Christmas Day

Sunday December 25, 2022



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

LSB 367:1

Welcome! Members and Guests

Mount Hope Lutheran Church

Sunday Service - 9:30am Sunday Bible Study – after Service Wednesday Bible Study – 10:30am (313) 565- 9445 5323 Southfield Allen Park, MI 48101

Rev. Paul Pollatz

(734)765-3468

We are blessed to have you here today. Please fill out the Guest/Member Attendance Card located in the pew rack in front of you. Guests please include your full address, zip code, and phone number. The cards will be collected by the ushers early in the service. Prayer Requests cards are available in the pew racks and should be handed to the ushers when the attendance cards are collected.

Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is a sacrament in which Jesus' body and blood are given in and with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-30). When we receive the Holy Communion at a church, we are making a public statement that we agree with the teachings of that church (1 Corinthians 10:14-18). The Bible cautions us against receiving the body and blood of Christ in a manner that is spiritually harmful (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Supper those who have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Large Print Bulletins

Large print worship guides are available at the ushers' stand.

Listening Devices

Listening devices are available; our ushers will be glad to assist you in signing one out for today's service.

Pew Cushions

Pew cushions are available; our ushers will be glad to get them for you.

Wheelchair Accessible Seating

Wheelchair seating is located in the fifth row from the front of the church on the left and right side of the center aisle.

Church Nursery

Our Nursery is located in the Parlor, which is the first room next to the stained glass doors. The worship service can be heard in this room. The ushers can direct you to this room.

Our Divine Service, & Bible Studies

Our Divine Service is held on Sundays at 09:30 a.m. Bible Study is held on Sundays after Service and Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Our Bible studies are held Sep-May.

Our Vision Statement: Revitalize Within—Reach Out!

PRELUDE THE RINGING OF THE BELLS PREPARATION

Angels: The Ultimate Divine Messengers of Hope
An Angel Brings Hope with a Sign of God's Presence in
the Newly Born Christ Child

Pastor: During Advent this year, we focused on the messages brought by angels: to Zechariah, to Joseph, and to Mary. Last evening—Christmas Eve—it was a multitude of angels singing God's glory and peace to shepherds. Now, on this Christmas Day, we hear from yet one more angel: "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger" (Luke 2:10–12). Imagine the surprise of the shepherds when the sign of Christ the Lord was not a palace or a crib radiating light beams or a baby surrounded by a fierce army of guards. The sign was just a baby in a manger, wrapped in swaddling cloths! As John declares in today's Gospel, "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14). Even today, the Word comes to us in plain spoken words, in the water with God's promise of Baptism, and in the bread and wine of Communion. God's ways are not our ways; He comes in seemingly lowly, simple, and

unspectacular ways that we end up discovering are full of His grace and truth.

(Please stand)

▼ PREPARATION ▼

HYMN

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" LSB 379
O, come all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant!
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,

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,

Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
In the highest:
O, come, let us adore Him,
O, come, let us adore Him,
O, come, let us Adore Him,

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,

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: (spoken) Amen.

(Please be seated or kneel as you are able for the confession and absolution)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

People: 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.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: 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.

Pastor: Dear Christian friends, take heart! The darkness of your sins will never be able to overcome the light of God's love for you in Christ Jesus. 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. The One who dwelt among us, full of grace and truth, came to forgive sinners and to set us free to be children of God. The light of Jesus' forgiveness shines on you today!

People: (spoken) Amen.

(Please stand)

₩ WORD ₩

INTROIT HYMN

"Joy to the World" LSB 387 vs 1 & 2

Joy to the world, the Lord is come

Let earth receive its 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

Joy to the earth the Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: (spoken) And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

God of light, shine hope in our hearts by the sign of Your only-begotten Son, so that our lives may radiate Your love in the darkness of this world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: (spoken) Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 52:7–10 ESV

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the LORD shall bring again Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the LORD hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD hath

made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"What child is this"
Sung by Dave Brown

EPISTLE Hebrews 1:1–12 ESV

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God,

your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord. **People:** (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

VERSE John 1:14
Pastor: Alleluia!
People: Alleluia!

Pastor: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,

People: and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only

Son from the Father,

Pastor: full of grace and truth. Alleluia!

People: Alleluia!

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

People: (we sing) Glory to You, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL John 1:1– 18 ESV

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light

shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.") For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **People:** (we sing) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

PRAYER REQUESTS - please pass your requests to the person nearest the aisle and the ushers will pick them up during the singing of the hymn of the day. Thank you!!

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Joy to the World" LSB 387 vs 3-4

No more let sin and sorrows 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

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 wonders of His love

++ SERMON ++

CHRISTMAS DAY

Text: Luke 2:8-11

An Angel Brings Hope with a Sign of God's Presence in the Newly Born Christ Child

Outline

The Angel Brings Hope in a Sign Telling the Shepherds Where They Might Find the Promised Savior . . . and Where We Might Find God's Enduring Presence among Us.

- I. An angel brings hope by providing the shepherds a sign, a sign of God's presence in the newborn Christ.
- II. We still look for God, for a sign of his presence, and he continues to direct us to his Son, revealed in Word and Sacraments.

(Please stand as we prepare to confess our faith)

CREED Nicene Creed

People: 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.

(Please be seated or kneel as you are able for the Prayer of the Church)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH John 1:14

Pastor: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. So let us bring before the God of mercy prayers of thanks, praise, and intercession.

For pastors, teachers, and all workers in the

Church, and for all people, that together we shine with the light of Christ's love. In Your great mercy,

People: hear us, Christ our Lord.

Pastor: For missionaries near and far, that the grace and truth of Jesus shine through their lives and multiply the kingdom of God throughout the world. In Your great mercy,

People: hear us, Christ our Lord.

Pastor: For the leaders of our nation, state, and local community, that they govern justly and faithfully, seeking peace and the well-being of the people they serve. In Your great mercy,

People: hear us, Christ our Lord.

Pastor: For those who serve in the military and for anyone far away from home on this joyous day, that the message of the Word made flesh bring them the presence of God in the midst of loneliness. In Your great mercy,

People: hear us, Christ our Lord.

Pastor: For those who are sick, dying, or mourning, that the Christmas message bring the light of Christ into all the dark places of our lives. In Your great mercy,

People: hear us, Christ our Lord.

Pastor: For all who travel during this season of family gatherings, that they arrive safely at their destinations. In Your great mercy,

People: hear us, Christ our Lord.

Pastor: For our own congregation, that our hearts be filled with hope as we receive the simple signs of God's love for us in Jesus. In Your great mercy,

People: hear us, Christ our Lord.

Pastor: In remembrance of those dear ones who have died, we give thanks. As they were blessed by the grace and truth of the Word of Life and now rejoice in the presence of God, grant that we one day join them with all the choirs of angels singing God's praise for all eternity. In Your great mercy,

People: hear us, Christ our Lord.

Pastor: Hear our prayers, gracious Father, both those we have spoken and those that are too deep for words yet expressed by the Holy Spirit, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

People: (spoken) Amen.

(Please be seated as the offering is being received and Hymn 783 is sung)

OFFERING

HYMN

"Take My Life and Let It Be" LSB 783 vs 1-4

Take my life and let it be Consecrated Lord to Thee Take my moments and my days Let them flow in ceaseless praise

Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy Love
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee

Take my voice and let me sing
Always only for my King
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee

Take my silver and my gold
Not a mite would I withhold
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose

(Please stand)

▼ SACRAMENT ▼

PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: (spoken) And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: (spoken) We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: (spoken) It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: 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; in whose birth began the rebirth of us and all creation. 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 (sing) LSB 195

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
Hosanna,
Hosanna
Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Praise, honor, and thanks be to You, God of all creation, for creating the heavens and the earth, angels and human beings, for saving Noah and his family in the flood, for calling Abraham and Sarah, for freeing the Israelites from slavery, and for the prophets who cried both disaster and hope in the wilderness.

People: All thanks be to You, holy God!

Pastor: On this Christmas Day, we thank and praise You for the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, for His ministry of restoration and healing, for His suffering and death, and for His resurrection and ascension.

People: All glory and honor, thanks and praise be to You, triune God, forever and ever! Amen!

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9–13

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

People: 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

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20;1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: 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."

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: (spoken) Amen.

AGNUS DEI (we sing) LSB 198

- 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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"God Loves Me Dearly" LSB 392

God loves me dearly, Grants me salvation, God loves me dearly, Loves even me. Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly, God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

I was in slav'ry,
Sin death, and darkness;
God's love was working
To make me free.

Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly, God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

He sent forth Jesus, My dear Redeemer, He sent forth Jesus And set me free

Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly, God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

> Jesus, my Savior, Himself did offer; Jesus, my Savior, Paid all I owed.

Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly, God loves me dearly, Loves even me. Now I will praise You, O Love Eternal; Now I will Praise You All my life long.

Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly, God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

(Please stand at the conclusion of the distribution for the blessing followed by the Post-Communion Canticle)

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.

People: (spoken) Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

THE NUNC DIMITTIS (we sing) TLH p. 29-30

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

Pastor: Let us pray.

You give us hope, gracious God, through these signs of Your love and forgiveness that we have received today: Christ's body and blood. Fill our hearts with such hope, that our joy in You overflows in love to those around us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: (spoken) Amen.

BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24–26

Pastor: 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.

People: (spoken) Amen.

HYMN

"Go Tell It on the Mountain" LSB 388
Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'ry where
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

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

Go tell it on the mountain

Over the hills and ev'ry where

Go tell it on the mountain

That Jesus Christ is born

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

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'ry where
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

Go tell it on the mountain

Over the hills and ev'ry where

Go tell it on the mountain

That Jesus Christ is born

(Please be seated)

ANNOUNCEMENTS DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: (spoken) Thanks be to God!

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Rev. Paul Pollatz, Pastor

Marie Brown, Organist

Dave Hamilton, Elder & Reader

Gary Mason, Glenn Cairns & Kim Armstrong, Ushers

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Check your mailboxes!!

Next year's Envelopes, Portals of Prayer for January & Christmas Cards/letters

Office Hours for the Holidays

Closed: December 26th – 28th
Open: December 29th & 30th
Back to Regular Hours starting January 2nd

Looking for a Prayer Chain Leader
Please talk with Pastor or an Elder

Services this Advent Season: 9:30am New Year's Day

Christmas Bazaar Tables

All items are free will offering except the quilts. Large \$40 Small \$25. All proceeds go to replenish quilling supplies/ batting & a portion will go to LWML Mite box offerings. Any gently used items are welcome especially Christmas items. The table will be up until end of December. Any donations can be put on the table or in the church office.

Toys for Tots

Thank you to everyone who donated!

BINGO!

December 28th

Attendance

Sunday December 18th 9:30 am 40

Prayer List

If sudden illness or the need for immediate prayers occurs, please feel free to contact our Office at 313-565-9445. Prayer requests will remain on the list for two weeks.

Anniversary

Sally & Sherm Trout - December 31st

Birthdays

For the Shut-Ins

Judy Ohannasian, at home
Dorothy MacTavish, at home
Camell Faulk, at home
Phyllis Witte, at home
Melvin Kimbrough, at home
Lynn Mayfield, at home
Albert Glueck, at home

For Those Who Are Sick or Healing

The family of Shirley Ripke, who was called to glory this past Tuesday morning; memorial service arrangements to be announced for the week following Christmas

Percival Reynolds, newborn, healthy baby, mother Mckayla Reynolds, friends of Glenn Cairns.

Prayers of thanksgiving!

Diane McPhee, friend of Pam Benford, ill **Nancy Dajos**, ill

Maxine & Richard, Thanksgiving for the birth of Alexandra Lori Lee Aubrey

Dave & Sis Hamilton, at home

Phyllis Witte, underwent two surgeries for injuries sustained in a incidents in home and hospital

Phyllis Dasher, scheduled for surgery this week on Thursday **The Trout Haney Families**, in their preparations for two weddings in 2024 in all their decision making

TO HELP YOU PREPARE FOR Next's WEEK WORSHIP PLEASE READ

CIRCUMCISION AND NAME OF JESUS,

Free from the Guardian

Text: Galatians 3:23-29

Theme: Through Christ, we are free of the ceremonies, civil ordinances, and condemnation of the Law of Moses, but we as Christians do not set aside God's commands but walk *in* the Law of the Lord.

Goal: That everyone listening would understand the differing ways in which the Law functions and in which it has been removed from Christians, and that they would rejoice in their Christian freedom in Christ maturely.

Outline

- 1. Are Christians obligated to obey the entire Law of Moses?
- 2. The false apostles' argument makes salvation dependent on human efforts.
- 3. The Law of Moses is not the way of salvation but instead *points to* the way of salvation.
- 4. Since Christ has come to you, you are now free from the guardian.
- So rather than being under the Law (coerced and condemned), Christians walk in the Law (freely loving what God commands, freed from condemnation).

Through Christ, We Are Free of the Ceremonies, Civil Ordinances, and Condemnation of the Law of Moses, but We as Christians Do Not Set Aside God's Commands but Walk *in* the Law of the Lord.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES AT MOUNT HOPE

Sunday Merry Christmas! December 25 9:30 am - Worship w/ HC No Bible Study Monday December 26 Office Closed Tuesday Office Closed December 27 Wednesday Office Closed December 28 Thursday Office Open December 29 Quilting 10am to 2pm Friday December 30 Office Open Sunday Happy New Year! January 1 9:30 am - Worship w/ HC Bible Study after Service

