

December 31, 2023
1st Sunday after Christmas



LUTHERAN CHURCH
1183 BIG BEND RD.
MANCHESTER, MO 63021

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✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #99

"Now Are the Days Fulfilled"

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

Confession & Absolution

- P** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.
- C** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from conception. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.**
- P** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!
- C** Amen!

The Introit

Ps. 93:1-5

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P** Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.
- C** **Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.**
- P** The Lord reigns; he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed; he has put on strength as his belt.
- C** **Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.**
- P** The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring.
- C** **Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty!**
- P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
- C** **As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

The Kyrie & The Gloria Patri

Latin for "Lord, Have Mercy" and "Glory be to the Father"



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

Collect Prayer of the Day

A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.

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.

2 Samuel 7:1-16

Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ² the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent." ³ And Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you." ⁴ But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵ "Go and tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in?' ⁶ I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷ In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"" ⁸ Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹ And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰ And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹ from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹² When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be to him



2 SAMUEL 7:16, NIV

a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, ¹⁵ but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. ¹⁶ And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."

Galatians 4:4-7

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

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

🎵 *Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*These words are written that we may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Confession of Faith

The 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 Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn: TLH #94

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Luke 2:22-40

And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ 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. ²⁷ 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, ²⁸ he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, ²⁹ "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation ³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel." ³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ 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 ³⁵ (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed." ³⁶ 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, ³⁷ 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. ³⁸ 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. ³⁹ And when



they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Christmas Leftovers

- I. Rejoicing with Simeon
- II. Marveling with Mary and Joseph
- III. Joining Anna in Giving Thanks and Witnessing

The Offertory

In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.

☩ *♩ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.*

✠ **The Offering of Thankful Hearts** ✠

Hymn: WS #712

"What Child is This"

✠ **The General Prayer** ✠

The Lord's Prayer *Sung to the Tune of "Away in a Manger"*

☩ *♩ Our Father in heaven, All praise to Your name!
Your kingdom among us, Your will done the same
By mortals and angels. Come, Lord, reign alone:
Oh, hear us and bless us From heaven's high throne.*

*The bread that we yearn for Provide us each day;
As we forgive others, Our sins take away;
In times of temptation, to lead us be near;
From evil deliver Your children most dear,*

*For yours is the kingdom; O'er all things You reign.
And Yours is the power; All things You maintain.
To You be the glory, Resounding again
From all of creation, Forever! Amen.*

The Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

The blessing given by God for His people.

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C Amen!

Hymn: TLH #139

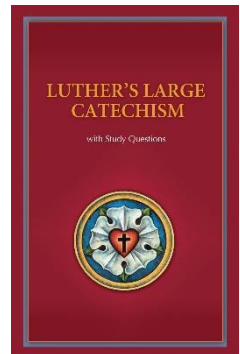
"In His Temple Now Behold Him"

Thank you! Jess and I would like to express our sincerest gratitude to the congregation for the Christmas gifts you gave to us. You have been so very generous with us these past two years and have shown the same generosity this Christmas. We are very blessed to be members of Faith with you!

Our New Year's Eve Service will be held this evening at **7 pm**. Please take the opportunity to join together with your fellow Christians this evening in closing out this year of grace in Word and song. We will be reconsidering readings from the entire church year, rejoicing in all that our Savior has done for us.

Bible Class will be held this Wednesday at 9:30 am as usual.

Luther's Large Catechism will be upcoming Sunday Bible Study material for us, a study which I expect to begin in February. Before that time arrives, please buy a copy for yourself, if you are able. If you would like to purchase the book on Amazon, it is currently \$11.99 and titled, "Luther's Large Catechism With Study Questions." If you cannot buy a copy yourself but plan on attending the Bible Study, please speak with Pastor.



CLC Call News Pastor Thomas Schuetze of St. Paul Lutheran of Lakewood, CO **has received** the calls from Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI and St. Peter's Lutheran of Iron River, MI. <> Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lu. in Rapid City, SD **has received** the call from Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN.