

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

December 25, 2022

10:00 a.m.



The Lord Has Bared His Holy Arm

AS WE GATHER

The long wait is over—the Savior is born! For many people, the days, weeks, and even months have been filled with anticipation for Christmas. For children, it may be an anticipation of gifts; for others, it may be long-awaited family time enjoyed and all the season brings. For all, we pray the Good News of a Savior born this day in the city of David is the overarching reason to celebrate. Others in history had to wait a much longer time for their Christmas joy. Approximately seven centuries before “the Word became flesh” (John 1:14), Isaiah would be inspired by the Spirit to proclaim to the people, “The 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” (Isaiah 52:10). Though the people of Isaiah’s day would not experience Christmas as we do, they would hold on by faith to the anticipated promise of salvation through our Savior who was to come. For us, we give thanks that salvation has come. In the Son of God wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger, and with the mission for humanity set before Him, “The LORD has bared His holy arm” (Isaiah 52:10). May this promise fulfilled increase our Christmas joy as God still comes to us today in His Means of Grace, that we not only see but often celebrate the salvation of our God.

PRELUDE

“The Wexford Carol” -Marshann Donahue

PASTORAL WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

P: In this season of waiting, of longing, of looking for you to come into our world we are seeking light

P: In our own lives

C: We are seeking light

P: In our neighbourhoods

C: We are seeking light

P: In our families

C: We are seeking light

P: In our work

C: We are seeking light

P: In Grace

C: We are seeking light

P: In our nation

C: We are seeking light

P: In our world

C: We are seeking light

P: Lord Jesus, born on this day. You told us to Seek and we shall find, Knock and the door will be opened. We ask that as you are the light of the world, you would give us eyes to see you and ears to hear you as you come to us not just on Christmas, but every day with your grace and truth.

C: Amen

OPENING HYMN

“Joy to the World” LSB #387, 1-4

- 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.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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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 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.

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.

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.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH "Candles Glowing, Promise Showing" Sung to Tune: W ZLOBIE LEZY: ("Infant Holy, Infant Lowly")

**5. Candles glowing, promise showing Jesus born a baby small.
Hosts rejoicing, shepherds voicing: Praising Christ the Lord of All. God is with us, shout hosanna, raise a chorus, singing ever:
Praising Christ the Lord of All! Praising Christ the Lord of All!**

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.

KYRIE *(Sung)*

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P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P 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.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELESIS *(Sung)*

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P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father:

We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

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P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

P 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.**

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 “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day” -The Choir Soloists: Charles Haynes & Donna Evans; Handbells: Cyndi Calender & Sandra Wardwell.

Words and Music by Mark Hall, Bernie Herms, Dale Oliver and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow©2008 BanaHama Tunes/Be Essential Songs/My Refuge Music/Travelin' Zoo Music/Curb Word Music.

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ALLELUIA AND VERSE (Sung)

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

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:1–14

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

C **Glory to You, 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 to You, 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice” LSB #386

- 1 Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!**
- 2 Come from on high to me; I cannot rise to Thee.
Cheer my wearied spirit, O pure and holy Child;
Through Thy grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
Draw me unto Thee! Draw me unto Thee!**
- 3 Now through His Son doth shine The Father's grace divine.
Death was reigning o'er us Through sin and vanity
Till He opened for us A bright eternity.
May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!**

**4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing With all His saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light.
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!**

SERMON

What The Word Became For Us.

John 1:1–14

OFFERTORY (*Sung*)

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C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH (*Congregation response to petitions:*

Hear our prayer.)

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Pages 160-166

PREFACE

Page 160

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 good, 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

Page 161

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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Page 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. 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

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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

Page 162

PAX DOMINI

Page 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Page 164

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

1 “Ave Maria” –(Schubert). **Marshann Donahue**

2 “Angels from the Realms of Glory” **LSB #367, St. 1-3**

1 **Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o’er all the earth; Ye who sang creation’s story, Now proclaim Messiah’s birth. Refrain**

Refrain

**Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

3 **Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations, Ye have seen His natal star.
Refrain**

3 “Let All Together Praise Our God” **LSB #389 St. 1,2, & 7**

1 **Let all together praise our God Before His glorious throne;
Today He opens heav’n again To give us His own Son,
To give us His own Son.**

**2 He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne, Is born an infant small,
And in a manger, poor and lone, Lies in a humble stall,
Lies in a humble stall.**

**7 Your grace in lowliness revealed, Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.**

THANK THE LORD

Page 164

**C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has
done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His
name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Page 166

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.

BENEDICTION

Page 166

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 Sing 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sunday Bible Study: Our Sunday Bible Study on the Gospel of John will continue on Sunday Jan. 8th at 8:30am.

Brunch and Bibles: Will resume on January 11th. Check the bulletin in the new year for more information. Time & Location to be announced.

Blessing of the Animals and Pet Adoption Drive: Saturday January 14th, 11AM - 2PM. Join us on January 14th as we give thanks to God for the blessings of Creation and especially our Pets and Animals. We will have animal blessings, treats and snacks for our pets, food, drinks, and the Maricopa County Humane Society here with Animals to Adopt. If interested in volunteering, talk to Don and Phyllis Schinke or Pastor Tim.

Fellowship Hour: If you would like to bring something in to share during fellowship, please sign your name on the date you would like. The calendar is on the fellowship board. Questions, talk to Debbie O'Neill.

Church Members and others who wish to "give electronically" can now do so by going to: easytithe.com/BSLCTempe.

On the giving page, click on "Fund" and select the appropriate fund from the drop-down list.

The funds are: General, LWML, Missions, Air Conditioners, Memorials for Lucy Durham.

Then follow the directions to complete your transaction.

POSTLUDE "Joy to the World" -G.F. Handel/Arr. Fred Bock

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

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SERVING US AT WORSHIP TODAY:

Officiant Preacher: Rev. Tim Anderson

Organist/Director: Ellen Brown

Song Leader: Debby Bergman

Special Music by:
Donna Evans, Charles Haynes & Marshann Donahue

Lector & Assisting Elder: Don Calender

Greeter: Kathy Held

Acolyte: Joe Carlin

Altar Care: Bobbie Littou

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)

Pastor Tim Anderson is available to you for pastoral and spiritual needs (prayer support, hospital calls, counseling, private communion, etc). He can be reached at the office Monday & Wednesday, 9 AM – 2 PM. Cell phone #480-536-2256.

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.

Attendance for week: 12-18-22 Bible Study—11; Worship Service—50; Proverbs & Sandwiches Bible Study—NA; Income report for 12-18-22: Loose Plate \$33; Weekly Envelopes \$3200; Designated Gifts \$513.50; Other \$485.25; Total \$4231.75; 12-18-22 Midweek Advent 3 Loose Plate \$20; Weekly Envelopes \$525; Designated Gifts \$5.50; Other \$100. Total \$650.50.
THIS WEEK AT BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

December 25, Sunday

NO Adult Bible Study

9:30 AM Music Rehearsal

10 AM The Nativity of Our Lord

(Also, being streamed on Facebook online)

December 26-30, Monday-Friday

Church Offices Closed

December 29, Thursday

4-5 PM Set up and La Mesa is from 6-7:30 PM

December 30, Friday

9AM-11 AM Church Offices Cleaned

January 1, Sunday

NO Adult Bible Study (returns on Jan. 8th)

9:30 AM Music Rehearsal

10 AM The First Sunday after Christmas w/Holy Communion

Prayer List:

We pray for strength, comfort and healing for:

- **Pat Carlin**- now at home recovering.
- Prayers for the family of **Tom Hughes'**: **Shelli, Thomas, Katie his mom & Charlotte Grefe,**
- **David Bomhoff**, Gladys' nephew – several infections, pray infections will not spread.
- **Pattie**, Sandra's sister-in-law – recovering from knee surgery.
- **Carol Hurley**, daughter of Donna Evans, - diagnosed with alopecia, (losing of hair).
- **William**, son of Donna Evans – rapid heartbeat, going through tests;
- **Barbara Willford, Cherryl Rice, Wendy Sievers, Glenn Brown, Lois Sunderman, Bev Dase** – medical issues.
- **Doris Reith** and **Len Lacy** – memory care.
- **Beth Hutson, Jim Schutkowski, Sherryl Ellis, Gerri Koski, Warren and Cheryl** -- chemo treatment.

FOR AT HOME WORSHIPERS WHO STILL VIEW SERVICES ONLINE INSTRUCTIONS ARE BELOW:

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE YOU CAN GO ONLINE & VIEW AT

- 1) Open a webpage browser (internet explorer, chrome, Firefox, etc.)**
- 2) Type or paste the following link into your address bar:
www.facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorLutheranChurchTempe/**
- 3) Option 1 - Scroll until you find a post that shows a “Live” feed titled for the Sunday service, or**
- 4) Option 2 - Click on the “Videos” button on the left-hand sidebar (ignore anything asking you to sign up or sign in to Facebook)**
- 5) Look for the video titled for the date of the Sunday service. Video stream will be live starting at or around 10am. If it does not show up, try refreshing the page. The video of the service will remain on the page if you would like to view it at a later time, or to replay it again at your discretion.**

January 1 "**Out of Egypt**" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook.
"Out of Egypt I called my son." With these words the Gospel of Matthew reveals the rich and interconnected history of the young nation, Israel, and the young Savior, Jesus. Follow them on their journeys to discover the true Israel and what He means to your life today. (Matthew 2:13-23)



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." (I 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.*