

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER
CHRISTMAS**

January 2, 2022

THE SERVICE OF PREPARATION

PRELUDE

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

WORDS OF WELCOME TO ONE AND ALL!

Pastor: **God loves you!** He chose you before the foundation of the world and knew that you would be part of His family through faith in Jesus Christ. Whom do you know who needs to experience God's unconditional, all-accepting, no-strings-attached love? As we are reminded throughout the Scriptures, God's love is for all people. Who is near to you who may still be far from God? How can you connect with them this year so that they might come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved?

PREPARATION

(Please stand)

HYMN

"Let All Together Praise Our God" *LSB 389*

Let all together praise our God

Before his glorious throne

Today He opens heav'n again

To give us His own Song

To give us His own Son

**He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne
Is born an infant small
And in a manger, poor and lone
Lies in a humble stall
Lies in a humble stall**

**Within an earthborn form He hides
His all creating light
To serve us all He humbly cloaks
The splendor of His might
The splendor of His might**

**He undertakes a great exchange
Puts on our human frame
And in return gives us His realm
His glory and His name
His glory and His name**

**He is a servant I a lord
How great a mystery!
How strong tender Christ Child's love!
No truer friend than He
No truer friend than He**

**He is the key and He the door
To blessed paradise
The angel bars the way no more
To God our praises rise
To God our praises rise**

**Your raced in lowliness revealed
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield
And Spirit evermore
We praise You evermore**

INVOCATION

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

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

John 3:16; Titus 2:11; 1 Timothy 2:3–4; 1 John 2:2

Pastor: For God so loved the world, that He gave His
only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not
perish but have eternal life.

**People: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing
salvation for all people.**

Pastor: This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God
our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and
to come to the knowledge of the truth.

**People: He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for
ours only but also for the sins of the whole
world.**

(Please be seated or kneel for the confession and absolution)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Romans 3:22b–25a, 6:23

Pastor: For there is no distinction: for all have sinned
and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified

by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith.

People: For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

People: O Giver of all good gifts, we come to You today acknowledging our foolishness and shortsightedness. As we live in this world, we succumb to the thinking of this world, which does not always align with Your thoughts. Amid the strains and stresses of life, we forget about Your unfailing love for us and for all in our world. For the sake of Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, forgive our sins and renew us by Your love.

Pastor: Our God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, loves us dearly and blesses us with every spiritual blessing. We have redemption through Jesus' blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace. 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.

People: (spoken) Thank You, Jesus! Amen.

(Please stand)

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT *Psalm 147:1, 5, 11–12; antiphon: John 1:14*

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, full of grace and truth.**

Pastor: Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to
our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is
fitting.

**People: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; His
understanding is beyond measure.**

Pastor: But the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear
Him,

People: in those who hope in His steadfast love.

Pastor: Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem!

People: Praise your God, O Zion!

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, full of grace and truth.**

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the gifts of forgiveness, grace, and the
heavenly inheritance that awaits us, let us pray to
the Lord.

People: (spoken) Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this nation, for our cities and communities,
and for wisdom for all who lead, let us pray to the
Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For God's chosen people, gathered here and scattered throughout the earth, and for the proclamation of God's unconditional love for all and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Let Us All with Gladsome Voice" LSB 390

**Let us all with gladsome voice
Praise the God of heaven
Who to bid our hearts rejoice
His own Son hath given**

**To this vale of tears He comes
Here to serve in sadness
That with him in heav'ns' fair homes
We may reign in gladness**

**We are rich, for He was poor
Is no this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore
Here on earth and yonder**

**Christ, our Lord and Savior dear
Be Thou ever near us
Grant us now a glad new year
Amen Jesus, Hear us**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: (spoken) **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Gracious heavenly Father, You have shown repeatedly throughout history how much You love Your chosen people. Fill our lives with Your love so we may share it with all whom we interact; 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 *1 Kings 3:4-15 ESV*

And 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. At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." And 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. And 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. And 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. Give 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?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And 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, behold, 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. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days." And 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.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

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

Pastor: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

People: (spoken) **and the government shall be upon His shoulder.**

Pastor: And His name shall be called

People: (spoken) **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Pastor: Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done
marvelous things!

EPISTLE *Ephesians 1:3-14 ESV*

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, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In 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, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In 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, who

is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: (spoken) **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

THE TRIPLE HALLELUJAH (sung)

People: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

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

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 2:40-52 ESV*

Pastor: The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon Him. Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when He was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but 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, and when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for Him. After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

People: And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers.

Pastor: And when His parents saw Him, they were astonished. And His mother said to Him,

Women: “Son, why have You treated us so? Behold, Your father and I have been searching for You in great distress.”

Pastor: And He said to them,

Men: “Why were you looking for Me? Did you not know that I must be in My Father’s house?”

Pastor: And they did not understand the saying that He spoke to them. And He went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them.

Women: And His mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

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

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: (sing) Praise to You, O Christ.

CREED Nicene Creed

All: 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 shall 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 worshipped 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“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 be seated)

+ SERMON+

“God Loves You Dearly!”

Text: Ephesians 1:3-14

Theme: God loves you dearly and as from all eternity!

Goal: That all who are listening will rejoice in the wonderful grace and providence of God, who has loved them from all eternity.

Outline: God loves you dearly and Has from All Eternity!

- I. The heavenly Father loves you from all eternity.
- II. Jesus the Son loves you from all eternity
- III. The Holy Spirit loves you from all eternity

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for ourselves, for God’s people around the world, and for all people in their various circumstances.

Lord, we pray for this New Year that is here, that You continue to bless us, Your people chosen before the foundation of the world, so that we may be a blessing to others. Fill us with the wisdom of Your Word. Lead and guide our

visioning, goal setting, and planning so that we have a positive impact in our world both now and for eternity. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: (spoken) **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, we pray for all who lead—in government, in the public and private sectors, and in Your Church—that they lead with Your wisdom so that the decisions they make are in line with Your will for all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: (spoken) **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, we pray for all who are hurting, grieving, and struggling in their heart, soul, strength, and mind, . . . we pray, Lord, that they experience Your dear, sweet love for them as You lead, guide, and provide for them. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: (spoken) **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, we pray for those who are beginning this year with goals to read the Bible and learn more about You, that You connect them with Your people so that, as with Philip and the Ethiopian, there is someone to help them understand the mystery of Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: (spoken) **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your dear love; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

(Please stand)

✠ SACRAMENT

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

People: (spoken) **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

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

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalm 136*

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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless times You show how much You love all the people of this world. Through Your Son, Jesus, You most vividly demonstrated Your love in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us—the righteous for the unrighteous—so that we might be saved from Your just wrath. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

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 that cometh in the name of the Lord

Hosanna, Hosanna

Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

You have given us life, and life to the full as You have lavished Your love on us and welcomed us into Your family through faith in Jesus, through whom You richly and daily forgive our sins.

Grant us the fullness of Your wisdom, that as we are fueled by the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus, we live lives that reveal Your grace and mercy to all. To You alone be all glory, honor, and worship—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—one God, now and forever.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

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.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: (spoken) **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9–13*)

**All: 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

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI (Sung) 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.**

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Children of the Heavenly Father” LSB 725

Children of the heav'nly Father

Safely in His bosom gather

Nestling bird nor star in heaven

Such a refuge e'er was given

God His own doth tend and nourish

In His holy courts they flourish

From all evil things He spares them

In His mighty arms He bears them

Neither life nor death shall ever

From the Lord His children sever

Unto them His grace He showeth

And their sorrows all He knoweth

Though He giveth or He taketh

God His children ne'er forsaketh

**His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

(Please stand)

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.**

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

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

THE NUNC DIMITTIS (sung) 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 with-out end. Amen**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING *Psalm 106:1b*

Pastor: Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good.

People: (spoken) **His steadfast love endures forever.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Prince of Peace, You bless us with the peace of Your divine presence in this Meal of Your body and blood, in, with, and under the bread and wine, granting us the forgiveness of all our sins. We thank You for preparing us to enter Your heavenly gates as You meet us in this banquet of Your body and blood, which You have prepared to guide us on our journey to Your kingdom, which has no end; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *Ephesians 1:3, 13-14*

Pastor: 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. . . . In 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, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

Pastor: The Lord be with you all. The blessing of almighty God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—abide with you, now and forever.

People: (spoken) **Amen.**

HYMN

“Within the Father’s House” LSB 410

**Within the Father’s house
The Son has found His home
And to His temple suddenly
The Lord of life has come**

**The doctors of the Law
Gaze on the wondrous child
And marvel at His gracious words
Of wisdom undefiled**

**Ye not to them is giv’n
The mighty truth to know
To lift the earthly veil that hides
Incarnated God below**

**The secret of the Lord
Escapes each human eye
And faithful pond’ring hearts
Awaits the full epiphany**

**Lord, visit thou our souls
And teach us by Thy grace
Each dim revealing of Thyself
With loving awe to race**

**Til we behold Thy face
And know as we are known
Thee, Father, Son and Holy Ghost
Coequal Three in One**

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

Rev. Paul Pollatz, Pastor

Marie Brown, Organist

Ken Kosmalski, Elder & Reader

Bill Switter, Dave Brown, & Kathy King, Ushers

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Undercoating the church

Sunday January 9th right after service.

Please help if you can.

Thank you

for the gifts during the holiday season.

Pastor & Ruth

Kids Club donations

Collecting Men & Women WHITE socks to donate to a homeless shelter. Collection begins now until Jan. 31st. There will be a box for WHITE SOCKS ONLY placed in the Narthex/Hallway.

Attendance

Friday December 24th 7:00 pm 43

Sunday December 26th 9:30 am 42

Prayer List

If sudden illness or the need for immediate prayers occurs, please feel free to contact our Prayer Chain leader, Joan Hafkesbrink, at 313.565.6871. Prayer requests will remain on the list for two weeks.

Anniversary

Birthdays

For the Shut-Ins

Dorothy MacTavish, at home

George Morton, at home

Mack Mayfield, at home

Carmell Faulk, at home

For Those Who Are Sick or Healing

Buveta & Bill Bryant, Pam Benford's Friends, Recovering from Covid at home.

For the family of Eddie Jones, Val Mason's brother, who was called to glory early Wednesday morning

For the family of Gayle French, who was called to glory

For the family of Duane French, Gayle French's Nephew, who was called to glory

For the family of Mark Leger, nephew of Phyllis Witte, who was called to glory

Barbara Kuderik, friend of Janet Witte, anticipating surgery on January 10th

Jack Gurney, Paul Utcai's Nephew, hospitalized;

Barbara and Frank Parise, Frank Pignanelli's family, suffering from COVID

Kent James, nephew of Linda Panich, Hospitalized with and open wound infection on foot

Mellani & Mike Zajac, sister and brother-in-law of Cheryl Toms, ill with covid.