



# 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK

Pastor Amanda Kempthorne

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Welcome to Worship! Words in **bold** are said together.

*Welcome* – This is a morning of lessons and carols, hearing the Biblical stories of hope realized in Jesus Christ and singing out for joy! Merry Christmas!

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who was in the beginning, who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mercy. **Amen.**

## Genesis 1:26-2:3

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." <sup>27</sup>So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. <sup>28</sup>God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." <sup>29</sup>God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup>And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. <sup>31</sup>God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

<sup>2:1</sup>Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup>And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. <sup>3</sup>So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

## *Opening Prayer*

**Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, amen.**

## *O Come, All Ye Faithful #283 (v. 1, 2, 4)*

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him, born the king of angels:  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

2. The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,  
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

### Genesis 3:1-15

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" <sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup>but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; <sup>5</sup>for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves. <sup>8</sup>They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup>He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup>He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup>The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup>Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." <sup>14</sup>The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. <sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

### *Confession and Forgiveness*

L: God of goodness and lovingkindness,

**C: we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have turned away from your invitation to new life. We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins, those we know and those known only to you, for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior, amen.**

L: Hear the good news of peace and salvation! God forgives us all our sins, not through our own work, but through + Jesus Christ, made known to all people. With all who come to the manger, rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

**C: Amen.**

## *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice #288*

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;  
ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
2. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blessed forevermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
3. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

### Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup>The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. <sup>3</sup>His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. <sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. <sup>6</sup>The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. <sup>9</sup>They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup>On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

## *Sharing Christ's Peace*

### Micah 5:1-5

Now you are walled around with a wall; siege is laid against us; with a rod they strike the ruler of Israel upon the cheek. <sup>2</sup>But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; <sup>5</sup>and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

## *Joy to the World #267*

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his  
love, and wonders, and wonders of his love.

*Prayers of God's People*      *Leader: Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.*

Luke 1:26-38

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth,  
<sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's  
name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with  
you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this  
might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.  
<sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He  
will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him  
the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his  
kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a  
virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the  
Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called  
Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and  
this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with  
God." <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to  
your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be  
registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of  
Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of  
Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended  
from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was  
engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to  
deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth,  
and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. <sup>8</sup>In that region  
there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an  
angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they  
were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you  
good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a  
Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped  
in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude  
of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on  
earth peace among those whom he favors!"

**Lord, you asked Joseph and Mary to trust in you. May we come to share in their  
trust and always rely on you, amen.**

### *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear #282 (v. 1, 3, 4)*

1. It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all gracious king."  
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.
3. And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,  
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow;  
look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;  
oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!
4. For lo! The days are hast'ning on, by prophets seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold.  
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

### Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" <sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

### *Offering*

- ◇ Mail: Lord of Life Lutheran, 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 easy instructions



### *Angels from the Realms of Glory #275 (v. 1, 3, 4)*

1. Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth;  
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

3. Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great desire of nations, you have seen his natal star.  
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.
4. All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One.  
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

***Offering Prayer* – Gracious God, you came to us as one unknown, bringing joy and salvation to the earth. Nourish us at your banquet table, that with all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior, amen.**

Galatians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. <sup>6</sup>And because you are children, 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 child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

***Communion and Lord's Prayer* – 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.**

Matthew 28:16-20

<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

***Go Tell It on the Mountain #290 (v. 1, 3)***

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

***Blessing and Dismissal***

L: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus. **C: Thanks be to God.**

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

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