

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Jesus Is the Dayspring
December 28 & 29, 2013

AS WE GATHER

Today, on the fourth day of Christmas, we bask in “the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ” (2 Corinthians 4:6), celebrating Christ to be, as the priest Zechariah called Him, “the sunrise” or “Dayspring from on high” (Luke 1:78). As the light of dawn speaks of a new day on the horizon so Jesus brings a new life from on high down to us today. As the many dawns and dusks of our lives come and go, so are we as those who sit in the darkness of a sinful world called to daily repentance and faith in the light of the forgiveness of sins won for us by the One who endured our darkness for us and came from on high to deliver and release us from sin and death. Even in the face of the foreboding darkness of our struggle we confess joy to the world by faith in Jesus.

WELCOME

“The Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Revelation 7:17

FELLOWSHIP GREETING

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN #375 “Come Your Hearts and Voices Raising”

Come, your hearts and voices raising,
Christ the Lord with gladness praising;
Loudly sing His love amazing, Worthy folk of Christendom.

Christ, from heav’n to us descending
And in love our race befriending;
In our need His help extending, Saved us from the wily foe.

Jacob’s star in all its splendor
Beams with comfort sweet and tender,
Forcing Satan to surrender, Breaking all the pow’rs of hell.

From the bondage that oppressed us,
From sin’s fetters that possessed us,
From the grief that sore distressed us,
We, the captives, now are free.

Continued

Oh, the joy beyond expressing
When by faith we grasp this blessing,
And to You we come confession That Your love has set us free.

Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us,
From Your lowly manger cheer us,
Gently lead us and be near us Till we join Your choir above.

(Rise)

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

People: those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

Pastor: John the Baptist gave the knowledge of salvation in the forgiveness of sins,

People: because of the tender mercy of our God, whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us prepare to receive the light of Christ by confessing our need, the darkness of our hearts. Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light,

People: and usher in the morning.

Pastor: Though we shrink with affright at our sins,

People: the day of grace is dawning.

Pastor: This Child, though weak in infancy,

People: our confidence and joy shall be,

Pastor: The power of Satan breaking,

People: our peace with God now making.

Pastor: May the Dayspring from on high disperse the gloomy clouds of sin and put to flight death’s dark shadows. 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.

People: Amen.

5:00 & 8:00 HYMN OF PRAISE #387 “Joy to the World” Stanzas 1 & 4

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.

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.

10:30 HYMN OF PRAISE “Shout to the Lord”

This baby, my Savior, came down from heaven to earth
Born as a man, part of God’s plan, to show us His amazing love
The wise men, the angels, bow down to honor this King
With joyful hearts, filled with His love, let our voices join and sing

Chorus: Shout to the Lord all the earth, Christ is here
Jesus has come, we need no longer fear
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of his name
I sing for joy as I see your great love
Sent as a baby from heaven above
Nothing compares to the promise I have in You.

Repeat song

Repeat chorus

Ending: Nothing compares to the promise I have...

Nothing compares to the promise I have...in You.

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SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: O Lord, our God, you make darkness, and it is night. When the sun rises,
man goes out to his work and to his labor until the evening. May the
light of the Dayspring from on high enlighten us with faith that in His
light we may see light; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT Isaiah 63:7–14 (*The Lord’s mercy remembered*) I will tell of the kindnesses of the Lord, the deeds for which he is to be praised, according to all the Lord has done for us – yes, the many good things he has done for the house of Israel, according to his compassion and many kindnesses. He said, “Surely they are my people, sons who will not be false to me”; and so he became their Savior. In all their distress he too was distressed, and the angel of his presence saved them. In his love and mercy he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. Yet they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit. So he turned and became their enemy and he himself fought against them. Then his people recalled the days of old, the days of Moses and his people – where is he who brought them through the sea, with the shepherd of his flock? Where is he who set his Holy Spirit among them, who sent his glorious arm of power to be at Moses’ right hand, who divided the waters before them, to gain for himself everlasting renown, who led them through the depths? Like a horse in open country, they did not stumble; like cattle that go down to the plain, they were given rest by the Spirit of the Lord. This is how you guided your people to make for yourself a glorious name.

EPISTLE Galatians 4:4–7 (*God sent forth His Son*) But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

SOLO

“Wexford Carol”

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 2:13–23 (*The flight to Egypt*) When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.” So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.” When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: “A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.” After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.” So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: “He will be called a Nazarene.”

(Be seated)

SERMON HYMN #388 “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

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

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

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

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

SERMON

(Rise)

APOSTLES’ CREED *(found on the inside back cover of the hymnal)*
(Be seated)

OFFERING As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

Pastor: . . . let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Pastor: . . . for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI *(sung to tune #361 O Little Town of Bethlehem)*

Lord Jesus, holy Lamb of God, You take our sins away;

Lord Jesus, holy Lamb of God, You take our sins away.

We who are gathered here now Ask peace for all the earth;

Grant Christmas peace to one and all, And heav’nly joy and mirth.

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(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

5:00 & 8:00 HYMN #389 “Let All Together Praise Our God”

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.

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.

Within an earth-born form He hides His all creating light;

To serve us all He humbly cloaks The splendor of His might,

The splendor of His might.

He undertakes a great exchange, Puts on our human frame,

And in return gives us His realm, His glory, and His name, His glory, and His name.

He is a servant, I a lord: How great a mystery!

How strong the tender Christ Child’s love! No truer friend than He,

No truer friend than He.

He is the key and He the door To blessed paradise;

The angel bars the way no more. To God our praises rise, To God our praise rise.

Your grace in lowliness revealed, Lord Jesus, we adore

And praise to God the Father yield And Spirit evermore; We praise You evermore.

HYMN #370 “What Child Is This”

What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mary’s lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the king, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mary!

Continued

Why lies He is such mean estate Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mary!

HYMN #624 “The Infant Priest Was Holy Born”

The infant Priest was holy born For us unholy and forlorn;
From fleshly temple forth came He, Anointed from eternity.

This great High Priest in human flesh Was icon of God’s righteousness. His
hallowed touch brought sanctity; His hand removed impurity.

The holy Lamb undaunted came To God’s own altar lit with flame;
While weeping angels hid their eyes, This Priest became a sacrifice.

But death would not the victor be Of Him who hung upon the tree.
He leads us to the Holy Place Within the veil, before God’s face.

The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the rail on bended knee
Our hungry mouths from Him receive The bread of immortality.

The body of God’s Lamb we eat, A priestly food and priestly meat;
On sin-parched lips the chalice pours His quenching blood that life restores.

With cherubim and seraphim Our voices join the endless hymn,
And “Holy, holy, holy” sing To Christ, God’s Lamb, our Priest and King.

10:30 “Sanctuary”

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary Pure and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving, I’ll be a living Sanctuary...for You.

God sent Jesus to be a sanctuary Pure and holy, tried and true
Born of Mary to be a living Sanctuary...for You.

God sent Jesus, the glory of the Father Sinless Savior, Lamb of God
Shepherds quaking, angels praising Son of Man and Son of God.

Continued

7

Lord, prepare me to find a sanctuary In Christ Jesus gift of grace
Christmas treasure, eternal pleasure Died on Calvary in my place.
Come, Lord Jesus make me a sanctuary Pure and holy, tried and true
With thanksgiving I’ll be a living Sanctuary...for You.

“The Name”

Sing twice – Praise Singers first time and congregation joins in second time

Abba Father, Living Water, Shepherd, Servant and King.
Master, Teacher, Lord and keeper, Counselor, Prince of Peace.
Almighty Creator, Emmanuel, Savior, Adonai and the Rock,
Hosanna, Messiah, Yahweh, Jehova, Alpha, Omega, God.
Friend and Healer, Christ, Redeemer,
great is Your glorious name, Jesus...the name.

“He Knows My Name”

I have a Maker He formed my heart
Before even time began My life was in His hand

Chorus: He knows my name He knows my every thought
He sees each tear that falls
And hears me when I call

I have a Father He calls me His own
He’ll never leave me No matter where I go *Repeat Chorus*
Ending: And hears me when I call.

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COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray. We thank you, Lord, for shining your light in our hearts
through this Holy Sacrament, and we pray you to let that light shine
through our lives lived joyfully by faith in your truth; through Jesus
Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #832 "Jesus Shall Reign"

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does its successive journeys run:
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made, And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise With ev'ry morning sacrifice.

People and realms of ev'ry tongue Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns: The pris'ners leap, unloose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest, And all who suffer want are blest.

Let ev'ry creature rise and bring Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud amen.

Preacher	Pastor Chuck Ferry
Liturgists	Pastor Harold Bender & Pastor Gregg Stanton
Lectors	Russell Hurst, Virginia Sell, Pam Akey
Acolytes	Keera Provovic, Rhiannon Mueller, Tyler Kroner
Organist	Roger Gottschalk
Soloist	Bev Baumgart
Praise Band Director	Mark Maline
Music Coordinator	Kim Woller

Together in Mission Our Church Council decided last month to become a "Together in Mission" congregation in support of the missionary work of Pastor Charles Ferry. We have committed to supporting him spiritually with our prayers and financially as well. ***We will take a door offering today which will help us meet our commitment of financial support.*** We will also be encouraging additional offerings on a quarterly basis. Please keep Pastor Ferry and his family in your prayers.