

Our Savior Lutheran Church

Second Sunday of Christmas - January 2, 2022

Thought: As we have entered the beginnings of another New Year, we pray together that God will continue to “walk” with us as we remember Emmanuel in the birth of Jesus. Jeremiah says: *With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble.* God in Christ will lead us through each hour, day, month and year and we rejoice because salvation is the gift given to each of us.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

Call to Worship

A: We come to sing aloud of the goodness of the Lord.

C: Let us be alive like a freshly watered garden that will never languish.

A: Our young will rejoice in dancing and our old shall be merry.

C: The Lord will turn our mourning into joy and our sorrow into gladness.

A: Come let us worship in this New Year, God’s gift given.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn – O Come, All Ye Faithful - ELW #283

<https://youtu.be/Q8dgl4-bVPU> Northern Baptist Association

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Redeeming God, you have declared your resolve to save us in so many ways.

C: But we have trouble living as though we actually believe it.

A time of silence for reflection

P: We do not live in the spiritual blessings you have so abundantly bestowed upon us.

C: Forgive us for missing the point. Forgive us for living as though we still have to earn your grace.

P: But just as every parent would long to pass on a rich inheritance to the children, so you have already promised and accomplished our future redemption.

C: With Christ as our assurance, help us to live accordingly. Amen.

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Hymn of Praise – Love Has Come - ELW #292

<https://youtu.be/IgHLSHZFMIE> - Gsus Band NYC

Prayer of the Day

A: O God, Almighty, reigning forever in heaven's light.

C: "The Word became flesh and lived among us."

A: You have sent your one dear Son to live, a human, on this earth.

C: "And we have seen his glory."

A: Fill us with your Word your Light, your love.

C: "Glory as of a father's only son."

A: That we, like Christ our Lord, might live the lives you intended us to live – as children of light.

C: "Full of grace and truth." We pray in Jesus our new born King's name. Amen.

The Word

Old Testament – Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷For thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." ¹¹For the LORD has ransomed

Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147:12-203

¹²Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

¹³**For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you.**

¹⁴He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat.

¹⁵**He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.**

¹⁶He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes.

¹⁷**He hurls down hail like crumbs— who can stand before his cold?**

¹⁸He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.

¹⁹**He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel.**

²⁰He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances. Praise the LORD!

Epistle reading – Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel – John 1: (1-9) 10-18

<https://youtu.be/1g9hvfO1DZU>

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In 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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

Children of God Message

https://youtu.be/XzZL0u_Nz5I

Homily – “Some Children See Him”

<https://youtu.be/mfSyYGRUKIA>

Some Children See Him by James Taylor

<https://youtu.be/s49gEmTIOTk>

Hymn of the Day - Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming ELW #272

<https://youtu.be/kU-E46o0sp0> – Mormon Tabernacle Choir

Second Article of the Nicene Creed

*We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.*

Prayers of Intercession

P: Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence

A: You make yourself known in the gift of language in diverse forms. Draw our attention to those who communicate through sign, braille and technology. Make your church a place where all methods of communication are celebrated. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Creating God, the sun greets us anew each morning. Thank you for waking us up today to witness and share your abundance. Awaken us always to your wisdom and deepen our care for your natural world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Emmanuel, in your name we are assured that you are with us. Train nations and peoples to honor and respect one another, especially those whose names and identities have been mistreated, neglected, or oppressed. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Healing God, we give you thanks for all who labor for the health of others. Comfort and strengthen all who struggle with chronic pain. Send healing and relief to all who are sick (especially). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: You journey with us through change. Guide those assuming new roles in the congregation or making transitions in their families, workplaces or communities. As the season and the calendar change, equip us for unexpected challenges. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We give you thanks for all who modeled lives of loving service. Lead us in your grace until, with all your saints, we enter the fullness of your glory. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

Offering

A time of rejoicing for all the good gifts that God abundantly supplies.

Offertory Prayer

A: Father, the gift of your Son, brings with it gifts so precious...

C: Word, Light, Love, Life...

A: That our humble offerings pale in comparison

C: Accept our gifts, we pray.

A: And empower us, by your Holy Spirit's power,

C: to bring your gifts to the world.

A: Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Music as we prepare for Holy Communion

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” - ELW #295 vss. 1-3

<https://youtu.be/chLMSiozhL8> – ChurchFolk

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

C: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

“Now We Join in Celebration” - ELW #462 Vs. 1

*Now we join in celebration at our Savior's invitation,
dressed no more in spirit somber, clothed instead in joy and wonder;
for the Lord of all existence, putting off divine transcendence,
stoops again in love to meet us, with his very life to feed us.*

Words of Institution

The 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,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Distribution

Distribution Music – Lillian Pinkston

Post Communion Blessing – Pastor

Post Communion Prayer

A: We have come to your table, O Lord.

C: We have tasted your flesh, your Word, your Light.

A: We have partaken of your forgiveness.

C: We carry these gifts with us into the world.

A: Guide us in their use.

C: Make us as extravagant in our graciousness as you are in yours.

A: You are Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

Benediction – Numbers 6

Sending Hymn - Let All Together Praise Our God ELW #287 Vss.
1-3

<https://youtu.be/UgN1UO06SRE> – Immanuel Lutheran Church

Dismissal

A: “Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path”
(Psalm 119:105)

C: “You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your Word.”
(Psalm 119:114)

Postlude