

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD—CHRISTMAS DAY

‘Unto Us a Child is Born’

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Tempe, AZ

December 25, 2021

10:00 a.m.



"Emmanuel: God dwells with us."

AS WE GATHER

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." This is the meaning of Christmas. God has come into the world, born of a virgin, in the person of Jesus Christ. All life originates in the Word, in Christ. He is the Creator of all things and He has the life we need, and this life becomes the Light we need. And when we come to the manger, or when we come to the altar to receive his body and blood, we see his glory. The Word-Made-Flesh has life in himself, and that life becomes the Light of men. He is the power to see and the splendor seen. He is the very presence of God among us, just as the pillar of cloud and fire once rested in the tabernacle, God has now tabernacled in human flesh, in Jesus, in our savior, who makes himself known to us, who brings forgiveness, light, life and salvation.

PRELUDE

“The Birthday” -Alec Rowley

PASTORAL WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we gather today to hear the story once again.

It is quite the story, it is full of your promises and our struggles to trust; full of mystery and angels with the most surprising and amazing news being shared with shepherd; a story full of hard endings and unexpected new beginnings. We gather here to hear the story and to pay attention to the angels' message in this place and time. Help us heavenly father to spark our faith anew as we join all creation in worshiping you, the one who is full of grace and truth, who sent your son, Jesus, the Word made flesh, into our midst so that our story would end with us living forever with you. In Emmanuel's name. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Joy to the World” **LSB #387**

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.**

4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove The glories of His righteousness And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.

Stand

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pages 184-185

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father

and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Be seated

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (*Tune "As with Gladness" (Sing)*)

Light a candle bright and tall For the Christ we greet today.
Christ has come, our all in all. With the angels, let us say: Shine
within our hearts today Come, O Christ, to us, we pray.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT (*Read responsively*)

Ps. 98:1–4; antiphon: Is. 9:6

For 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.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

Amen.

For 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.**

GLORIA PATRI *(Sing)* **Page 186**

C **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.**

KYRIE *(Sing)* **Page 186**

C **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *(Sing)* **Pages 187-189**

P **Glory be to God on High,**

C **and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.**

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee.

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest
away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our
prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have
mercy upon us.**

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

**Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in
the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Stand

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY **Page 189**

P **The Lord be with you.**

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

O Lord, let Your merciful ears Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Be seated

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 52:7–10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

⁸The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 1:1–6

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at

the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,
“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son”?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,
“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"The Wexford Carol" -Irish Carol/Arr. Richard Walters

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *(Sing)*

Page 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1–14

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C 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.

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light” LSB #8378

- 1 Break forth, O beauteous heav’nly light, And usher in the morning. Ye shepherds, shrink not with affright, The day of grace is dawning. This Child, though weak in infancy, Our confidence and joy shall be, The pow’r of Satan breaking, Our peace with God now making.**

- 2 O dearest Child, whom I adore, Whose grace surpasses measure, My Brother, whom I cherish more Than earth with all its treasure: Haste from Thy manger to depart, O come and dwell within my heart; With joy will I receive Thee, A cradle there will give Thee.**

- 3 All blessing, thanks, and praise to Thee, Lord Jesus Christ, be given: Thou hast my Brother deigned to be, Thou Lord of earth and heaven. Help me throughout this day of grace To praise Thy love and seek Thy face; And when I stand before Thee Forever to adore Thee.**

SERMON

In Him was Life

John 1:1-14

VOLUNTARY

"In a Little Stable" –(Debby & Doug with Banjo)

Stand

OFFERTORY *(Sing)*

Pages 192-193

- C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take**

not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*Congregation response to petitions:
Hear our prayer.*)

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

P It is truly meet, 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 singing:

SANCTUS (*Sing*)

Page 195

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He, that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Page 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI *(Sing)*

Page 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS “Ava Maria” -Franz Schubert (Marshann)

“Of the Father's Love Begotten” **LSB #384 St. 1-3**

- 1 Of the Father's love begotten Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been, And that future
years shall see Evermore and evermore.
- 2 Oh, that birth forever blessed, When the virgin, full of
grace, By the Holy Ghost conceiving, Bore the Savior
of our race, And the babe, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face Evermore and evermore.

**3 This is He whom seers in old time Chanted of with
one accord, Whom the voices of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word. Now He shines, the
long-expected; Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.**

“Light of the World” -by Lauren Daigle (Annie)

“The Gifts Christ Freely Gives” LSB #602 St. 1–2, 5

- 1 The gifts Christ freely gives He gives to you and me
To be His Church, His bride, His chosen, saved and free!
Saints blest with these rich gifts Are children who proclaim
That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.**
- 2 The gifts flow from the font Where He calls us His own;
New life He gives that makes Us His and His alone.
Here He forgives our sins With water and His Word;
The triune God Himself Gives pow’r to call Him Lord.**
- 5 The gifts are in the feast, Gifts far more than we see;
Beneath the bread and wine Is food from Calvary.
The body and the blood Remove our ev’ry sin;
We leave His presence in His peace, renewed again.**

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

Pages 199-200

- 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.**

THANKSGIVING

Page 200-201

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C **and His mercy endureth forever.**

P Let us pray.

P 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.**

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

Pages 201-202

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Bless we the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

Page 202

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 peace.

C **Amen, amen, amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Go Tell it on the Mountain” LSB #388

Refrain

**Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev’rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born!**

- 1 While shepherds kept their watching O’er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens There shone a holy light.
Refrain.**

2 The shepherds feared and trembled When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus That hailed our Savior's birth.
Refrain.

3 Down in a lonely manger The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn.
Refrain.

Be seated

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

“Glory Patri” from The Magnificat-J.S. Bach

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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SERVING US AT WORSHIP TODAY:

Officiant Preacher: Rev. Tim Anderson

Organist/Director: Ellen Brown

Song Leaders: Debby & Doug Bergman

Special Music: Marshann Donahue, Annie Anderson, Debby &
Doug Bergman

Assisting Elder/Lector: Skip McFadden

Greeters: Kathy Held

Acolyte: Joe Carlin

Visitors, please sign (with a complete address) our **Guest Book** on the podium in the entryway before you leave and/or complete a grey/cream **“Worship Information” card** found in the pew in front of

you. Members are also encouraged to complete a “Worship Information” card (you can update address and phone number, request a pastoral visit)

WE CAN ASSIST THOSE UNABLE TO HEAR WELL...We have 3 cordless headsets available to use in the pews. Just let an usher know and they will be happy to bring you one.



HOLY COMMUNION. . .OUR UNDERSTANDING

It is the special joy of the baptized and instructed Christian to celebrate Christ in our very midst with the Sacrament of the Altar (Holy Communion). The Scripture clearly and carefully teaches that, in Holy Communion, the very Body and the very Blood of our Lord Jesus are really present in, with, and under the forms of bread and wine. It also teaches that "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord (acknowledging the Real Presence of Jesus with the elements) eats and drinks judgment on himself." (1 Corinthians 11:28-29).

Communicants, then, are rightfully prepared and "worthy" when they:

- *are truly penitent of their sins;*
- *even now embrace Jesus as their Savior and recognize His Real Presence in the bread and the wine; and*
- *seek to amend their sinful lives, with the assistance of this Meal and the power of the Holy Spirit.*

If you have any further questions, please speak with the Pastor before the service.

Other notes on the distribution of Holy Communion:

- *1) Wine is the Biblical standard for all communicants. However, grape juice is in some glasses and available in the center of each tray for those who have an intolerance to alcohol.*
- *2) The Blood of Christ, in, with and under the wine, is served in individual glasses and common cup. Please choose your preference..*
- *3) Children and adults not instructed or confirmed are still encouraged to approach The Table to receive a blessing.*