



## First Sunday after Christmas December 31, 2023

*Lutheran Book of Worship Holy Communion Setting One*

### **GOD GATHERS US AS HIS HOLY PEOPLE.**

Welcome! We are happy to have you worship with us today.

Hymns this morning: **LBW #42, LBW #55, LBW #39**

#### PRELUDE & WELCOME

*In remembrance of Baptism, you may sign a cross on your chest or forehead.*

We gather to worship the One true God – the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

#### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION (LBW p. 56)

*Matthew 28:19; 1 John 1:8-10*

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*We keep silence for self-reflection and contrition.*

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are in bondage 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.**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.**

#### OFFERING OF PEACE (LBW p. 66)

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*John 20:19-21*

**As God has given us peace by the forgiveness of our sins, so let us forgive and share his peace with our brothers and sisters in Christ.**

*Please, remain standing as you are able for the hymn.*

GATHERING HYMN: **“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” LBW #42 (verses 1-4 only)**

#### AFFIRMATION OF PURPOSE

*Matthew 28:18-20, 22:36-39; Mark 12:30-31*

We are Joy Mission Church, missionary-disciples of Jesus Christ.

**We love God, love neighbor, and serve with joy in Jesus’ name.**

#### APOSTOLIC GREETING (LBW p. 57)

*2 Corinthians 13:14*

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.**

KYRIE ("Lord, have mercy..." LBW pp. 57-58)

Matthew 9:27, 15:22; Psalm 51:1

**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** 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 mer - cy.

**A** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE (LBW pp. 58-59)

Luke 2:14; John 1:29; Mark 16:19; Acts 7:55-56; Romans 8:34; Ephesians 1:20; Colossians 3:1; Hebrews 8:1, 12:2

**A** Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:

We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Continued on next page.

Lord Je- sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa- ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa- ther; re- ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho- ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho- ly Spir- it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men

SALUTATION (LBW p. 62)

Ruth 2:4

☩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:** Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature and be born of the Virgin Mary. Grant that we, having been redeemed and made your children by grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Let us pray together.

*Please be seated.*

**GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. <sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. <sup>1</sup>For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. <sup>2</sup>The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. <sup>3</sup>You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

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

PSALM 111 - *Sung responsively with the cantor. (psalm tone 9)*

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with | my whole heart,\*  
in the assembly of the upright, in the | congregation.

<sup>2</sup>**Great are the deeds | of the Lord!\***  
**they are studied by all who de- | light in them.**

<sup>3</sup>His work is full of majes- | ty and splendor,\*  
and his righteousness en- | dures forever.

<sup>4</sup>**He makes his marvelous works to | be remembered;\***  
**the Lord is gracious and full | of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>He gives food to | those who fear him;\*  
he is ever mindful | of his covenant.

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

<sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faithful- | ness and justice;\*  
all his command- | ments are sure.

<sup>8</sup>**They stand fast forev- | er and ever,\***  
**because they are done in | truth and equity.**

<sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his cove- | nant forever;\*  
holy and awesome | is his Name.

<sup>10</sup>**The fear of the Lord is the begin- | ning of wisdom;\***  
**those who act accordingly have a good understanding; his praise en- | dures forever.**

SECOND READING: Galatians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup>When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

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

*Please stand as you are able.*

VERSE (LBW p. 62)

*John 6:68*



GOSPEL ANNUNCIATION (LBW p. 63)

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



GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:22-40

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, {Joseph and Mary} brought {Jesus} up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup>And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup>And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, <sup>29</sup>“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; <sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation <sup>31</sup>that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.” <sup>33</sup>And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup>And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup>(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.” <sup>36</sup>And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup>and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. <sup>39</sup>And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL RESPONSE (LBW p. 63)



*Please be seated.*

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

**GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND IN FAITH.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

HYMN OF THE DAY: “**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**” LBW #55

NICENE CREED (LBW p. 64)

*Genesis 1-2; John 3:16; Luke 2; Acts 2*

Living together in the trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**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;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate  
from the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated  
at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people as they have need...

*Each petition ends with these words:* Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude with these words:* ...through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

#### OFFERING OF TITHES, ADDITIONAL GIFTS, AND SPECIAL MUSIC

*We offer our time, talents, and treasures in gratitude for all of the blessings God has given us.*

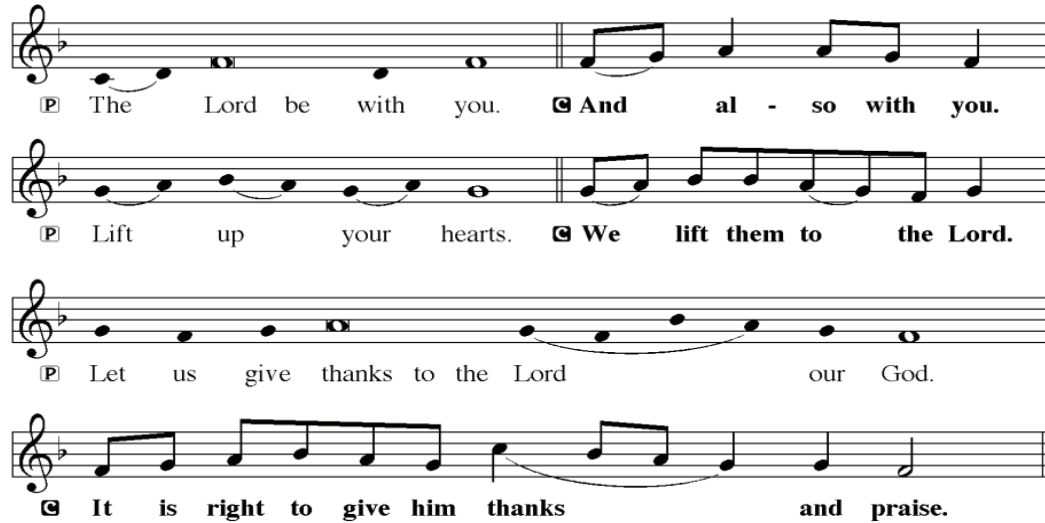
*Please stand as you are able.*

#### OFFERTORY HYMN: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" LBW #565

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER (LBW p. 68)

Let us pray... Blessed are you, **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING (LBW p. 68)



☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.

☐ Lift up your hearts. ☑ We lift them to the Lord.

☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

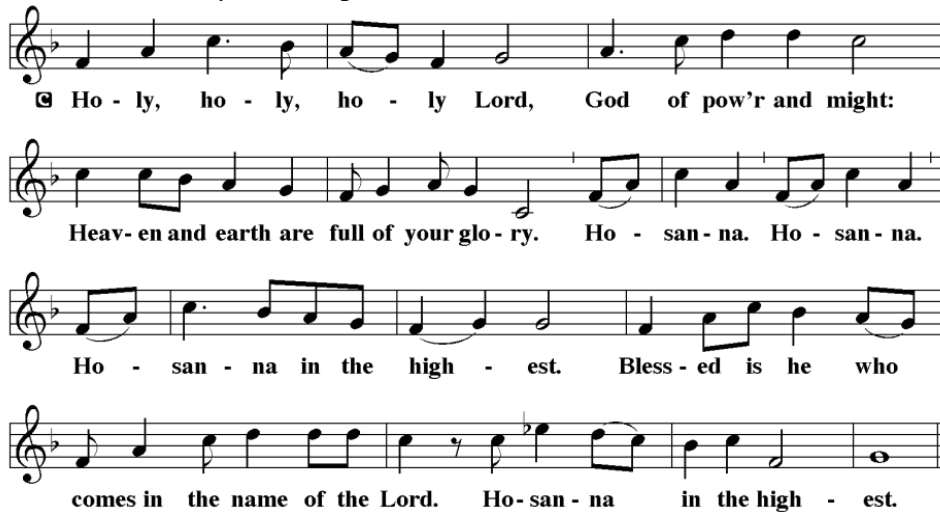
☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE (LBW p. 68) *Sung or spoken by the pastor.*

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, through Christ our Lord. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory; that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS ("Holy" LBW p. 69)

*Psalm 118:25-26; Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9; Mark 11:9*



☑ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (LBW p. 69)

*1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20*

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (LBW p. 71)

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray...

**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.**

COMMUNION HYMN ("Lamb of God..." LBW p. 72)

John 1:29

☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Please be seated.*

**GOD GIVES US HIMSELF IN HIS HOLY MEAL.**

*All who are baptized and trust that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine may come forward to commune. The usher will direct you and offer hand sanitizer if you so desire.*

- *If you require gluten-free wafers or abstain from wine, indicate so to the pastor.*
- *To receive the Sacrament in your seat, notify the usher and it will be brought to you.*
- *If you abstain from the Sacrament, you have full forgiveness of sins by God's Word alone.*

The body of Christ given for you. **Amen.** The blood of Christ shed for you. **Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING & CANTICLE (LBW pp. 72-73)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

☞ Lord, now you let your ser - vant go in peace; your word has been ful - filled.  
My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre - pared in the  
sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the  
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it,  
 as it was in the be-gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (LBW p. 74)

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION (LBW p. 74)

*Numbers 6:24-26*

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.

**A - men**

**GOD SENDS US FORTH TO SERVE.**

SENDING HYMN: “Joy to the World” LBW #39

DISMISSAL

Go in hope, peace, joy, and love to share the light of Christ! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Love God. Love neighbor. Serve with joy in Jesus’ name.

As a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church we strive to be:



**Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, & Congregationally Focused.**

Ministers: Joy Mission Church and all the people of God  
 Pastor: Rev. Paulette McHugh                      Parish Administrator: Scheri Force  
 Pianist: Lavenia Hentz                              Volunteer Director of Music: Laurie Lackey  
[www.joymission.church](http://www.joymission.church)

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