

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
COME TO RECEIVE – GO TO SHARE
December 25, 2020

The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day

Pre-Service Music

Stand



+ Confession and Absolution +

Invocation

- In the name of the Father and of the

 Son and of the Holy Spirit.

 The spirit is a spirit in the property of the Holy Spirit.

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 The spirit is a spirit in the Holy Spi
- C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Exhortation 184

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, imploring Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- Who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Kneel/Sit

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution LSB 185

- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.
- Amen.

Stand

→ Service of the Word →

Psalm 2 Psalm 2; antiphon: v. 7

- **P** ⁷I will tell of the decree:
- The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.
- P ¹Why do the nations rage
- and the peoples plot in vain?

- ²The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together,
- against the LORD and against his anointed, saying,
- P 3"Let us burst their bonds apart
- and cast away their cords from us."
- P ⁴He who sits in the heavens laughs;
- the Lord holds them in derision.
- P 5Then he will speak to them in his wrath,
- and terrify them in his fury, saying,
- P 6"As for me, I have set my King
 - on Zion, my holy hill."
- **P** 7 will tell of the decree:

C

C

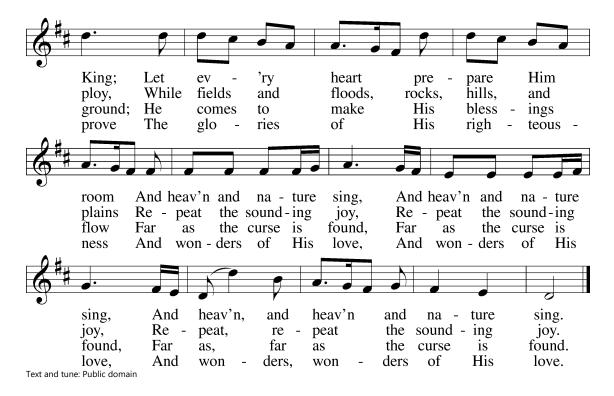
- The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.
- P 8Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,
 - and the ends of the earth your possession.
- ⁹You shall break them with a rod of iron
- and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."
- P 10Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
- be warned, O rulers of the earth.
- P 11Serve the LORD with fear,
- and rejoice with trembling.
- ¹²Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled.
- Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.
- P ⁷I will tell of the decree:
- The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis: 387 Joy to the World

LSB 387



- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re-ceive her
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
- 3 No more let sins and sor rows grow Nor thorns in fest the
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na tions



Salutation and Collect of the Day

Christmas Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- And with your spirit.
- **P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10

 ⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
 ⁸The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy;

for eye to eye they see

the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The 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.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Epistle Hebrews 1:1–12

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are my Son, today I have begotten you"?

Or again,

"I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

⁷Of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire."

⁸But of the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. ⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

¹⁰And,

"You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands;

11they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment,

12like a robe you will roll them up,

like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel John 1:1–14

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.
- Glory be to You, O Lord.

¹In 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 were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise be to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life

→ everlasting. Amen.

Sit



Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- P Word made flesh, in the joyous celebration of Your nativity, we have seen Your glory. Your goodness and loving kindness have appeared to us. Grant us comfort and peace in the knowledge of Your incarnation and a blessed new year. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- P Word made flesh, in Your Holy Gospel we have seen Your glory. Bless the preaching of the Gospel from every corner of your kingdom that Your gift of faith through the preaching of Your Word would increase. Bless those called to preach and those called to hear, that the light of Your Son may continue to illumine the darkness of our world. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- Word made flesh, in Your ongoing provision of daily bread we have seen Your glory. By Your Spirit, visit those who suffer: the sick, the sorrowing, the hospitalized, the poor, the destitute, the homeless, the unemployed, and those who grieve. We pray that they might not be given to despair but entreat their heavenly Father's protection even in times of great need. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- P Word made flesh, we give You thanks that of Your mercy and compassion, You become man and have redeemed us from sin and everlasting death. Enlighten our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that we may ever be thankful for such grace and comfort ourselves by it in all tribulation and temptation and at last obtain eternal salvation; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one Lord, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

→ Service of the Sacrament →

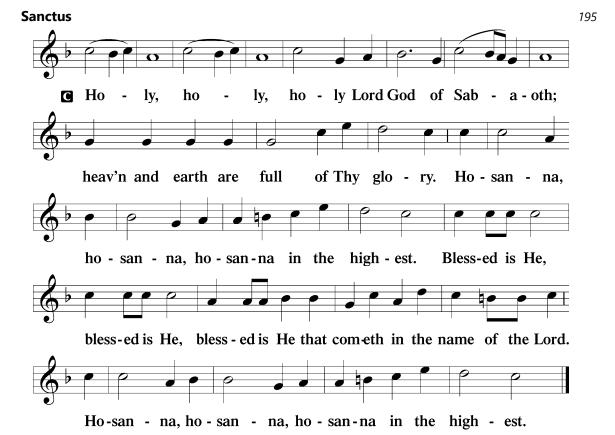
Preface 194

- P The Lord be with you.
- And with your spirit.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **Q** We lift them up unto the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
- It is good and right so to do.

Proper Preface

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word

made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



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.

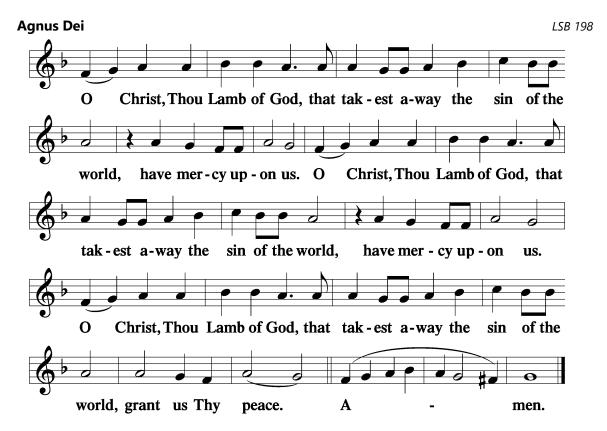
The Words of Our Lord LSB 197

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini 197

- The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



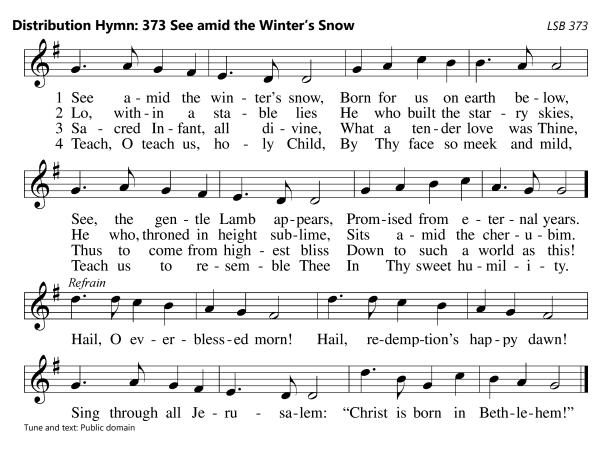
Sit

Distribution of Holy Communion

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION AT GRACE LUTHERAN

We believe, teach and confess that those who commune receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord---in, with and under the bread and wine---for forgiveness of sins and strengthening in faith and life. All baptized, believing Christian guests are invited to examine themselves, as exhorted by St. Paul. Those who are in agreement with this statement are invited to join us at the Altar. If you have a question regarding this, please ask to speak with the Pastor or one of the Elders.

Only individual cups are available. Also, if you would prefer to receive non-alcoholic white grape juice, there are individual cups in the center of the tray. If you would prefer a gluten free host, please talk to the pastor or an elder.



Stand

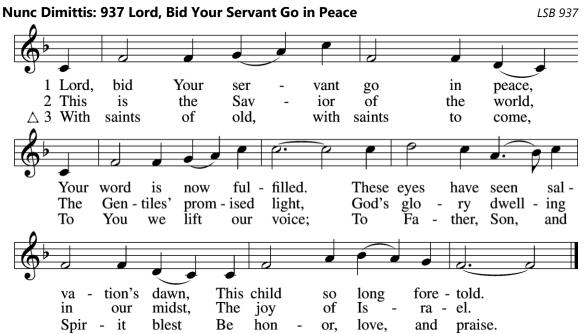
In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal LSB 199

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart

→ in peace.

C Amen.



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Thanksgiving 200

- P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
- and His mercy endures forever.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Salutation 201

- P The Lord be with you.
- And with your spirit.

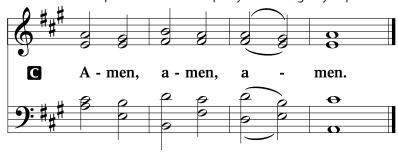
Benedicamus LSB 202

- P Bless we the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Benediction 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



Hymn to Depart: 380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

LSB 380



- 1 Hark! The her ald an gels sing, "Glo ry to the new born King;
- 2 Christ, by high est heav'n a dored, Christ, the ev er last ing Lord,
- 3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!

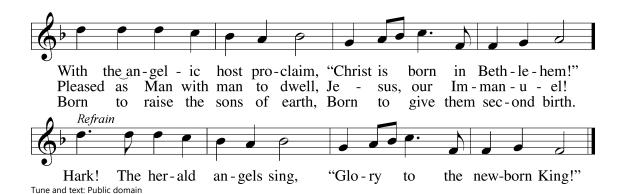


Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir-gin's womb. Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



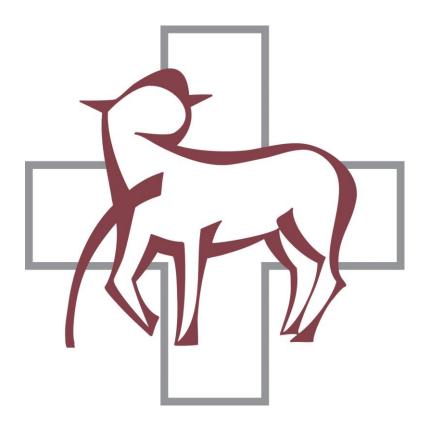
Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Mild He lays His glo - ry by,

Join the tri-umph of the skies; Hail the in-car-nate De - i - ty! Born that man no more may die,



Closing Response

- **P** Go in peace and serve the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.



Acknowledgments

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