

Dec. 27, 2020

*First Sunday
After Christmas*



**GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

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Worship:

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am

Communion:

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

Adult Bible Study &

Sunday School:

9:30 am

(Grace Hall)

+

Pastor:

Richard Willsea

Deaconess:

Karen Suter

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 27, 2020

✠ PREPARATION ✠

PRELUDE

"Cold December Flies Away"
"A Christmas Memory"

setting: D. Busarow
G. Martin

WELCOME

Stand

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES

Luke 2:30, 32; Psalm 71:19, 23

- P** Alleluia! My eyes have seen Your salvation,
G a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel.
Alleluia!
- P** Your righteousness, O God, reaches the high heavens.
G You who have done great things, O God, who is like You?
- P** My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to You;
G my soul also, which You have redeemed.

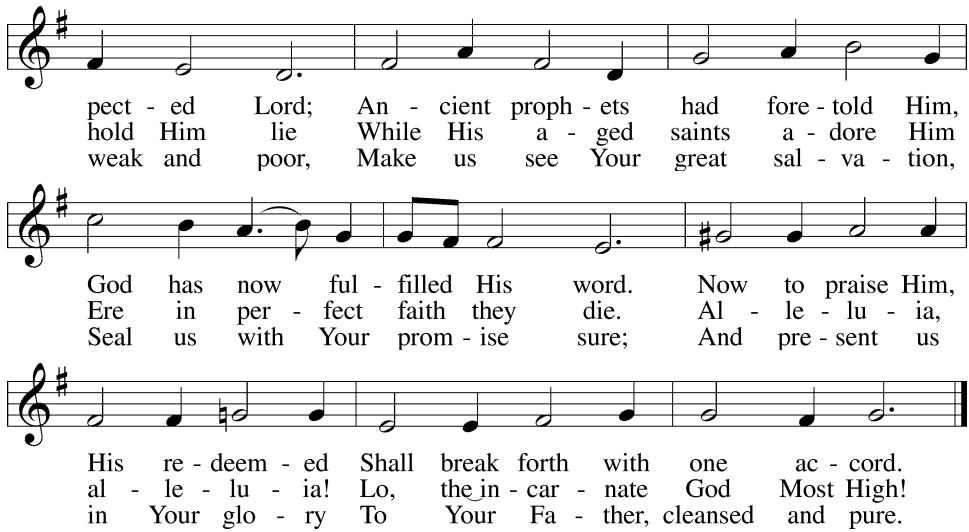
HYMN

"In His Temple Now Behold Him"

LSB 519



1 In His tem - ple now be - hold Him, See the long - ex -
2 In the arms of her who bore Him, Vir - gin pure, be -
3 Je - sus, by Your pre - sen - ta - tion, When they blessed You,



pect - ed Lord; An - cient proph - ets had fore - told Him,
hold Him lie While His a - ged saints a - dore Him
weak and poor, Make us see Your great sal - va - tion,
God has now ful - filled His word. Now to praise Him,
Ere in per - fect faith they die. Al - le - lu - ia,
Seal us with Your prom - ise sure; And pre - sent us
His re - deem - ed Shall break forth with one ac - cord.
al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!
in Your glo - ry To Your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** People redeemed by the Lord, let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.
- C** **Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We repent of having sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have left undone those things we ought to have done; we have done those things we ought not to have done. We have not lived our lives fully in the freedom won for us by our Lord. We have not always shared the bounty You have given us as stewards of Your creation. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus, our Savior. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us to change what is sinful in our lives that each day we grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.**
- P** God has promised pardon, life, and salvation because of the atoning sacrifice of His beloved Son, who has replaced slavery to sin with a priceless inheritance of freedom and joy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.
- C** **Amen.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT, I Pulpit, II Font

Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:10

C 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.

I 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.

II The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

I 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.

II Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

C 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.

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.

Sit

HYMN

“O Sing of Christ”

LSB 362, sts. 1, 4



1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known The kind-ness of the Lord,
4 Lord Je-sus Christ, You deigned to dwell A-mong us here on earth



E - ter - nal Word made flesh and bone So we could be re - stored.
As God with us, Em - man - u - el, To bring this ho - ly birth.

Up - on our frail hu - man - i - ty God's fin - ger chose to trace
 Though rich, You will - ing - ly be - came One with our pov - er - ty,
 The full - ness of His de - i - ty, The i - con of His grace.
 That we might share Your wealth and name For all e - ter - ni - ty!

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, through our Lord Jesus Christ You have taken the slavery under which we were held captive to sin and Satan and have given us new life. By the power of the Holy Spirit at work in us, keep us ever connected to Christ to live out each day in our baptismal grace as we await the joy of life in Your eternal presence. This we ask for the sake of Jesus, our Savior.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 61:10—62:3

The Word is read...

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM, I Pulpit, II Font

Psalm 111

C Praise the LORD!

I *I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.*

C Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

II *Full of splendor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.*

C He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

I *He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers His covenant forever.*

C He has shown His people the power of His works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

I *The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy; they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.*

C He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever. Holy and awesome is His name! The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

**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.**

EPISTLE

Galatians 4:4–7

The Word is read...

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

GRADUAL , I Pulpit, II Font

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

C To us a child is born, to us a son is given;

I *and the government shall be upon His shoulder.*

II *And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

C Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22–40

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

The Gospel is read...

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

HYMN

"Let All Together Praise Our God"

LSB 389



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

- 5 He is a servant, I a lord:
How great a mystery!
How strong the tender Christ
Child's love!
No truer friend than He, \triangle
No truer friend than He.
- 6 He is the key and He the door
To blessed paradise;
- 7 The angel bars the way no more.
To God our praises rise,
To God our praises rise.
Your grace in lowliness revealed,
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield
And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.

SERMON

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED, As printed on forwards screens

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Gathered as God's people and as heirs of an eternal inheritance, let us pray for the whole Church and for all who bear the name of Jesus Christ, who is our Light and our Salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A As we remember St. John, Apostle and Evangelist, we pray for the Church, asking that through her the joyous news of salvation be proclaimed as the Holy Spirit directs. Give us faith to acknowledge and rejoice in the fellowship that we share in Christ with people here and in every place, that we may see in each sister and brother in Christ a reflection of Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord of all, watch over our nation and grant Your divine favor to all who bear office in our land, especially the president and Congress of the United States, the governor and legislature of South Carolina and to all those who make, administer, and judge our laws. Help them to serve all those in their care according to Your holy will, that we may live in peace and safety.

Save us from pestilence and plague, for unseasonable weather, and the dangers that are ever-present in our lives. Grant us Your blessing as one calendar year closes and another begins. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Give a special measure of blessing to those with special needs. Especially we remember the sick, the shut-in, those dealing with depression, those who sorrow, and others known to us who at this time are in need of prayer. Help us to be people who bless, encourage, and strengthen all those in our circles of relationship and beyond. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Sovereign Lord, we remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven. Bless the communion we share on earth as we await the Supper of the Lamb in His kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever.

G Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER, *As printed on forwards screens*

HYMN

"Away in a Manger"

LSB 365



1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.
But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.
Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.

BENEDICTION

P Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold to what is good, return no person evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor all of God's people, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless you and keep you and give you peace.

G Amen.



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,
 3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with
 4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His
 Δ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly



gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,
 full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,
 one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets
 prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him
 Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that
 Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
 Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -
 And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall see
 deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring
 min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Ev - er - more and ev - er - more. A - men.

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

A Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PARTICIPATING IN THIS SERVICE

Pastor: Rev. Richard Willsea

Deaconess: Karen Suter

Organist: Patty Barnes

Violin: Andrew Messersmith

Acknowledgments

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