

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 29, 2024

**WE ARE ONE CHRISTIAN FAMILY LED BY GOD'S WORD AND THE
HOLY SPIRIT INTO LOVING SERVICE.**

**Our values are
Bible Based Preaching, Spiritual Growth, Great Commission
(Go, Make Disciples...)**

PRELUDE

GREETING

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

OPENING HYMN "Let Us All with Gladsome Voice" LW 42

**Let us all with gladsome voice praise the God of heaven,
Who, to make our hearts rejoice, His own Son has given.**

**To this place of fears he came, servant, healer, mender;
Through his death we heaven claim, there to reign in splendor.**

**We are rich, for he was poor; is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore here on earth and yonder.**

**Christ, our Lord and Savior dear, Oh, be ever near us.
Be our joy throughout each year. Amen, Jesus, hear us.**

INVOCATION

(ref. Matthew 18:20)

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. *(1 John 1:8)*

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father. *(ref. Ps 32:5)*

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: 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 the Word I announce the grace of God to you: your sin is forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *(Ref. Matt. 18:18; John 20:22-23)*

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE "This Is the Feast Of Victory" LW page 182-183 *(Rev.5:11-13)*

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**C*: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor
and blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia
Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever.
Amen**

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia, alleluia.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...

C: Amen

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 84:1-4, 8

I will sing of the LORD's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations. 2 I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you have established your faithfulness in heaven itself. 3 You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant, 4 'I will establish your line forever and make your throne firm through all generations.'" ... 8 Who is like you, LORD God Almighty? You, LORD, are mighty, and your faithfulness surrounds you.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Colossians 3:12-17

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 whatever grievances you may have against one another. 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 word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. 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.

R: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE (stand)

(John 6:68)

**C: Alleluia Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 2: 22-40

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 18th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, 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 upon him. 26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die

before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 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 now dismiss your servant in peace. 30 For my eyes have seen your salvation, 31 which you have prepared in the sight of all people, 32 a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to 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 Phanuel, 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 upon him.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: *Praise to you, O Christ.***

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY 'Lo, How a Rose is Growing' LW 67 1,2,4,5

**Lo, how a rose is growing, a bloom of finest grace;
The prophets had foretold it: a branch of Jesse's race
Would bear one perfect flower here in the cold of winter
And darkest midnight hour.**

**The rose of which I'm singing, Isaiah had foretold.
He came to us through Mary, who sheltered him from cold.
Through God's eternal will this child to us was given
At midnight calm and still.**

**This flower, so small and tender, with fragrance fills the air;
His brightness ends the darkness That kept the earth in fear.
True God and yet true man, He came to save his people
From earth's dark night of sin.**

**O Savior, child of Mary, who felt all human woe;
O Savior, king of glory, who triumphed o'er our foe;
Bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven
And into endless day.**

SERMON

CONFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES CREED

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 - concluding with

P: Lord in your mercy... C: Hear our prayer.

OFFERTORY

**C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, And take not your Holy Spirit
From me. Restore to me The joy of your salvation and uphold me with
your free Spirit.**

THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift your hearts and hands in praise 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.

P: It is truly good, right, and helpful... evermore praising you and singing:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full
of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYERS AND THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Lord Jesus, 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.

P: Our Lord on the night he was betrayed . . .

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

C: And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

**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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: The Nunc Dimittis

C*: Lord now lettest thou thy servant Depart in peace according to thy word,
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation: Which thou hast prepared before
the face of all people, A Light to lighten the Gentiles And the Glory of thy
people Israel.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, And ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

(Numbers 6:24-26)

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

CLOSING HYMN "Go, My Children, With My Blessing" LSB 922

**Go, my children, with my blessing, Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, You are my own.**

**Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story; Here you touched him, saw His glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.**

**Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you; Here his tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.**

**I the Lord, will bless and keep you And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, my children; I will keep you And give you peace.**

Silent prayer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE