

# December 25, 2022: Christmas Day

## A SAVIOR BORN TO DWELL AMONG US

Preservice: "Of the Father's Love Begotten,"  
"Repeat the Sounding Joy,"  
"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Handbells

## Processional Cross

*Please stand and join to sing as the cross processes in.*

## Hymn: 353 Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow nor thorns in -  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748  
Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759, adapt.  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Opening Sentences

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,  
**and the Word was God.**

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us,  
**and we have seen his glory the glory of the one and only Son.**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
**and the government will be on his shoulders.**

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor,  
**Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

## Confession and Absolution

Dearly beloved of God, we come together this day to hear of the great miracle that God became flesh and dwelt among us. Because He did this in order to free us from our sins, let us first consider our sinfulness and confess our need before God and one another.

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

We join to seek God's grace and mercy, convinced of His love.  
**Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, cleanse us of our guilt and shame, and lead us to everlasting life; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

To all who receive him, who believe in his name, he gives the right to become children of God. Upon this, your confession, I, as a called servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and by the command of the Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Hymn: 350 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 - ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Right - eous - 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 th' in - car - nate De - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,



with th' 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.

### *Refrain*



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.  
Tune: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809–1847  
Text and tune: Public domain

# The Word

## Salutation

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Isaiah 52:7–10*

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful on the mountains  
are the feet of those who bring good news,  
who proclaim peace,  
who bring good tidings,  
who proclaim salvation,  
who say to Zion,  
“Your God reigns!”

<sup>8</sup>Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices;  
together they shout for joy.  
When the LORD returns to Zion,  
they will see it with their own eyes.

<sup>9</sup>Burst into songs of joy together,  
you ruins of Jerusalem,  
for the LORD has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD will lay bare his holy arm  
in the sight of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth will see  
the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn: 361 Go, Tell It on the Mountain**

*sts. Ref-1, 3*

**Second Reading**

*Hebrews 1:1-9*

<sup>1</sup>In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. <sup>3</sup>The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. <sup>4</sup>So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

<sup>5</sup>For to which of the angels did God ever say,

“You are my Son;  
today I have become your Father”?

Or again,

“I will be his Father,  
and he will be my Son”?

<sup>6</sup>And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God's angels worship him.”

<sup>7</sup>In speaking of the angels he says,

“He makes his angels spirits,  
and his servants flames of fire.”

*Continued on the next page*

<sup>8</sup>But about the Son he says,

“Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever;  
a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.

<sup>9</sup>You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;  
therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions  
by anointing you with the oil of joy.”

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

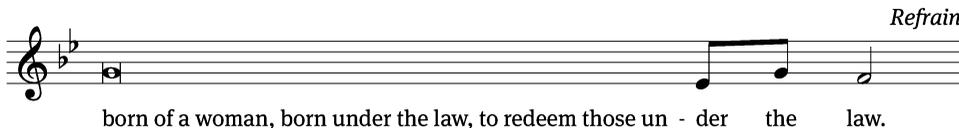
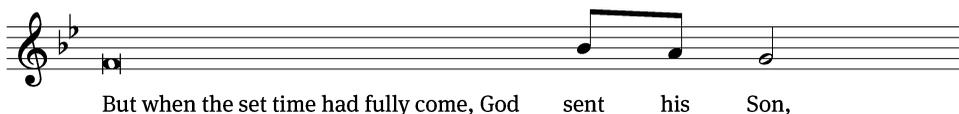
*Galatians 4:4,5*



*Refrain*



*Tone*



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## Gospel

John 1:1–14

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup>Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup>He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— <sup>13</sup>children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

<sup>14</sup>The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## Hymn of the Day: 358 Of the Father's Love Begotten

**Sermon: John 1:1-14**

*Pastor Robert Raasch*

*Stand*

## The Second Article (Redemption)

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P: What does this mean?

**I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.**

**He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.**

**All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.**

**This is most certainly true.**

*Be seated*

## **Prayer of the Church**

### **Offering**

*Notes for Holy Communion: Ushers will direct you forward to the waiting line. Wafers are distributed to each person's hand. If you need a gluten-free wafer, hold your hand palm down. Non-alcoholic white wine is located in the center of each tray of cups. If you need assistance taking the cup, hold up your hand and the distributor will pour the cup into your mouth.*

## **The Sacrament**

*Stand*

### **Preface**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## Proper Preface

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whose wonderful and mysterious birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

*Tune: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG*



1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,  
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,



your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."  
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!



Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:  
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!



in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.  
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

Text: Michael D. Schultz

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## Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

*Continued on the next page*

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

## **Words of Institution**

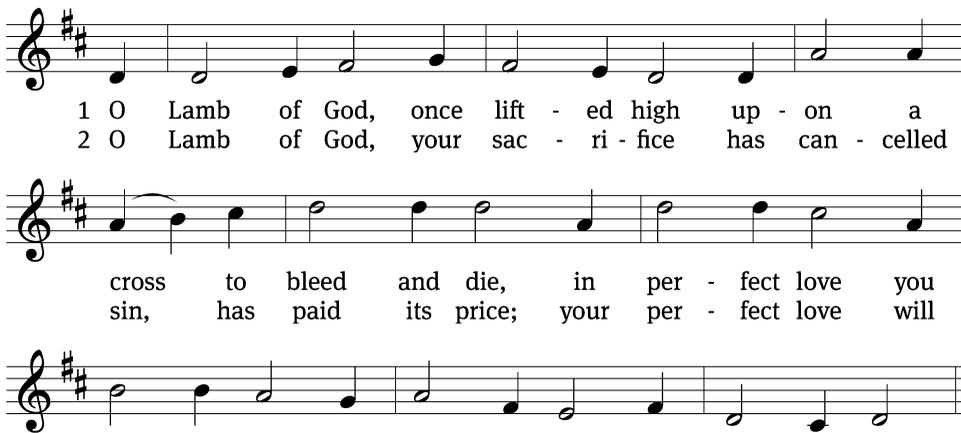
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✠ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

## O Christ, Lamb of God

Tune: *PUER NOBIS*



1 O Lamb of God, once lift - ed high up - on a  
2 O Lamb of God, your sac - ri - fice has can - celled  
cross to bleed and die, in per - fect love you  
sin, has paid its price; your per - fect love will  
took our place— be - stow on us your sav - ing grace.  
nev - er cease— have mer - cy, Lord, and grant us peace.

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*Be seated*

## Distribution

Hymn: 342 O Jesus Christ, Your Manger Is

Hymn: 331 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

*Stand*

## Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

## Proclamation

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

## **Post-Communion Prayer**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

**Amen.**

**Presiding Minister: Pastor Joel Zank**

**Organist: Klint Kaddatz**

**Handbells: Amy Nogar**

**Instrumentalists: Katherine Oleszko and Julie Neujahr**

## **Acknowledgments**

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