

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**First Sunday of Christmas**

**December 29, 2024**

**9:00 a.m.**

**WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

Announcement, Silent Meditation, Personal Confession, Prelude

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

**Service of the Word**

**GATHERING**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG**

*“Love Has Come”*

ELW #292 (Attached)

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Exodus 13:1-3, 11-15

The Lord said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>“Consecrate to me every firstborn male. The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to me, whether human or animal.” <sup>3</sup>Then Moses said to the people, “Commemorate this day, the day you came out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery, because the Lord brought you out of it with a mighty hand. Eat nothing containing yeast. <sup>11</sup>“After the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites and gives it to you, as he promised on oath to you and your ancestors, <sup>12</sup> you are to give over to the Lord the first offspring of every womb. All the firstborn males of your livestock belong to the Lord. <sup>13</sup> Redeem with a lamb every firstborn donkey, but if you do not redeem it, break its neck. Redeem every firstborn among your sons. <sup>14</sup>“In days to come, when your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ say to him, ‘With a mighty hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. <sup>15</sup> When Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the Lord killed the firstborn of both people and animals in Egypt. This is why I sacrifice to the Lord the first male offspring of every womb and redeem each of my firstborn sons.’

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks Be To God**

## PSALM 111

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord. I will extol the Lord with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

<sup>2</sup> **Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them.**

<sup>3</sup> Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup> **He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and compassionate.**

<sup>5</sup> He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

<sup>6</sup> **He has shown his people the power of his works, giving them the lands of other nations.**

<sup>7</sup> The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

<sup>8</sup> **They are established for ever and ever, enacted in faithfulness and uprightness.**

<sup>9</sup> He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever—holy and awesome is his name.

<sup>10</sup> **The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.**

## SECOND READING

Colossians 3:12-17

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. <sup>15</sup> Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks Be To God**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”*

ELW #288 (Attached)

The holy gospel according to St. Luke, Chapter 2  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL**

Luke 2:22-40

<sup>22</sup> When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), <sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. <sup>27</sup> Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: <sup>29</sup> “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. <sup>30</sup> For my eyes have seen your salvation, <sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.” <sup>33</sup> The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, <sup>35</sup> so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.” <sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. <sup>38</sup> Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. <sup>39</sup> When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

**GOSPEL RESPONSE:**

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to you, O Christ**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE****SERMON****“A Grandparent’s Prayer”**

Pr. Andrew Young

**HYMN OF THE DAY***“What Child is This?”*

ELW #296 (Attached)

## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord, In Your Mercy.....**RESPONSE:** *“Hear Our Prayer”*

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.....And also with you.

## OFFERING

### PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**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 BENEDICTION –**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.....**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**

*“Go Tell It on the Mountain”*

ELW #290 (Attached)

**DISMISSAL**

Go in Peace and serve the Lord  
**Thanks Be To God.**

**WE GO AND WORK IN THE LORD’S KINGDOM**

Ministers: All who believe

Pastors: Andrew Young

- Piano: Jinx Sorensen
- Flowers: Lori Lanzendorf
- Acolyte: Blake Byrd
- Greeter: Darlene Idland
- Refreshments: Congregation’s leftover Christmas cookies
- Council: Tiina Smith/Adam Byrd/Megan Paulson/Jinx Sorensen
- Altar Guild: Karlene Swenson/Darlene Idland/Amy Young/Heather Geiger

### **Prayers for Healing and Hope**

Darlene Idland's good friend, Janet Kepple, in WI, has a fast growing tumor. Monday, 23rd, is the Surgeon appt to see if it is operable. Praying for His healing love and wisdom bestowed upon her and the doctors for a rejoiceful outcome.

Diane Oddy receiving medical treatment.

Jackie Currey's niece, Heidi Harbaugh, ill with Sarcoidosis.....a rare, very dangerous inflammatory disease.

Prayers for Dustin Hampton's father, as he deals with serious health concerns.

Jeff West recovering from an acute pancreatic attack. He was transferred from Bozeman Health to Seattle for treatment.

Jenn Darr.....Prayers for a full recovery and supportive treatment options going forward.

Mike Mattson's nephew, Dr. Keith Stampher; advanced bladder cancer.

Holly, friend of Rick Moler, undergoing breast cancer treatment.

Jodi Robbins, undergoing chemo treatment for stage 4 uterine cancer.

Erin Waynes mother, Judy Ficke, cancer treatment. Prayers for her medical team and her recovery.

Dwain and Olive Lavinder, dealing with cancer.

Prayers for Dee Feddes's friend Megan from Billings.....diagnosed with ALS.

Mike Mattson's sister, Donna, Stage 4 breast cancer.

Mary Gaub, Joni Sando's mother.....continues cancer treatment.

Carl Watts, friend of the Young family....wife Jane in a care facility because of advanced Parkinson's.

Yoki Johnson, friend of Larry & Char Somers, metastatic breast cancer

### **Prayers for Comfort, Peace and Healing**

Jenn Kolling's friends in Bismarck, ND on the passing of their husband/father.

Sandy Schoff's dear friend, Kathy Welch-Martin....while she was teaching at her HS, there was a fire at her home and her husband and dog died in the fire, which completely destroyed her house.

### **Prayers for Blessings and Encouragement**

Christ's Gift Academy in Mbita, Kenya