

Glory to God in the HIGHEST

Luke

Introduction

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by servants of the word. Therefore, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

The Birth of John the Baptist Foretold

"In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abiath, his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were upright in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commandments and regulations blamelessly. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both well along in years.

"Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priestly office, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshippers were praying outside.

"Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense.

"When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John.

"He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth. For he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never drunk wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth.

"He will lead you back to the way of peace of the people of Israel. And he will go on before the face of the Lord."

she said, "In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people."

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

"In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee. He was pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you, and you are highly favored."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, for you have found favor with God. You will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus. He will be called the Son of God. The Spirit will come upon you, and you will be in the presence of the Holy Spirit. And he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, his kingdom will never end."

"How will this be," Mary asked, "since I am a virgin?"

"The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. In the sixth month, the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, for you have found favor with God. You will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus. He will be called the Son of God. The Spirit will come upon you, and you will be in the presence of the Holy Spirit. And he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, his kingdom will never end."

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...praised mighty deeds with his
...entered those who are proud
...of down rulers from their
...up the humble
...with good things
...the rich away empty
...the rich of Israel,
...his servants forever,
...to our fathers."

...Elizabeth for about three
...returned home.

...John the Baptist
...Elizabeth to have her
...the Lord had shown her
...day after day, going to name him after
...his mother spoke up
...he called John."

...There is no one among
...that name.

...to name the child. "He asked
...to everyone's astonish-
...name is John."

...praising God
...with awe, and
...of Judea people were
...asking. "What
...For the Lord

...Zechariah was filled with
...the Lord, the

...has come
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The Birth of Jesus
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line of David. "At
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cause there is

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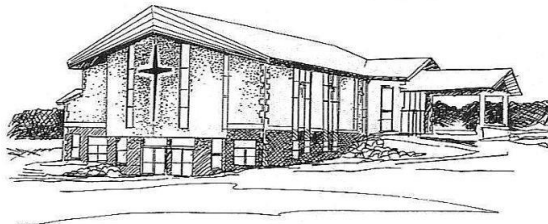
Chairman: Mitch Myhre, mitchmyhre@hotmail.com
Office Secretary: Jen Olson, Office hours Tuesday - Friday.
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - *Christ's Love, Our Calling.*

Welcome to all of our visitors and members!

Merry Christmas

Come worship with us again soon.

If you are a guest today,
please let us know of any way we might serve you.



Christmas Day Worship

December 25, A.D. 2021

OPENING HYMN

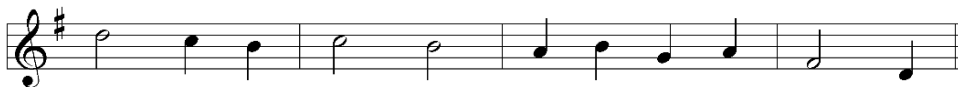
CW 55: Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, Oh,
2 God from true God, and Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion;
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing:



come ye, oh, come ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, to earth he comes,
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.
Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n,



Come and be - hold him, Born the King of an - gels.
On - ly be - got - ten Son of God the Fa - ther.
Glo - ry to God, all Glo - ry in the high - est.
Word of the Fa - ther, Now in flesh ap - pear - ing.

Refrain



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Oh, come, let us a - dore him,



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

Text: John F. Wade, c. 1711–86; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES (Irregular) John F. Wade, c. 1711–86, alt.

M: Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things;

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

M: The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

C: He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to Israel;

M: all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

C: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;

M: make music to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing,

C: with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn— shout for joy before the LORD, the King.

M: Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

C: Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy;

M: let them sing before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.

C: He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: Christ came that we might be reconciled to God through him. Let us, therefore, confess our sins and hear again the good news of sins forgiven.

M and C: (CW 27:1-2, spoken)

O Jesus, Lamb of God, you are

My comfort and my guiding star;

I come, a sinner, trustingly

And bring my many sins with me.

**O Lord, my sin indeed is great;
I groan beneath the dreadful weight.
Be merciful to me, I pray;
Take guilt and punishment away.**

(Moment of silent prayer to confess specific sin and guilt that may especially be troubling and peace-robbing)

M: (CW 53:3-4, spoken)

Oh, then, rejoice that through his Son
God is with sinners now at one;
Made like yourselves of flesh and blood,
Your brother is th'eternal God.

What harm can sin and death then do?
The true God now abides with you.
Let hell and Satan storm and rave,
Christ is your brother – you are safe.

RESPONSE

CW 63: Angels We Have Heard on High

After omitting the Gloria for the weeks of Advent, the Church bursts forth in the song of the angels above the Judean countryside: Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth!



63

Angels We Have Heard on High



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the



o'er the plains, And the moun - tains in re -
 strains pro - long? What the glad - some ti - dings
 an - gels sing; Come, a - dore on bend - ed



ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glo -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: *Nouveau recueil de cantiques*, 1855; tr. *The Crown of Jesus*, Part 2, London, 1862, alt.

Tune: GLORIA (77 77 with Refrain) *Nouveau recueil de cantiques*, 1855.

PRAYER OF THE DAY FOR THE FESTIVAL

M: Almighty God, grant that the birth of your one and only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

MEDITATION ON THE WORD

MEDITATION ON JOHN 1:1-14

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. 6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. 9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God - 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

HYMN

CW 34: Now Sing We, Now Rejoice



1 Now sing we, now re - rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our
 2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to
 3 Now through his Son doth shine The Fa - ther's grace di -
 4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly



voice; He from whom joy stream - eth Poor
 thee. Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O
 vine. Death o'er us had reign - ed Through
 ground? Where the an - gels sing - ing With



in a man - ger lies; Not so bright - ly
 pure and ho - ly Child; Through thy grace and
 sin and van - i - ty; He for us ob -
 all his saints u - nite, Sweet - est prais - es



beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.
 mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
 tain - ed E - ter - nal joy on high.
 bring - ing In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!
 Draw me un - to thee! Draw me un - to thee!
 May we praise him there! May we praise him there!
 Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

Text: Latin hymn, 14th century; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.
 Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO (66 66 66 55) German melody, 14th century, alt.

MEDITATION ON HEBREWS 2:11, 14-17

¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters... ¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.

HYMN

All Praise to Thee, Eternal Lord

Text: Martin Luther, tr. Anonymous; Adapt. Michael Praetorius

**All praise to thee, eternal Lord,
Clothed in a garb of flesh and blood;
Choosing a manger for thy throne.
While worlds on worlds are thine alone.**

**Once did the skies before thee bow;
A virgin’s arms contain thee now,
While angels, who in thee rejoice,
Now listen for thine infant voice.**

**A little child, thou art our guest,
That weary ones in thee may rest;
Forlorn and lowly is thy birth
That we may rise to heav’n from earth.**

**Thou comest in the darksome night
To make us children of the light,
To make us in the realms divine,
Like thine own angels, round thee shine.**

**All this for us they love hath done;
By this to thee our love is won!
For this we tune our cheerful lays
And sing our thanks in ceaseless praise!**

MEDITATION ON PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

⁵In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

HYMN

CW 57: Go, Tell It on the Mountain



57

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain



Go, tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills, and ev - 'ry - where;



Go, tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born.



1 While shep - herds kept their watch - ing O'er si - lent
 2 The shep - herds feared and trem - bled When lo, a -
 3 Down in a low - ly man - ger The hum - ble



flocks by night, Be - hold, through - out the
 above the earth Rang out the an - gel
 Christ was born; And God sent us sal -



Refrain

heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.
 cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Text: African-American spiritual, c. 19th century, refrain; John W. Work, 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.

Tune: GO, TELL IT (78 76 76 76) African-American spiritual, c. 19th century, alt.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

excerpt from the Athanasian Creed

Now this is the true Christian faith: We believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and man. He is God, eternally begotten from the nature of the Father, and he is man, born in time from the nature of his mother, fully God, fully man, with rational soul and human flesh, equal to the Father as to his deity, less than the Father as to his humanity; and though he is both God and Man, Christ is not two persons but one, one, not by changing the deity into flesh, but by taking the humanity into God; one,

indeed, not by mixture of the natures, but by unity in one person; for just as the rational soul and flesh are one human being, so God and man are one Christ. He suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose the third day from the dead. He ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty, and from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who celebrate the incarnation, that the knowledge that their God reigns would cause them to lift up their voices and sing for joy, now and throughout the Church Year, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who publish peace and bring good news of happiness in Christ, that they would be kept faithful to declare his reign; and for all missionaries at home and abroad, that all the ends of the earth may see his salvation, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For confidence to tell the joyful message of our Savior, just as Mary, Joseph and common shepherds first believed and proclaimed his incarnation, that the Holy Spirit may work the miracle of faith as he wills, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who administer and judge our laws in this land and for its citizens, that authority would be rightly honored and that we would be preserved from rulers who spurn God's calling to serve justly, show hostility to his truth or persecute his Church, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who suffer sickness in mind or body, for the homebound and for all who ask our prayers, that God would grant them healing, peace, patience and faith that endures, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all communicants, that we may receive the great love of God that laid his Son in a manger and now lays his flesh and blood before us in bread and wine; and that we may bow our hearts before him with all those in heaven and on earth who adore him,

receiving his forgiveness and life with repentance and joy, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

In thanksgiving for the believers who have gone before us, especially those who have been with us during Christmases past and now live with Christ, that we may be confident in his promise of resurrection and eternal life and at last join them in his presence when his kingdom comes, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Hear us, O Lord, for the sake of your Son, the Word become flesh, the Savior of the nations, Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, ever one God. **Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT (CWS, *Divine Service II*, p. 33-37)

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

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

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his wondrous birth became our Brother, taking on human flesh to live in righteousness before God and to become obedient even to death on a cross.

Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

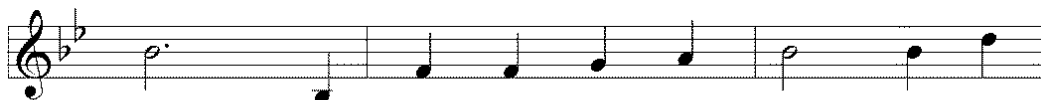
HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus

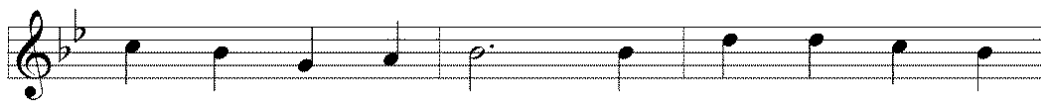
Tune: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN



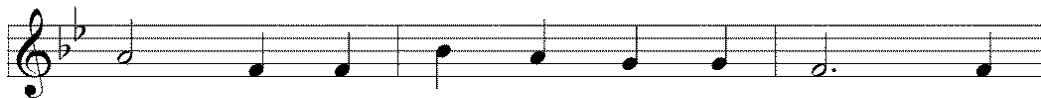
1 O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How tru - ly blest is



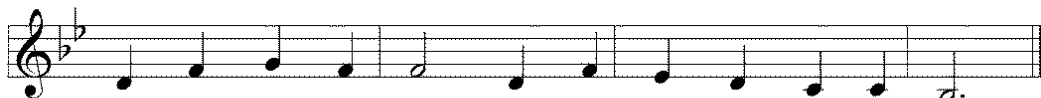
might, Your glo - ry, earth and heav - en In
he Who in God's name is com - ing To



count - less ways re - cite. Ho - san - na! Come and
set his peo - ple free! He comes to bring sal -



save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And
va - tion And with his blood out - poured, De -



in your grace and mer - cy Re - ceive our fer - vent cry.
liv - er us from bond - age—Ho - san - na, might - y Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.
By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

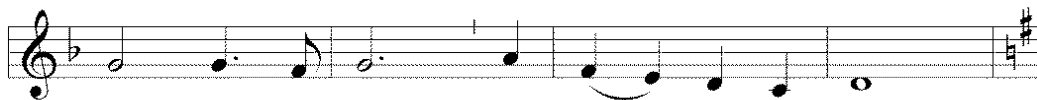
C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



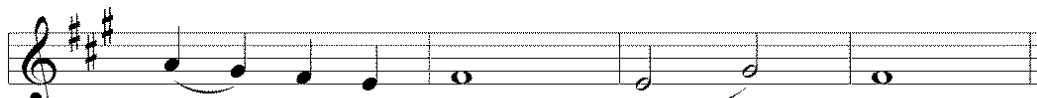
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

This congregation observes the ancient Christian practice of closed Communion. In the Lord's Supper, Christ gives His true body and blood to be eaten and drunk for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Such a precious gift is only to be received with great care and preparation. Holy Scripture states that all who receive this Supper in an unworthy manner sin against the body and blood of the Lord, and receive the Supper to their judgment (1 Cor. 11:27-31). Additionally, those who partake of this Supper together are to be united, not divided (1 Cor. 10:17).

Therefore, we invite the communicant members of our congregation and of the congregations in our fellowship (in the WELS and the ELS) to receive the Sacrament. We ask guests to please speak with the pastor before partaking of the Lord's Supper with us.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

CW 67: What Child is This



1 What child is this who, laid to rest,
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate,
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh;

On Mar - y's lap is sleep - - - ing?
 Where ox - en now are feed - - - ing?
 Come, peas - ant, king, to own him.

Whom an - gels greet With an - thems sweet
 Good Chris - tians, fear; For sin - ners here
 The King of kings Sal - va - tion brings;

While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 The si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

This, this is Christ the King, Whom
 Nails, this spear shall pierce him through; The
 Raise, raise the song on high; The

shep - herds guard and an - gels sing.
 cross he'll bear for me, for you.
 vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.

Haste, haste to bring him laud,
 Hail, hail to the Word made flesh,
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born,

The babe, the Son of Mar - y!
 The babe, the Son of Mar - y!
 The babe, the Son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98, alt.

Tune: GREENSLEEVES (87 87 68 67) English ballad, 16th century.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

CW 42: Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising



1 Come, your hearts and voices rais - ing, Christ the
 2 See how God, for us pro - vid - ing, Gave his
 3 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing, And in
 4 Ja - cob's Star in all its splen - dor Beams with
 5 Gra - cious Child, we pray you, hear us; From your



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing his love a -
 Son and life a - bid - ing; He our wea - ry steps is
 love our race be - friend - ing, In our need his help ex -
 com - fort sweet and ten - der, Forc - ing Sa - tan to sur -
 low - ly man - ger cheer us. Gent - ly lead us and be



maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.
 guid - ing From earth's woe to heav'n - ly joy.
 tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.
 ren - der, Break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.
 near us Till we join th' an - gel - ic choir.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941.

Tune: QUEM PASTORES (88 87) *Ein Schlesisch singebüchlein*, Breslau, 1555.

STAND

SONG OF SIMEON

(sung to the tune of CW #7)

Nunc Dimittis

O Lord, now let your servant
Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised
Incarnate, saving Word
A Light that will enlighten
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory
Of those in Israel!

All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever three-in-one;
For as in the beginning,
is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

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.

CLOSING HYMN

CW 62: Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And



earth re - ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry
 all their songs em - ploy, While fields and
 thorns in - fest the ground; He comes to
 makes the na - tions prove The glo - ries



heart pre - pare him room And heav'n and
 floods, rocks, hills, and plains Re - peat the
 make his bless - ings flow Far as the
 of his right - eous - ness And won - ders



na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And
 sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -
 curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far
 of his love, And won - ders of his love, And



heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 as, far as the curse is found.
 won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Tune: ANTIOCH (CM with Repeat) George F. Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.

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Serving us today:

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Sharon Freund
- Elder/Councilman: Dave Olson
- Ushers: Dave Olson and Ben Olson
- Altar Guild: Sally Kaalberg
- A/V: Devin Anderson



Sunday Worship
8:00 & 10:30 am

New Year's Eve Worship
4:00 pm

