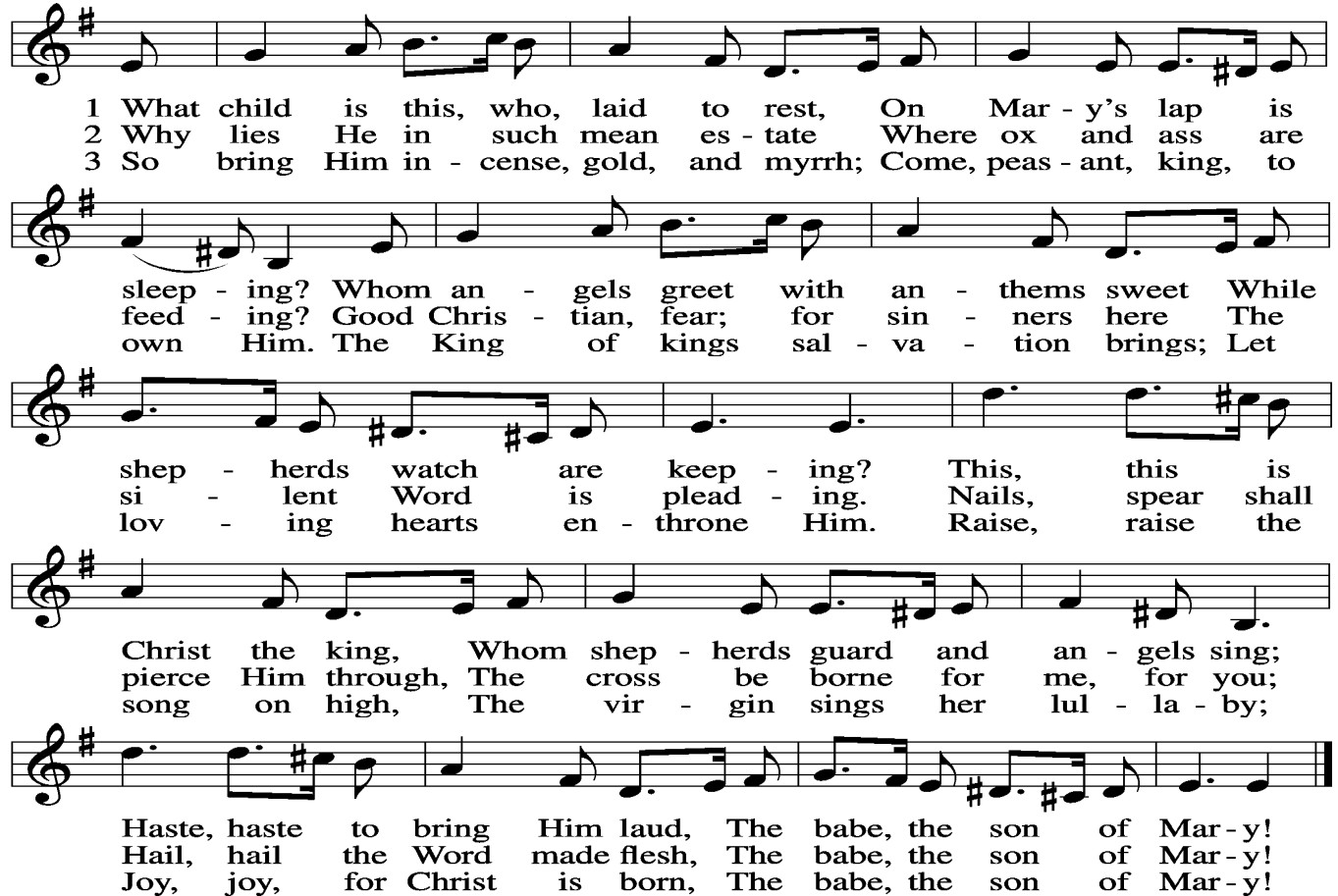


# First Sunday after Christmas

December 28, 2025

## Confession and Absolution

### 370 What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are  
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to  
sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let  
shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the  
Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98  
Tune: English, 16th cent.  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

*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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C **who made heaven and earth.**  
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Kneel/Stand*

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

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,  
C **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.**
- 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

*Stand*

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Jeremiah 31:15–17; antiphon: Hosea 11:1*

When Israel was a child, I | loved him,\*  
and out of Egypt I | called my son.  
Thus says the LORD: “A voice is heard in | Ramah,\*  
lamentation and bitter | weeping.  
Rachel is weeping for her | children;\*  
she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they | are no more.”  
Thus says the LORD: “Keep your voice from | weeping,\*  
and your | eyes from tears,  
for there is a reward for your work, de- | clares the LORD,\*  
and they shall come back from the land of the | enemy.  
There is hope for your future, de- | clares the LORD,\*  
and your children shall come back to their own | country.”  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**  
When Israel was a child, I | loved him,\*  
and out of Egypt I | called my son.

- C **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.**

### Kyrie

*LSB 186*

- C **Lord, have mercy upon us.**  
**Christ, have mercy upon us.**  
**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

### Gloria in Excelsis

*LSB 187*

- P Glory be to God on high:  
C **and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.**  
**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,**  
**we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**  
**O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.**  
**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.  
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

### **Old Testament Reading**

*Isaiah 63:7–14*

<sup>7</sup>I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD,  
the praises of the LORD,  
according to all that the LORD has granted us,  
and the great goodness to the house of Israel  
that he has granted them according to his compassion,  
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.  
<sup>8</sup>For he said, “Surely they are my people,  
children who will not deal falsely.”  
And he became their Savior.  
<sup>9</sup>In all their affliction he was afflicted,  
and the angel of his presence saved them;  
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;  
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.  
<sup>10</sup>But they rebelled  
and grieved his Holy Spirit;  
therefore he turned to be their enemy,  
and himself fought against them.  
<sup>11</sup>Then he remembered the days of old,  
of Moses and his people.  
Where is he who brought them up out of the sea  
with the shepherds of his flock?  
Where is he who put in the midst of them  
his Holy Spirit,  
<sup>12</sup>who caused his glorious arm  
to go at the right hand of Moses,  
who divided the waters before them  
to make for himself an everlasting name,  
<sup>13</sup>who led them through the depths?  
Like a horse in the desert,  
they did not stumble.  
<sup>14</sup>Like livestock that go down into the valley,  
the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest.

So you led your people,  
to make for yourself a glorious name.

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

## Gradual

*Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a*

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.  
Sing to the Lord a | new song,\*  
for he has done | marvelous things!

## Epistle

*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.

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

*Stand*

## Alleluia

*LSB 190*

- C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 2:13–23*

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.  
C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

<sup>16</sup>Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. <sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup>“A voice was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”

<sup>19</sup>But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, <sup>20</sup>saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” <sup>21</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
C **Praise be to Thee, 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.

*Sit*

## 389 Let All Together Praise Our God

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and includes a piano accompaniment. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are arranged in four stanzas, with the first three stanzas having four lines each and the fourth stanza having three lines. The lyrics are: 1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His 2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an 3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre - 4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His give us His own Son, To give us His own Son. in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall. splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might. glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

5 He is a servant, I a lord:  
How great a mystery!  
How strong the tender Christ Child's love!  
No truer friend than He,  
No truer friend than He.

6 He is the key and He the door  
To blessèd paradise;  
The angel bars the way no more.  
To God our praises rise,  
To God our praises rise.

D 7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,  
Lord Jesus, we adore  
And praise to God the Father yield  
And Spirit evermore;  
We praise You evermore.

Text (sts. 1, 3-7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001; (st. 2): tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.  
Text and tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561  
Text (sts. 1, 3-7): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002022  
Text (st. 2) and tune: Public domain

### Sermon A Son and Heir of God Text Galatians 4:4-7

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.  
C **Amen.**

*Stand*

### Offertory

*LSB 192*

C **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

*Sit*

### Offering

*Stand*

### Prayer of the Church

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

*LSB 194*

P The Lord be with you.  
C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.  
C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.  
C **It is meet and right so to do.**

- P It is truly meet, 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:

### Sanctus

LSB 195

- C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

- 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

LSB 197

- 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 T 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 T 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

LSB 197

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

### Agnus Dei

LSB 198

- C **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

*Sit*

### Distribution

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart T in peace.  
C **Amen.**

### 333 Once He Came in Blessing

1 Once He came in blessing, All our sins re -  
 2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He  
 3 Soon will come that hour - When with might - y  
 4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -

dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,  
 feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,  
 pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor  
 lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,

Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to  
 Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will  
 And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful  
 That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -

save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.  
 nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.  
 shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.  
 fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006  
 Tune: Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534  
 Text (sts. 2–3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002022  
 Text (sts. 1, 4) and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

### Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

- C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,  
 for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
 a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.  
 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.

### Thanksgiving

LSB 200

- A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth forever.
- A** 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.
- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spirit.

### Benedicamus

LSB 202

- A** Bless we the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.



## Benediction

LSB 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 T give you peace.
- C Amen, amen, amen.

## 384 Of the Father's Love Begotten

1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be -  
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,  
3 This is He whom seers in old time Chant - ed of with  
4 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His  
△ 5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, And, O Ho - ly

gan to be, He is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
full of grace, By the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
one ac - cord, Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets  
prais - es sing. Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore Him  
Ghost, to Thee Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing

He the source, the end - ing He, Of the things that are, that  
Bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -  
Prom - ised in their faith - ful word. Now He shines, the long - ex -  
And ex - tol our God and King. Let no tongue on earth be -  
And un - end - ing prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -

have been, And that fu - ture years shall see  
deem - er, First re - vealed His sa - cred face  
pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord  
si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring  
min - ion, And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry

Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.

A - men.

Text: Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 348–c. 413; (sts. 1–4): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.; (st. 5): tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821–77  
Tune: Plainsong, 13th cent., mode V  
Text and tune: Public domain

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