



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas

January 2, 2021

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK

Curt Matz, Interim Pastor

(907) 488-6720 [www.lordoflifeak.com](http://www.lordoflifeak.com)

Words in **bold** are said together.

*Welcome!*

### *Confession and Forgiveness*

*Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth. **Congregation: Amen.***

*L: In Christ we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace. (silence for reflection)*

*L: Holy God, **C: we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.***

*L: I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. + In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace. **C: Amen.***

### *Gathering Hymn – What Child is This #298*

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!
2. 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!

*Prayer of the Day — **Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.***

### *Scripture Readings*

Jeremiah 31:7-14 p. 641

<sup>7</sup>For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel."

<sup>8</sup>See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. <sup>9</sup>With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. <sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." <sup>11</sup>For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. <sup>12</sup>They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. <sup>13</sup>Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. <sup>14</sup>I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147:12-20 p. 507

<sup>12</sup>Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

<sup>13</sup>For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you.

<sup>14</sup>He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat.

<sup>15</sup>He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.

<sup>16</sup>He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes.

<sup>17</sup>He hurls down hail like crumbs— who can stand before his cold?

<sup>18</sup>He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.

<sup>19</sup>He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel.

<sup>20</sup>He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances. Praise the Lord!

Ephesians 1:3-14 p. 949

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

The holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

John 1:10-18 p. 862

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,

<sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Children's Message and Sermon*

Pastor Curt Matz

*Hymn of the Day – Angels We Have Heard on High #289*

1. Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.  
Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo.
2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song?  
Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo.
3. Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king.  
Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo; Glo-ria, in excelsis Deo.

*Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Prayers of God's People*

Each petition ends "Lord, in your mercy," please respond: **hear our prayer.**

*Offering* – Offering baskets will be passed during worship

◇ Mail: Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705

◇ Online: "giving" tab at [www.lordoflifeak.com/giving](http://www.lordoflifeak.com/giving) or the QR Code →

◇ Phone app: download "Give Plus Church" search by zip 99705, choose Lord of Life, and follow the instructions. Giving is secure.



*Offering Hymn – Go Tell It on the Mountain #290*

*Refrain:* 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.*
3. Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;  
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain.*

***Offering Prayer* – Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*Christ's Words of Institution and Communion*

We eat and drink together at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer.

*The Lord's Prayer*

We pray together with confidence the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us to pray,

**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.**

*Announcements*

- Please offer a warm welcome to Pastor Curt on his first \*official\* Sunday as interim pastor 😊
- There are still a few beef shares left (100% of proceeds to the church fuel bill); sign up clipboard near the church office

*Blessing and Dismissal*

**L: Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior. C: Thanks be to God.**

***Special Thanks to...***

Interim Pastor, Curt Matz  
Video, James Aleshire  
Assistant Minister, Liz Sandbo  
Reader/Communion Prep, Liz Sandbo

Pianist, Carol Hughes  
PowerPoint, Sam Aleshire  
Usher, ??

All hymns used  
with permission,  
ONE License  
#733900-A