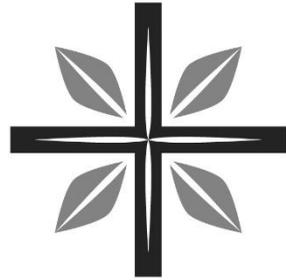




# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



## Welcome to our visitors!

- It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will fill your heart with the peace that only God can offer and the joy we have in knowing that Jesus Christ is our Savior from sin.
- Large print service folders are available from an usher. Assisted listening devices, including both ear bud and loop receivers for digital hearing aids, are also available from an usher.
- Children's service folders and worship notes are available in the round tract rack in the entry area.
- Parents may take small children into the entry area, mother's room (at the back of the church), or nursery (lower level of church) as needed and follow the worship service on the TV monitor. Changing tables are available in the mother's room and in the room adjacent to the nursery.
- Restrooms are located at the far end of the entry area.
- As the offering is received, members and guests are asked to sign the Friendship Register. Please pass the register to your neighbor and then return it to the center aisle. Visitors are also asked to fill out a guest card and give it to an usher.

# The First Sunday After Christmas

## December 31, 2017

Jesus Comes: God Revealed to You

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### Prelude

#### Opening Hymn

*Please stand to sing the final stanza*

**Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful (8:00 AM)**

*Christian Worship 55*

**Dearest Jesus, We Are Here (10:30 AM)**

*Christian Worship 295*

#### Holy Baptism (10:30 AM)

*Christian Worship, pg. 12*

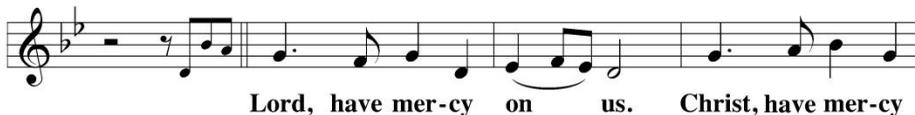
**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

### CONFESSION OF SINS

**M:** Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C:** **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

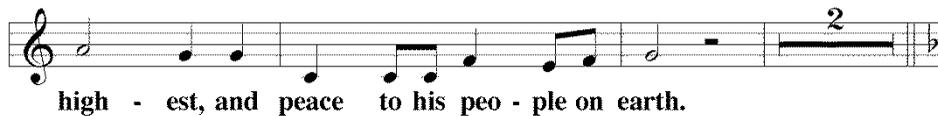
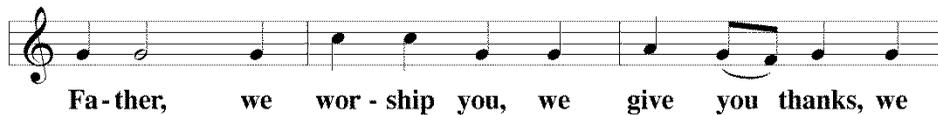
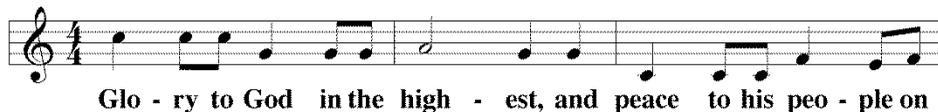


**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ☩ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

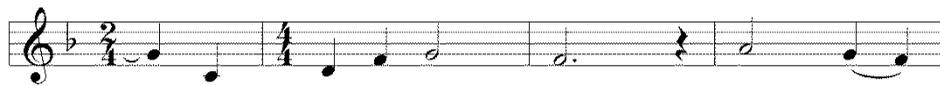
## PRAYER AND PRAISE

**M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.





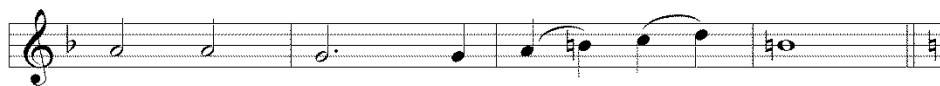
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



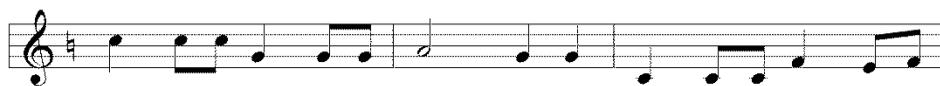
have mer-cy on us. You are



seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re -



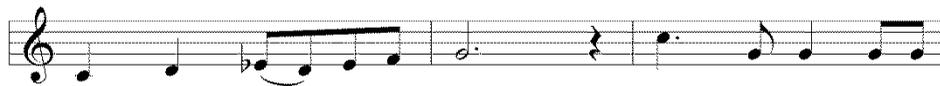
ceive our prayer, re - ceive our prayer.



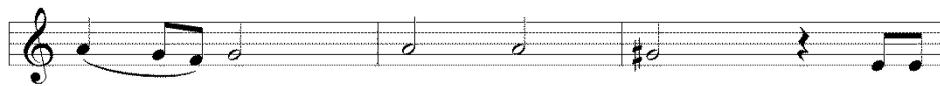
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on



earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,



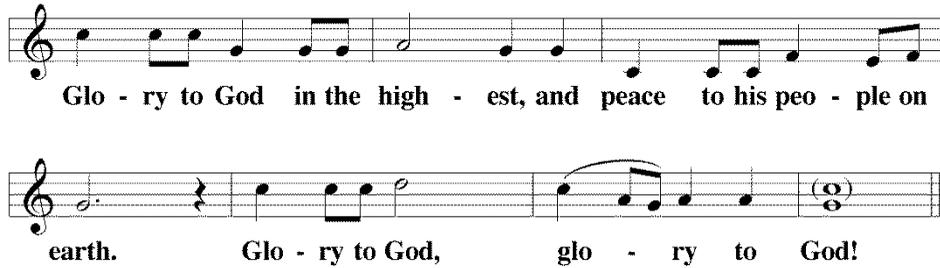
you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the



Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spir-it in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther.



**Prayer of the Day**

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming, deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

*Be seated*

**THE WORD**

**First Lesson**

**Isaiah 45:20-25**

*Because God has revealed his salvation, every knee will bow before him.*

“Gather together and come;  
 assemble, you fugitives from the nations.  
 Ignorant are those who carry about idols of wood,  
 who pray to gods that cannot save.  
 Declare what is to be, present it – let them take counsel together.  
 Who foretold this long ago,  
 who declared it from the distant past?  
 Was it not I, the LORD?

And there is no God apart from me,  
a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me.  
Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth;  
for I am God, and there is no other.  
By myself I have sworn,  
my mouth has uttered in all integrity a word that will not be revoked:  
Before me every knee will bow; by me every tongue will swear.  
They will say of me, 'In the LORD alone are righteousness and strength.' ”  
All who have raged against him will come to him and be put to shame.  
But in the LORD all the descendants of Israel will be found righteous and will exult.

**Psalm of the Day**

**Psalm 111 (see pg. 12)**

*God reveals his salvation in his mighty deeds and works.*

**Second Lesson**

**Colossians 3:12-17<sup>+</sup>**

*Because God has revealed his salvation, let his peace dwell in our hearts.*

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**Verse of the Day**

**M:** Alleluia, alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Alleluia.

*Please stand*

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**† Colossians:** In Colossians, Paul writes in opposition to false teachers who were attacking the young church. In brief, this false teaching undermined the gospel by denying the complete sufficiency of Christ. Paul meets this challenge by placing great emphasis on the correct teaching concerning the completeness of Christ, who needs no human additions to achieve salvation for all people. For more information on Colossians, see pg. 59 of *Understanding Lutheran Worship*, found in the hymnal rack.

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



## Gospel

**Luke 2:25-40**

*Simeon and Anna rejoiced that the Lord's salvation was revealed to them.*

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,  
you now dismiss your servant in peace.

For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the sight of all people,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.



*Be seated*

**Hymn of the Day**

**Let All Together Praise Our God**  
*Christian Worship 41*

**Sermon**

**Colossians 3:12-17**

Christmas Presence

*Please stand*

**Apostles' Creed**

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From there 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.**

*Be seated*

**Offering**

*The members of St. John's have joined together to do the Lord's work in our community  
and around the world, and our offerings are a joyful response of our faith. If you are a  
visitor today, you are welcome but not obligated to give an offering.*

*Please stand*

## **Prayer of the Church**

*The minister says the Prayer of the Church*

### **Lord's Prayer**

**C: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

*Be seated*

### **Hymn**

**What Child Is This**  
*Christian Worship 67*

*Please stand*

**M:** Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

*Be seated*

**Closing Hymn**

**Go, Tell It on the Mountain**

*Christian Worship 57*

**Announcements**

*If you do not wish to take your service folder home, please place it in the basket so it can be reused.*

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*Divine Service I.* Texts revised from *The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941*. Music © 2002 Kermit Moldenhauer.

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“*Hail, O Source of Every Blessing*” Text and tune public domain.

**Readings for the Week of Christmas 1**

M	John 12:25-43.....	Isaiah 49:7-13
T	John 12:44-50.....	2 Corinthians 5:1-8
W	Luke 4:16-21.....	Deuteronomy 33:26-29
TH	Isaiah 43:16-19.....	Acts 4:8-12
F	Joshua 1:1-9.....	Romans 14:7-9
S	James 4:13-17.....	Micah 7:7-10a, 18-20

## Psalm 111

*Refrain*

Sing to the Lord a new song, for  
he has done mar - vel - ous things.

*Psalm tone*

\*

Great are the works of the LORD;  
they are pondered by all who delight in them.

Glorious and majestic are his deeds,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

He has caused his wonders to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and compassionate. *Refrain*

The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy.

He provided redemption for his people;  
he ordained his covenant forever.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.

**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. *Refrain***

## Serving at Worship

<b>Preacher</b>	Pastor Eric Schroeder
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Pastor Joel Leyrer
<b>Musician</b>	Lisa Eggebrecht, organ
<b>Head Ushers</b>	Kerry Kuehn (8:00 AM) Rick Yahn (10:30 AM)
<b>Greeters</b>	Dave & Dana Leyrer and Mark & Mary Meissner (8:00 AM) Barb Bergquist, June Krueger, Holly Curtis and Mary Perez (10:30 AM)

## Worship Notes

- Nolan McGrath, son of Christopher Daniel McGrath and Katie Jeanne McGrath, neé Robinson, will be baptized during the 10:30 AM service on Sunday. Serving as sponsors are Shawn Robinson and Elizabeth Robinson.

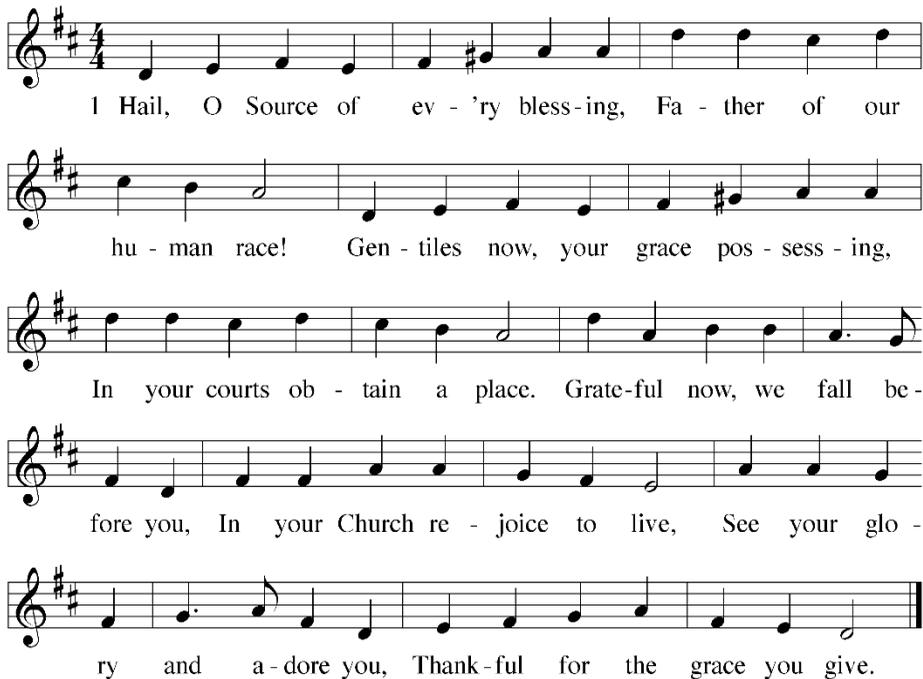
## In Our Prayers

- Tom Wiedenhoeft and family upon the loss of Tom's mother last Sunday.

## Parents' Preview for January 7

The Parents' Preview highlights an aspect of next week's service: a liturgical song, a Psalm refrain, or a hymn stanza. Our hope and prayer is that parents will teach this portion of the service to their children at home during the week so that children can participate more fully in the worship service.

### **“Hail, O Source of Every Blessing” stanza 1** *(Christian Worship 87)*



I Hail, O Source of ev - 'ry bless-ing, Fa - ther of our  
hu - man race! Gen - tiles now, your grace pos - sess - ing,  
In your courts ob - tain a place. Grate-ful now, we fall be -  
fore you, In your Church re - joice to live, See your glo -  
ry and a-dore you, Thank-ful for the grace you give.

## **Sunday Bible Classes**

New Sunday Bible Classes and Sunday School begin **Sunday, January 7** at 9:15 AM.

A staffed nursery is available during Bible class.

### **Exodus**

**Taught by Dr. John Lawrenz in the Fellowship Hall  
January 7 – April 8 (except January 28 & April 1)**

It was the word Jesus selected to describe his coming death and resurrection on the Mount of Transfiguration. Jesus connected what God did for “his son” Israel under Moses in Egypt with what the only begotten Son was about to do for the whole world in Jerusalem. The night of the Passover speaks to Jesus as the Lamb of God. The Red Sea passage is a precursor of the baptismal drowning of Satan and the forces of evil. On Sinai Israel becomes God’s treasured possession. The book closes with the planning, building and dedication of God’s dwelling place in spite of backsliding apostasy.

### **The Wonders of God – Bible Information Class**

**Taught by the Pastoral Staff in the St. Matthew’s Room  
A new class begins January 21**

This course provides a general overview of the Bible, touches upon every major Christian doctrine, and supplies a solid understanding of what we confess and believe as a confessional Lutheran Church. Since it provides the foundation for a deeper relationship with God, we encourage both members and non-members to attend. *Please note there will also be some week-night evening classes.*

