

The Lutheran Church
of the
Resurrection

Our Mission is “To Open Hearts”
Through the message of Christ Crucified

January 3, 2021

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Rev. Benjamin Akers - Pastor

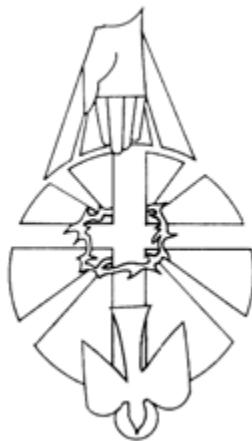
Welcome!

A warm welcome to our guests and visitors! We pray that your spirit would be uplifted and your faith strengthened as we gather together to receive God's Divine Service.

We recognize that little children may not be able to sit patiently through the entire worship service. **There is a 'Cry Room'** just outside the sanctuary where parents may tend to infants during the service. A window and speaker allow parents to continue to follow and participate in the service.

Our Communion practice: This morning, we joyfully celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. We believe that we receive Christ's body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. As we celebrate this sacrament, we also give public confession to our unity in the Christian faith. We therefore invite all communicant members of any congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod to commune. Guests are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. If you would like to receive this sacrament here but are not a member, please speak with the pastor.

Cell Phones: As Lutherans, we believe that God speaks to us through Word and Sacraments. Therefore, please be sure to turn all cell phones off before entering the sanctuary.



+ THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD +

PRELUDE

A Second Light *David Ashley White*

(Stand)

HYMN OF INVOCATION:

#394 SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE *sts. 1–2*

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

EXHORTATION

LSB 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.**

(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.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 45:6–8a, 17



I will cause your name to be remembered in all gener- | ations;*
therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.
Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is
a scepter of up- | rightness;*
you have loved righteousness and hated | wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness
beyond your com- | panions;*
your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and | cassia.
I will cause your name to be remembered in all gener- | ations;*
therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

KYRIE

LSB 152

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

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same 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

Isaiah 60:1–6

¹Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

²For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.

³And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.

⁴Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 72:1-4, 10-11



- ¹Give the king your justice, | O God,*
and your righteousness to the | royal son!
²May he judge your people with | righteousness,*
and your poor with | justice!
- ³Let the mountains bear prosperity for the | people,*
and the hills, in | righteousness!
- ⁴May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the children of the | needy,*
and crush the op- | pressor!
- ¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the coastlands
render him | tribute,*
may the kings of Sheba and Seba | bring gifts!
- ¹¹May all kings fall down be- | fore him,*
all nations | serve him!

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

EPISTLE

Ephesians 3:1–12

¹For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— ²assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. ⁴When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. ⁶This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ⁷Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. ⁸To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, ⁹and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, ¹⁰so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1–12

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(Sit)

HYMN OF THE DAY:

#397 AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD

SERMON

(Stand)

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 ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Each petition is concluded with, "Lord, in your mercy." Our response is, "Hear our prayer.")

- (If you would like to submit a prayer request, please use the form provided on the table in the Narthex.)

(Conclusion)

P ...through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

C Amen.

(Sit)

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Impression in A Herbert Brewer

(Stand)

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 160

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.

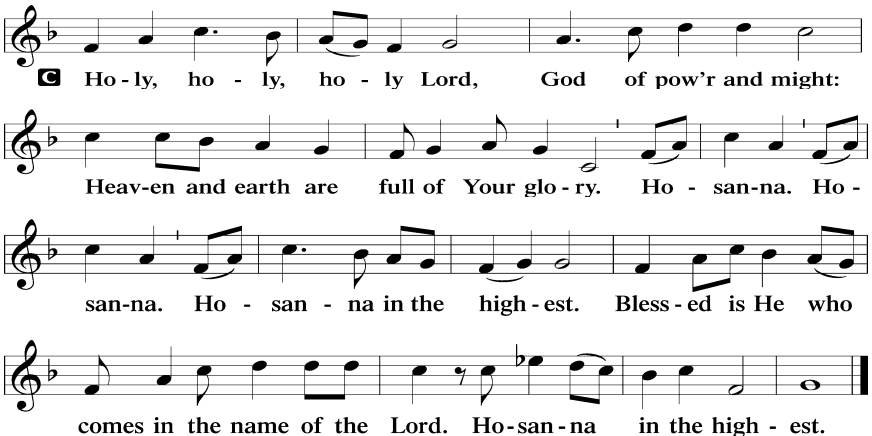
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary...we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 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...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:

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

C 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)

THE DISTRIBUTION

[Please see the Communion Statement on the first page.]

[Communion Wine: The lighter colored wine among the individual cups is de-alcoholized wine in which all the alcohol has been removed.]

DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

#370 WHAT CHILD IS THIS

(Stand)

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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

LSB 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:

#394 SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE

sts. 3–5

POSTLUDE

Epilogue on "Dix" William H. Harris

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Announcements!

The Prayers: In your prayers this week, please remember:

Those in need of the Lord's help with physical struggles:

Angie Carlson —multiple sclerosis; Matthew Gaug (Son of Peter and Evelyn Gaug— Lou Gehrig's Disease); David Klipp (Brother-in-law of Sharon Klipp (recovery from Myasthenia Gravis disease); Jonathan Milhous (Nephew of Sharon Conover—autism with seizures); Megan Huesers (diabetes); Robert Sieber (heart/hip issues); Eleanor Keefe—problem with her eyes; Al Monray (friend of Krys Paules—leukemia); Alen Rowe (friend of Krys Paules—prostate cancer); Dave Willman (friend of Krys Paules—rare heart disease); Lucille (Former co-worker of Krys Paules—alzheimers); Corry Klipp (Sharon's sister-in-law—Alzheimer's); Debbie Knight (Cousin of Laverne Pelletier—healing from transverse myelitis); Virgil Tilton (Friend of Moe and Becky Cote—cancer); Natalie Crowley (recovery from broken hip); Melba Larsen (Mark Larsen's mother—recovery from stroke); Don Pryor (recovery from stroke); Brett Lambert (friend of Maira Goldsmith—heart defect); Robert Drageland (Brother of Rick Drageland—dementia); Beck Keefe (blood disorder); Andrea (friend of Keefe's—cancer); Allen Treadwell (Michelle Hein's father—cancer); Donna Treadwell (Michelle Hein's step-mother—dementia); Russ Morris (David Morris' father—recovery from illness); Peter Doran (recovery from heart problems); Lois Doran (recovery from cancer); Joan Drageland (recovery from illness); Vary Fischer (recovery from leg infection); Angela Gibbs (friend of Tom and Katie Huesers—recovery from stroke); Abigail Quinlivan (Daughter of co-worker of Chris Batson—Leukemia); Melinda Penner (friend of Charlie MacPherson—recovery from head injury); Vicky Lesmerises (friend of Krys Paules—cancer); Cathy York (friend of Jenifer MacPherson—cancer); Nathanael Batson (successful treatments for tumors); Warren Waltz (friend of Jenifer MacPherson—colon cancer); Becky Cote (successful treatment for heart disease); Mo Cote (cancer treatment); Cecilia Foss (niece of James Breslin – recovery from back surgery); Aubri Brooks (friend of Maira Goldsmith – eye disease); Gail Carrano (recovery from surgery); Geraldine Abinader (Sister of Joan Drageland – dementia); Kemp Anderson (recovery from back surgery); Donna Baker (Cousin of James Breslin – recovery); Becky Sue Collins (friend of Gail Carrano – tumor).

Those in need of the Lord's help with aging / life struggles:

Joan Nielsen (Mother of pastor Nielsen); Ruth Kennedy (Grandmother of Christine Thomas); James Wright (Father of Becky Cote); Elfie Wright (Stepmother of Becky Cote); Glenna Wright (Mother of Becky Cote).

The Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Charlie & Jen MacPherson.

Sunday Morning Bible Class and Sunday School

For all ages from 10-10:30am every Sunday. The kids will meet in the Fellowship Hall and the adults will meet in the Sanctuary.

Thursday Bible Study

10:30am in the Fellowship Hall

6:00pm via Zoom.

If you would like to be added to the weekly email list for this class, please contact Pastor Akers.

How Do I Consider Membership In This Congregation?

Twice a year, pastor Akers teaches a 9 week "Inquirer's Class" for everyone who would like to know what we believe, teach and confess. This class is the entryway into the congregation for everyone who would like to become a member or simply find out more. Please see pastor Akers to sign up now.

Prayers for Worship

For a selection of prayers for worship, please see the inside front cover of the Lutheran Service Book and/or pages 305-318 in your hymnal.

Devotion During the Distribution

Further, we say that we are not so much concerned to know whether the person baptized believes or not; for on that account Baptism does not become invalid; but everything depends upon the Word and command of God. This now is perhaps somewhat acute but it rests entirely upon what I have said, that Baptism is nothing else than water and the Word of God in and with each other, that is when the Word is added to the water, Baptism is valid, even though faith be wanting. For my faith does not make Baptism, but receives it. Now, Baptism does not become invalid even though it be wrongly received or employed; since it is not bound (as stated) to our faith, but to the Word. (Martin Luther – Large Catechism)

In The Service Of God's House Today:

Acolyte: 10:45 Evan Farr
Comm. Assist: 8:30 Charlie MacPherson
10:45 Chris Batson
Ushers: 8:30 Rick Drageland
10:45 Mo Cote
Cantor: 8:30 Sharon Conover
10:45 Allison Farr
Greeters: 8:30 Sharon Klipp
10:45 Mark & LeeAnne Larsen
Flowers: The MacPhersons
Altar Guild: Kitty Carlson

In The Service Of God's House Next Sunday: 1/10/21

Acolyte: 10:45 Mia Fitzpatrick
Comm. Assist: 8:30 Glenn Carlson Sr
10:45 Brad Fitzpatrick
Ushers: 8:30 Charlie MacPherson
10:45 John Ayotte
Cantor: 8:30 Jared Goldsmith
10:45 Steve Farr
Greeters: 8:30 The MacPhersons
10:45 Dorthy McAllister
Flowers: The MacPhersons
Altar Guild: Andrea Watson

Daily Lectionary Readings for this Week: *Read the bible every day.*

1/3 **Isaiah 63:1-14 / Luke 2:21-40**
1/4 **Isaiah 63:15-65:2 / Luke 2:41-52**
1/5 **Isaiah 65:8-25 / Luke 3:1-20**
1/6 **Isaiah 66:1-20 / Luke 3:21-38**
1/7 **Ezekiel 1:1-14,22-28 / Romans 1:1-17**
1/8 **Ezekiel 2:1-3:11 / Romans 1:18-32**
1/9 **Ezekiel 3:12-27 / Romans 2:1-16**

(Daily lectionary readings taken from LSB #299-304)

Some helpful habits for home devotions:

- *Keep a journal or make a mental note of one thought that you would like to remember from this reading.*
- *Read and discuss the daily reading with a family member or friend.*
- *Choose one verse to commit to memory, reciting it through the day.*
- *Speak to God in prayer about something from the reading that impressed or confused you.*