

**FIRST SUNDAY  
AFTER CHRISTMAS  
DECEMBER 27, 2020**

**IMMANUEL  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
Missouri Synod**



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**Rev. Ed Weber,  
Pastor  
956.463.1305  
eweber10@aol.com**

**Website:  
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com**

***Sunday*  
9:00 A.M.  
Worship Service**

**10:30 a.m.  
Adult Bible Class &  
Sunday School**

**Holy Communion:  
1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday**

**Website:  
Misionemanuel.com**

**Office Hrs, M-F  
8 am to 12 pm  
CCLI # 2585510**



**“Lord, now You are letting Your  
servant depart in peace,  
according to Your word; For my  
eyes have seen Your salvation  
which You have prepared before  
the face of all peoples, a light to  
bring revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of Your people  
Israel.”**

**(Luke 2:29-32)**

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**  
**DECEMBER 27, 2020**

**WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are located in the pew racks in front of you.

Next week we celebrate Holy Communion. We teach that in the receiving of the Lord's Supper each person receives the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and desire to partake of Communion, please ask to speak with Pastor Weber or one of the elders prior to the service.

**A Prayer Upon Entering Church** - Gracious God, through our Lord Jesus Christ You have taken the slavery under which I was held captive to sin and Satan and have given me new life. By the power of the Holy Spirit at work in me, keep me ever connected to Christ to live out each day in my baptismal grace as I await the joy of life in Your eternal presence. This I ask for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

**AS WE GATHER** - The Gospel for the First Sunday after Christmas takes us to the temple in Jerusalem, where Jesus is brought by Mary and Joseph. In presenting Him there, they are affirming that He is dedicated to God as a firstborn son. But He is much more than a son—He is the Son. In her classic hymn text, German hymnist Elisabeth Cruciger celebrates His coming as she writes, "The only Son from heaven, foretold by ancient seers, By God the

Father given, in human form appears. No sphere His light confining, no star so brightly shining As He, our Morning Star” (LSB 402:1). Jesus is the One in whom we see our salvation, whose light guides our way through life, and whose presence enlightens our world. With joy, we worship Him!

## DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR

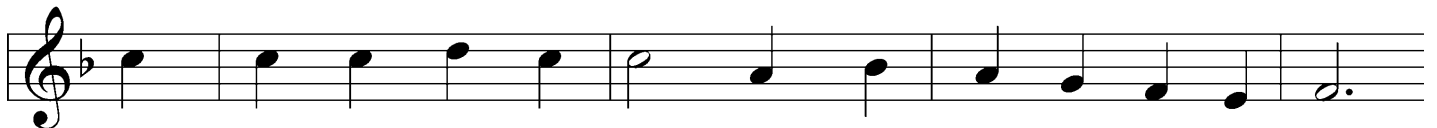
PAGE 203

### WELCOME

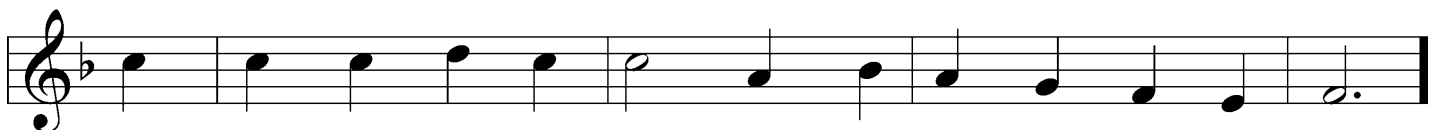
### PRELUDE

*(A quiet time for prayer and meditation in preparation for worship)*

## OPENING HYMN *A Great and Mighty Wonder* **LSB 383**



1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:  
 2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,  
 3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,  
 4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,  
 5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!  
 And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.  
 Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.  
 The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.  
 And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

#### *Refrain*



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

## ▲ INVOCATION

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.**

(We take a moment of silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior.)

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. (John 20:19-23)

C Amen.



## ✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

### ▲ INTROIT *Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:10*

P The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

**C Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things! His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.**

P The LORD has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

**C He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

P Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**ALL Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

### ▲ KYRIE



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## ▲ GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shi - ped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## ▲ SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

## ▲ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be

like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever .

**C Amen.**

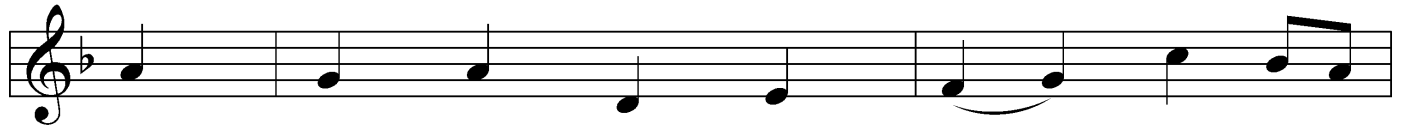
### **▲ CELEBRATION OF THE DAY**

**P** The days immediately following the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus on Christmas Day have been utilized by the Church as a time for special commemorations. December 26 is the Festival of St. Stephen, the first martyr, and December 27 is the Festival of St. John, one of the best known of the disciples. Known as “the disciple whom Jesus loved,” John plays a prominent part in the years of Jesus’ earthly ministry and is one of the most active of the apostles in the time after our Lord’s ascension, when the Christian Church had its beginnings. He is honored for his contributions to the New Testament, including the Gospel according to St. John, three Epistles, and the Book of Revelation, the last book of the Bible. John is commemorated in artwork, in literature, and in song. Together we sing stanzas 1 and 8 of the hymn “By All Your Saints in Warfare.”

## HYMN

*By All Your Saints in Warfare*

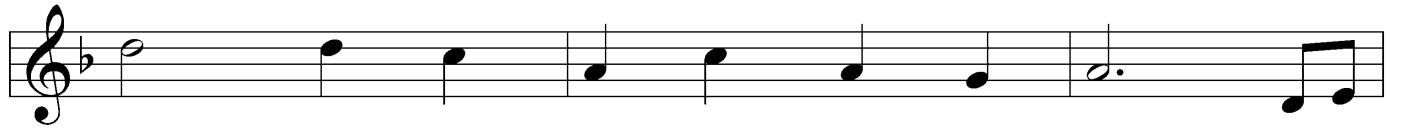
LSB 517; Sts. 1,8



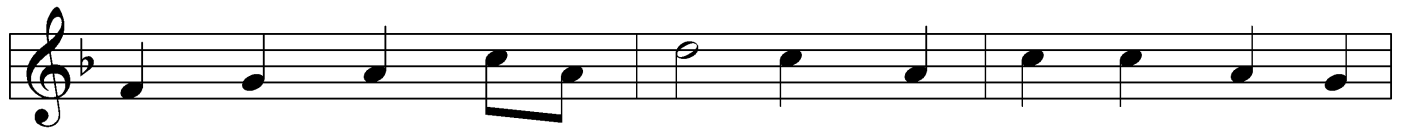
1 By all Your saints in war - fare, For  
2 For Your be - lov'd dis - ci - ple Ex -



all Your saints at rest, Your ho - ly name, O  
iled to Pat - mos' shore, And for his faith - ful



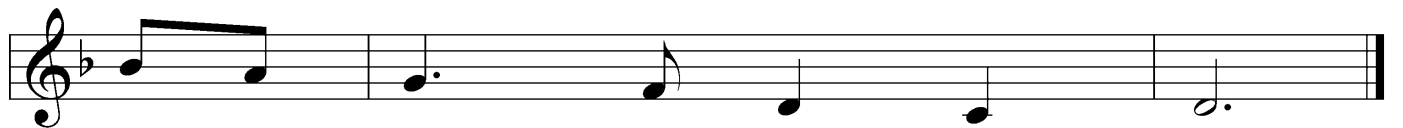
Je - sus, For - ev - er - more be blest! For  
rec - ord, We praise You ev - er - more. Praise



You have won the bat - tle That they might wear the  
for the mys - tic vi - sion Through him to us re -



crown; And now they shine in glo - ry  
vealed; May we, in pa - tience wait - ing,



Re - flect - ed from Your throne.  
With Your e - lect be sealed.

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P The son of a successful fishing businessman and a caring mother, John was in the inner circle of the disciples of Jesus. From the cross, Jesus entrusted His mother, Mary, to the care of John because He knew she would be cared for in a kindly way. Tradition suggests that Mary lived with John for some fifteen years after the time of Jesus' ascension.



Through the words of John’s writing, we hear Jesus confidently affirm who He was and is, and why He had come to earth. “I am the bread of life; I am the resurrection and the life,” He says (John 6:35; 11:25). Those words, recorded and shared by John, have inspired all generations of Christian people. We join in the unending chorus of thanks and praise as we sing stanza 3 of “By All Your Saints in Warfare.”

▲ HYMN *By All Your Saints in Warfare* **LSB 517; st. 3**

3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther And  
 wor - ship God the Son And sing to God the  
 Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One, Till  
 all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the  
 throne, As - crib - ing pow'r and glo - ry  
 And praise to God a - lone.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**     *Isaiah 61:10–62:3*

(Nations will acknowledge the Chosen One of the Lord.)

10 I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. 11 For as the earth brings forth its bud, as the garden causes the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations. 1 For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns. 2 The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, and all kings your glory. You shall be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord will name. 3 You shall also be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

P    This is the Word of the Lord.

**C    Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**     *Psalms 111*

P    Praise the LORD!

**C    I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

P    Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

**C    Full of splendor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.**

P    He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

**C    He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers**

**His covenant forever.**

P He has shown His people the power of His works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

**C The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy; they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

P He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever. Holy and awesome is His name! The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

**ALL Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE** *(Children remain seated)*

**EPISTLE** *Galatians 4:4-7*

(At the right time, God sent His Son into the world.)

4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**



## ▲ ALLELUIA and VERSE



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



**C** These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## ▲ HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 2:22-40*

(Jesus is presented in the temple by Mary and Joseph.)

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

**C** **Glory to You , O Lord.**

22 Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord"), 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." 25 And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon

him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, 28 he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:

29 "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; 30 For my eyes have seen Your salvation 31 Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, 32 A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel."

33 And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against 35 (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." 36 Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; 37 and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. 38 And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem. 39 So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. 40 And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## ▲ APOSTLES CREED

All I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*What Child Is This*

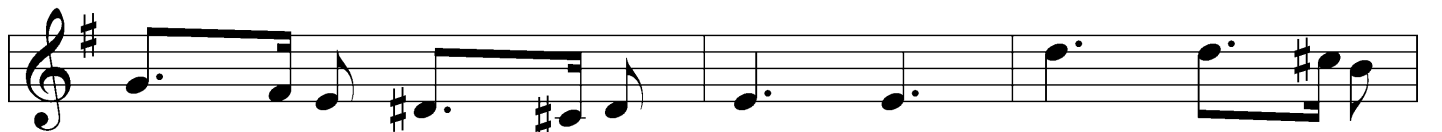
LSB 370



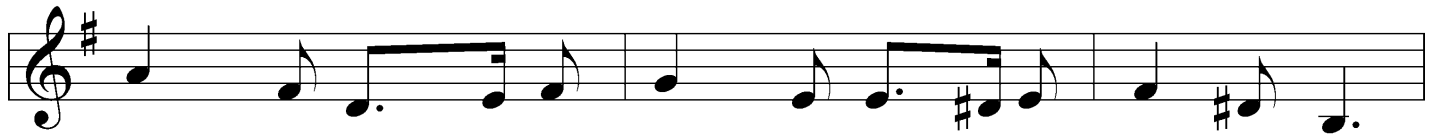
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are  
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
 pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
 song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



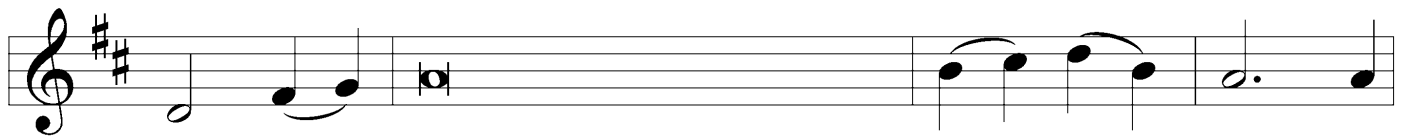
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

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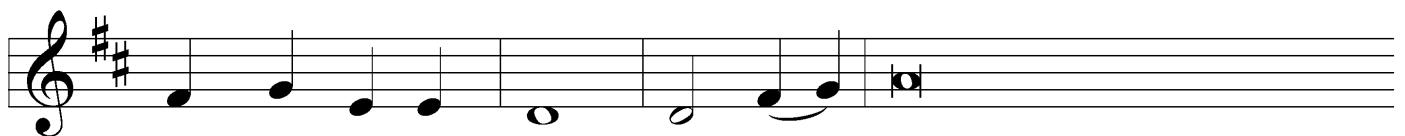
**SERMON**     *“Behold...the cause of the falling and rising  
 of many - this Child, Jesus”*     (Luke 2:34)

**OFFERING**     *(Please place your offering in the offering plate as you  
 leave.)*

**OFFERTORY**                             *Song of Simeon*                             **LSB; p. 199**



Lord, now     lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



▲ **SHARING OF THE PEACE**      *"Peace be with you" (John 20:21)*  
[using ASL (American Sign Language)]

▲ **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P    Gathered as God's people and as heirs of an eternal inheritance, let us pray for the whole Church and for all who bear the name of Jesus Christ, who is our Light and our Salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C    hear our prayer.**

P    As we remember St. John, Apostle and Evangelist, we pray for the Church, asking that through her the joyous news of salvation be proclaimed as the Holy Spirit directs. Give us faith to acknowledge and rejoice in the fellowship that we share in Christ with people here and in every place, that we may see in



each sister and brother in Christ a reflection of Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Lord of all, watch over our nation and grant Your divine favor to all who bear office in our land, especially [(USA) the president and Congress of the United States, the governor and legislature of Texas, and to all those who make, administer, and judge our laws.] [(British Commonwealth) [His/Her] Majesty, the [King/Queen], the governor general, the prime minister and the parliament, the government of this province, and all who have authority over us.] Help them to serve all those in their care according to Your holy will, that we may live in peace and safety. Save us from pestilence and plague, for unseasonable weather, and the dangers that are ever-present in our lives. Grant us Your blessing as one calendar year closes and another begins. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Give a special measure of blessing to those with special needs. Especially we remember the sick, the shut-in, those dealing with depression, those who sorrow, and others known to us who at this time are in need of prayer. Help us to be people who bless, encourage, and strengthen all those in our circles of relationship and beyond. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Sovereign Lord, we remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors, [especially . . .]. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven. Bless the communion we share on earth as we await the Supper of the Lamb in His kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever.

**C Amen.**

**▲ 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.

**▲ BENEDICAMUS**

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**▲ BENEDICTION**

**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.

**SENDING HYMN**

*Let Us All with Gladsome Voice*

**LSB 390**



1 Let us all with glad - some voice Praise the God of heav - en,  
2 To this vale of tears He comes, Here to serve in sad - ness,  
3 We are rich, for He was poor; Is not this a won - der?  
4 Christ, our Lord and Sav - ior dear, Be Thou ev - er near us.



Who, to bid our hearts re - joice, His own Son hath giv - en.  
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes We may reign in glad - ness.  
There - fore praise God ev - er - more Here on earth and yon - der.  
Grant us now a glad new year. A - men, Je - sus, hear us.

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## DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

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### *Memory Verse Challenge*

**This week's memory verse:** *Matthew 1:21*

*"You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."*

<b>Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule</b>		
	<b>December Sunday Servants:</b>	<b>January Servants:</b>
Elder:	Ken Eilers	Joe Winston
Altar Guild:	Donna Jackson & Lorri Marchant	BJ Neuhaus & M Perez
Music:	Bonny Winston	
<b>This Week</b>	First Sunday after Christmas	
Usher:	Dan Wehling	
Sunday:	Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
<b>Next Week</b>	Second Sunday after Christmas	
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am

## Lord The Time Has Fully Come for Redemption and Purification through Jesus Christ, Our

“When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son,” born of the woman, “to redeem those who were under the law” (Gal. 4:4–5). Therefore, “according to the Law of Moses,” Mary and Joseph “brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord” (Luke 2:22). There He was received and taken up into the arms of Simeon, who was righteous and devout, “waiting for the consolation of Israel” (Luke 2:25). Simeon praised God and blessed the parents by confessing the cross for which this child was appointed. “At that very hour,” old and faithful Anna, who had watched, prayed and worshiped in the temple for so long, came up and “began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem” (Luke 2:38). The Lord causes “righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations” (Is. 61:11). We also “greatly rejoice in the Lord,” because this child has clothed us “with the garments of salvation,” covered us “with the robe of righteousness” and called us “by a new name” (Is. 61:10; 62:2).

### *From the Pastor's Desk*

#### *Portals of Prayer*

*for January to March 2021 are available in the Narthrex or office.*

*Adult Bible Class/Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.*

*A warm welcome to our Winter Texans as they arrive weekly to the RGV. Stay safe!*

<p><b>12/20/2020</b></p> <p><b>Sunday Worship 27</b></p> <p>Plate: \$ 86.00</p> <p>Envelopes: \$ 1,938.00</p> <p>Donation:</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Total: \$ 2,024.00</b></p> <p><b>Bible Class: 20 \$ 11.00</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Second Sunday after Christmas</i></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Readings:</i></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>1 Kings 3:4-15</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Psalms 119:97-104</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Ephesians 1:3-14</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Luke 2:40-52</i></p>	<p><b>12/16/2020</b></p> <p><b>Mid-Wk 3 Advent 25</b></p> <p>Plate: \$ 60.00</p> <p>Envelopes: \$ 90.00</p> <p>Donation:</p> <p>Turkey Project \$ 40.00</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Total: \$ 190.00</b></p>
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