

Trinity Lutheran Church
Christmas Day
December 25, 2024-10:00am
Divine Service-Setting Four-LSB pg. 203



*And the World became
flesh, and dwelt among
us; and we saw His glory,
glory as of the only Son
from the Father, full of
grace and truth.
-John 1:14*

GUESTS: Martin Luther once said, “Word and Sacrament are the manger and the swaddling clothes in which it has pleased Christ to lay Himself.” Just as the shepherds were told where to find Jesus and so also we are told where to find Him

still today. He is no longer in a humble manger; but by his own promise, as he is in the means of bread and wine with his true body and blood. As we receive his gift, the greatest gift we can give to others is a loving witness to the truth of His word. For this reason, we practice close communion; and guests are asked to speak with the pastor before the service, should they desire to commune.

Each of these statements would then be concluded with the following:

The following questions are helpful in preparing for attendance at the Lord’s Supper.

- *Have I been baptized in the name of the Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit?*
- *Do I believe that I am a sinful human being with no hope of eternal life except for God’s mercy in Christ?*
- *Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God’s Son and my precious Savior?*
- *Do I believe that He is personally present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion with His Body and Blood (Real Presence)?*
- *Am I in fellowship with this congregation (Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)?*
- *Do I intend by the power of the Holy Spirit to live a Godly life?*



Confession and Absolution

380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the_angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!” **Refrain**

*ref Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”*

- 2 Christ, by highest heav’n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the_incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel! **Refrain**

- 3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. **Refrain**

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Text: Public domain

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

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,

Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
 and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Kyrie

LSB 204



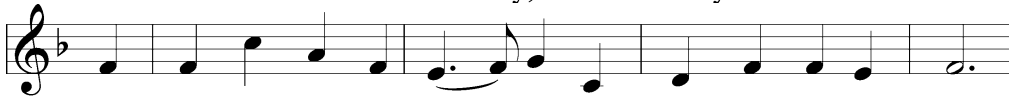
☐ Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



☐ 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

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.

C Amen.

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Adult Choir- “Sing Noel, Noel, Noel”

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,

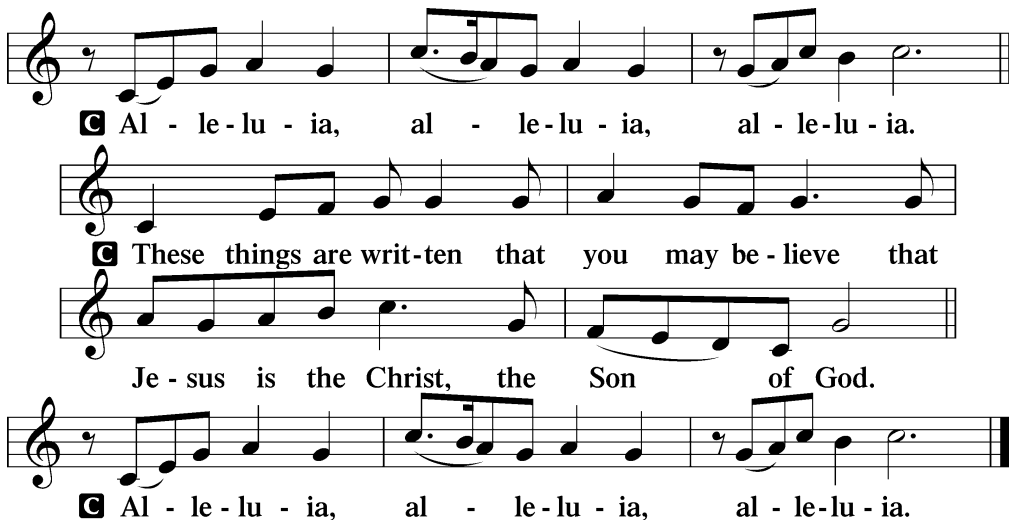
¹²like a robe you will roll them up,
like a garment they will be changed.

But you are the same,
and your years will have no end.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 1:1–18

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C **Glory 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.

¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said,

‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”)
¹⁶And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.
¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

381 Let Our Gladness Have No End

- 1 Let our gladness have no end, alleluia!
For to earth did Christ descend, alleluia! *Refrain*
ref On this day God gave us
Christ, His Son, to save us;
Christ, His Son, to save us.
- 2 Prophesied in days of old, alleluia!
God has sent Him as foretold, alleluia! *Refrain*
- 3 See, the loveliest blooming rose, alleluia!
From the branch of Jesse grows, alleluia! *Refrain*
- 4 Into flesh is made the Word, alleluia!
He, our refuge and our Lord, alleluia! *Refrain*

Text: Bohemian, 15th cent.; (sts. 1, ref, 3-4): tr. unknown, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Vincent Pisek, 1859-1930 Text: Public domain

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray.
Almighty and everlasting God, we give thanks to You for our creation, our life, and all Your gifts. But we especially give Your thanks that, in many and various ways, You spoke Your Word of grace, comfort, and truth, first through Your holy prophets, but now in these last days by Your very own Son, whose coming into our flesh we celebrate this day. By His coming, He has brought us forgiveness and new, eternal life. Help us to live in Him even as He lives in us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.
- P** Cause the joyous message of Your angels—of Your glory and peace to all—to resound in our country and throughout the world. Bless, guard, and guide all in the authority of government in our land. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** hear our prayer.

P Renew our hearts and those of all Your people in the joy and peace of Your salvation and help us to reflect Your love for all in all that we say and do. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P For all who are in any need in these days, for the lonely and abandoned, for the wayward and the hopeless, for those in trouble or despair, and for the sick and dying, bring Your saving Word of mercy, forgiveness, health, healing, and hope by faith in Your Son, the Savior of the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Offering

*Thank you for your ongoing support of the ministry here at Trinity Lutheran Church and School. Your offerings are gifts to God. They help us **serve Him as a witness to our** community. As you continue to place your offerings in the baskets, mail them to the church office, or give through our online giving opportunities, (follow the “Giving” link on the Trinity website at www.trinitymonitor.org or text the word “GIVE” to 989-270-0281 and follow the directions) know that we seek to use these resources to the glory of God and the furthering of His Kingdom.*

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

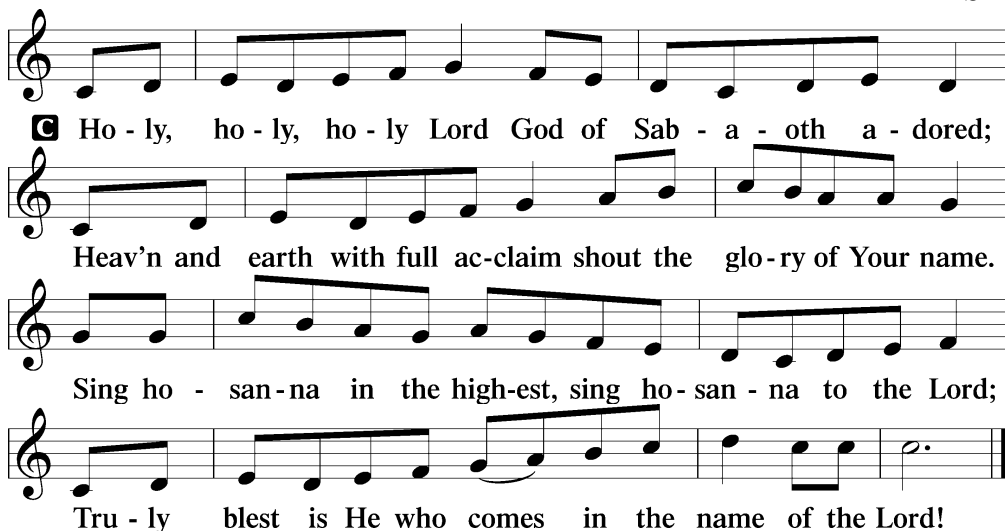
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and

everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In the beginning You created all things by Your Word; and in the fullness of time Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

Let Your Word made flesh dwell richly among us that, faithfully eating His body and drinking His blood, we may receive the fullness of Your grace and truth in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C 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

P 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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Distribution

370 What Child Is This

- 1 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!
- 2 Why lies He in 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!

- 3 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!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98 Text: Public domain

358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

- 1 “From heav’n above to earth I come
To bear good news to ev’ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will say and sing:
- 2 “To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth
Shall be the joy of all the earth.
- 3 “This is the Christ, our God Most High,
Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will Himself your Savior be
From all your sins to set you free.
- 4 “He will on you the gifts bestow
Prepared by God for all below,
That in His kingdom, bright and fair,
You may with us His glory share.
- 5 “These are the signs that you shall mark:
The swaddling clothes and manger dark.
There you will find the infant laid
By whom the heav’ns and earth were made.”

- 6 How glad we'll be to find it so!
Then with the shepherds let us go
To see what God for us has done
In sending us His own dear Son.
- 7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,
And see what in the manger lies.
Who is this child, so young and fair?
It is the Christ Child lying there.
- 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,
Through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery
That You might share Your joy with me.
- 9 Ah, Lord, though You created all,
How weak You are, so poor and small,
That You should choose to lay Your head
Where lowly cattle lately fed!
- 10 Were earth a thousand times as fair
And set with gold and jewels rare,
It would be far too poor and small
A cradle for the Lord of all.
- 11 Instead of soft and silken stuff
You have but hay and straw so rough
On which as King, so rich and great,
To be enthroned in royal state.
- 12 And so it pleases You to see
This simple truth revealed to me:
That worldly honor, wealth, and might
Are weak and worthless in Your sight.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.

14 My heart for very joy must leap;
 My lips no more can silence keep.
 I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
 That sweetest ancient cradlesong:

15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,
 Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
 While angels sing with pious mirth
 A glad new year to all the earth.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt. Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

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.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P 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.

C Amen.

391 Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn

Re - joice, re - joice this hap - py morn, A Sav - ior un -
to us is born, The Christ, the Lord of glo - ry!
His low - ly birth in Beth - le - hem The an - gels from
on high pro - claim And sing re - demp - tion's sto - ry!

My soul, ex - tol God's great fa - vor; Bless Him ev - er
For sal - va - tion; Give Him praise and ad - o - ra - tion!

*Text: Birgitte Katerine Boye, 1742–1824; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937 Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608
Text and tune: Public domain*

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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*Merry
Christmas*

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

In God's Plan Nothing Is Insignificant

At the time of Jesus' birth, Bethlehem was considered an insignificant little town. Nothing much was going on there. When the Wise Men went looking for Jesus, Bethlehem was not their first stop. No, they stopped in Jerusalem. They inquired of a king in a king's palace for ". . . *the one Who [had] been born king of the Jews*" (Matthew 2:2). Yes, the prevailing view of Bethlehem was that it was a pretty insignificant place. However, God chose Bethlehem to be Jesus' birthplace. "*But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah. . . out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel. . .*" (Micah 5:2).

Then there's Nazareth. When Nathanael was told about Jesus, he sneered, "*Nazareth! Can anything good come from there*" (John 1:46)? It was just an obscure, insignificant town, but it was the place God chose to be Jesus' hometown.

Looking back, we see God's wonderful plan. We realize that nothing is insignificant to Him. "*For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways,' declares the Lord. 'As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts' "* (Isaiah 55:8-9).

Just as, in the past, God used seemingly insignificant people, places, and events to carry out His plan, He is today using us where we live and where we work, throughout our daily lives, to be stewards of His message, stewards of His gifts, stewards of the lives He has given us.

As we worship the Christ Child this Christmas season and hear again the wonderful chain of events God put in motion to fulfill Scripture, let us be prepared to be used by Him as His ongoing plan for the salvation of all people.

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Joy Feinauer
Organist



(Worship On Wednesday: 6:00 p.m. Resumes 1/8/2025)
Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study: 9:40 a.m. (September-May)
Sunday School: 9:40 a.m. (September-April)

**New Year's Eve
Worship**
w/Communion

December 31st
4:30pm

BE READY,

for the *Son of Man*
is coming
at an hour
you do not expect."