did not stumble. ¹⁴Like livestock that go down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest. So you led your people, to make for yourself a glorious name.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Isaiah 9:6 & Psalm 98:1

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 LESSON

Galatians 4:4-7

When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:13-23

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

¹⁶Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

¹⁹But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." ²¹And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: "He shall be called a Nazarene."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON HYMN #389 “Let All Together Praise Our God”

SERMON

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Ruth 2:4

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In the beginning You created all things by Your Word; and in the fullness of time Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. Let Your Word made flesh dwell richly among us that, faithfully eating His body and drinking His blood, we may receive the fullness of Your grace and truth in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**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

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

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

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN DURING COMMUNION #393 "Infant holy, Infant Lowly"

Infant holy, Infant lowly,
For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, Little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, Angels singing,
Bells are ringing, Tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, Shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, Heard the story,
Tidings of a Gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow,
Praises voicing, Greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Public domain

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION 2 Corinthians 13:14

P: May the grace of the ✠ Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen

HYMN “Greet Now the Swiftly Changing Year” sung to: “Lift Up Your Heads You Mighty Gates”

The Mite Offerings will be received during the closing hymn

Greet now the swiftly changing year
With joy and penitence sincere.
Rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace
Another year of God’s own grace.
Remember now the Son of God
And how He shed His infant blood.
Rejoice, with thanks embrace,
Another year of grace!

This Jesus came to end sin’s war;
This Name of names for us He bore,
Rejoice, rejoice, with thanks embrace
Another year of God’s own grace.
His love abundant far exceeds
The volume of a whole year’s needs.
Rejoice, with thanks embrace,
Another year of grace.

With Him as Lord to lead our way
In want and in prosperity,
What need we fear in earth or space,
In this new year of God’s own grace?
God, Father, Son, and Spirit, hear!
To all our pleas incline Your ear;
Upon our lives here trace,
Another year of grace.

