

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

January 4, 2026

+ PRELUDE +

+ WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS +

+ OPENING HYMN +

367 ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

1 Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth. **Refrain**

**ref Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

2 Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the Infant Light. **Refrain**

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star. **Refrain**

4 Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,

Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear. **Refrain**

**ref Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

△ 5 All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the_ eternal Three in One. **Refrain**

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2–4): James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.; (st. 5): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, Salisbury, alt.
Text: Public domain

+ INVOCATION +

(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.

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the
truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and
just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all
unrighteousness.

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by
nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against

You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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 +

KYRIE

LSB 152

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST

LSB 155

C This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.

Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same 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

1 Kings 3:4–15

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for

him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the

covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 1:3–14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth,

the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:40–52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁰The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they

returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.” ⁴⁹And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” ⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

MESSAGE

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.**

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 160

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, 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 as we sing:

SANCTUS

LSB 161

**☐ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

☐ Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and

preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **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.”

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.

PAX DOMINI

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.

696 O GOD, MY FAITHFUL GOD

- 1 O God, my faithful God, True fountain ever flowing,
Without whom nothing is, All perfect gifts bestowing:
Give me a healthy frame, And may I have within
A conscience free from blame, A soul unstained by sin.
- 2 Grant me the strength to do With ready heart and willing
Whatever You command, My calling here fulfilling;

- That I do what I should While trusting You to bless
The outcome for my good, For You must give success.
- 3 Keep me from saying words That later need recalling;
Guard me lest idle speech May from my lips be falling;
But when within my place I must and ought to speak,
Then to my words give grace Lest I offend the weak.
- 4 Lord, let me win my foes With kindly words and actions,
And let me find good friends For counsel and correction.
Help me, as You have taught,
 To love both great and small
And by Your Spirit's might To live in peace with all.
- 5 Let me depart this life Confiding in my Savior;
By grace receive my soul That it may live forever;
And let my body have A quiet resting place
Within a Christian grave; And let it sleep in peace.
- 6 And on that final day When all the dead are waking,
Stretch out Your mighty hand,
 My deathly slumber breaking.
Then let me hear Your voice, Redeem this earthly frame,
And bid me to rejoice With those who love Your name.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

368 ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

- 1 Angels we have heard on high,
 Sweetly singing o'er the plains,

And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains. **Refrain**

ref Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song? **Refrain**

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. **Refrain**

Text: tr. The Crown of Jesus, 1862, Part 2, London, alt.; French

Text: Public domain

THANK THE LORD

LSB 164

**☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone
what He has done.**

**Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear
His name.**

**He recalls His promises and leads His people forth
in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**☐ 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.

BENEDICTION

LSB 166

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.

+ CLOSING HYMN +

388 *GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN*

**ref Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!**

1 While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. **Refrain**

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. **Refrain**

**ref Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!**

3 Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. **Refrain**

Text (sts. 1–3): John W. Work II, 1873–1925, alt.; (ref): African American spiritual

Text: Public domain

+ POSTLUDE +

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