

**SECOND SUNDAY
AFTER CHRISTMAS**

JANUARY 4, 2026

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH
Missouri Synod**



**703 W 3RD Street
Mercedes, TX 78570
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Immanuelmercedes
@gmail.com**

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lutheranmercedes.com**

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

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

**10:30 A.M.
Adult Bible Class/
Sunday School**

**Holy Communion:
Every Sunday**

**[www.facebook.com/
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**Website:
Misionemanuel.com**

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

**“Now so it was that after three
days they found Him in the
temple, sitting in the midst of
the teachers, both listening
to them and asking them
questions. And all who heard
Him were astonished at His
understanding and answers.”**

Luke 2: 46-47



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 4, 2026

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.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated every Sunday at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as Christ our Lord says, He gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-29). And through this sacrament, He strengthens us for new life in Him (Romans 8:10; 1 Peter 2:4). Jesus personally invites weak sinners (Mark 9:24) who trust His words, "This is My body which is given for you... this cup is the new covenant in My blood which is shed for you" (Luke 22:19-20), to receive His blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. (Romans 8:31-32).

Because "he who eats and drinks our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner drinks judgement to oneself" (1 Corinthians 11:29), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith by those gathered at this altar (1 Cor.10:17;11:26), any who have not been instructed, or who hold a confession and church fellowship differing from that of this congregation, and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and desire to receive the Sacrament, should first arrange to speak with the pastor. For further study, see Matthew 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:14-20; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 10:14-21;11:17-34.

A Prayer Upon Entering Church - Heavenly Father, You have blessed me in Christ with every spiritual blessing. Grant that, with Your help, I may live a holy and blameless life as Your son or daughter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever. Amen.

AS WE GATHER - We can't figure God out. Mary and Joseph must have

been completely confused about Jesus' desire to stay in the temple, but it was obvious to Him. There was a long list of blessings God was able to give to Solomon; fortunately, the king chose the right one. The Epistle tells us what God wants and what He has done for us, regardless of if we have understood His plan. He has chosen us, given us the Holy Spirit, and included us in a gracious inheritance. And it all revolves around our Savior—His birth, suffering, death, and resurrection. Jesus did all that was necessary for grace to be poured out on us, thanks be to God. It is all certainly beyond our understanding.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE

PAGE 184

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

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Within the Father's House

LSB 410



1 With - in the Fa - ther's house The Son has found His home,
 2 The doc - tors of the Law Gaze on the won - drous child
 3 Yet not to them is giv'n The might - y truth to know,
 4 The se - cret of the Lord Es - capes each hu - man eye,



And to His tem - ple sud - den - ly The Lord of life has come.
 And mar - vel at His gra - cious words Of wis - dom un - de - filed.
 To lift the earth - ly veil that hides In - car - nate God be - low.
 And faith - ful pon - d'ring hearts a - wait The full e - piph - a - ny.

5 Lord, visit Thou our souls
 And teach us by Thy grace
 Each dim revealing of Thyself
 With loving awe to trace

△ 6 Till we behold Thy face
 And know as we are known
 Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
 Coequal Three in One.

Please stand

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

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

P And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

C **Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and praise is beautiful.**

P Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.
C The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him, in those who hope in His mercy.
 P Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!
C And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

GLORIA PATRI

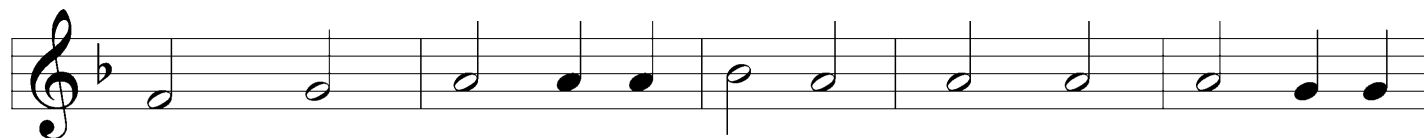


C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

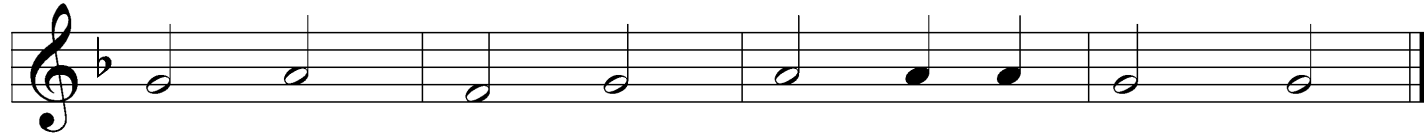


as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

KYRIE

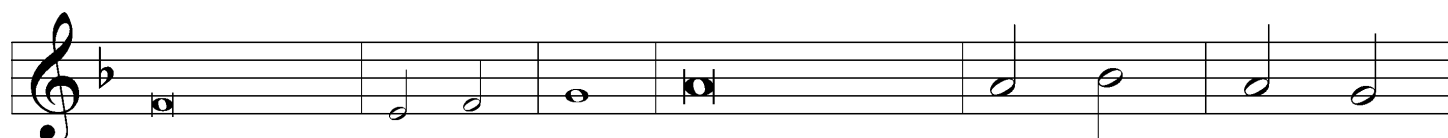


C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -




on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



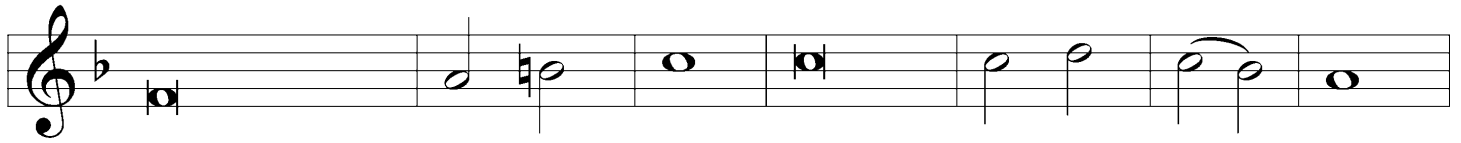
P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



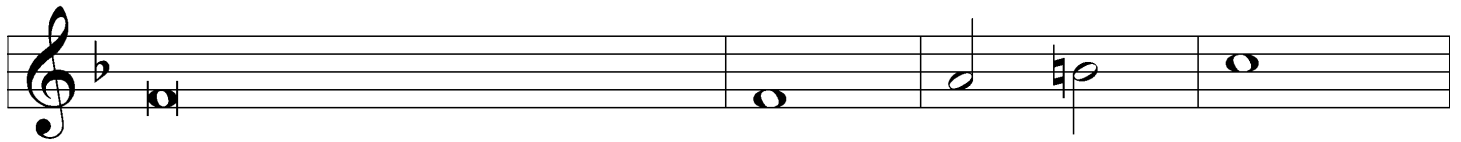
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



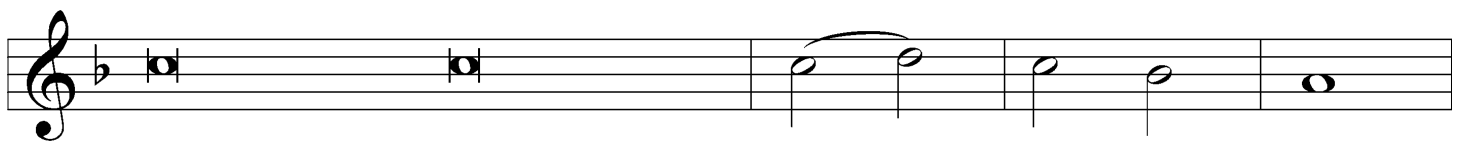
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



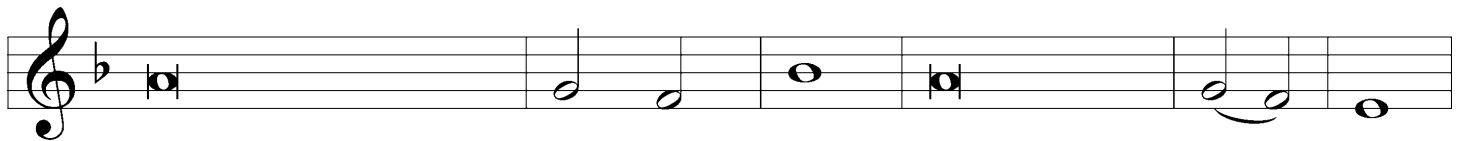
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



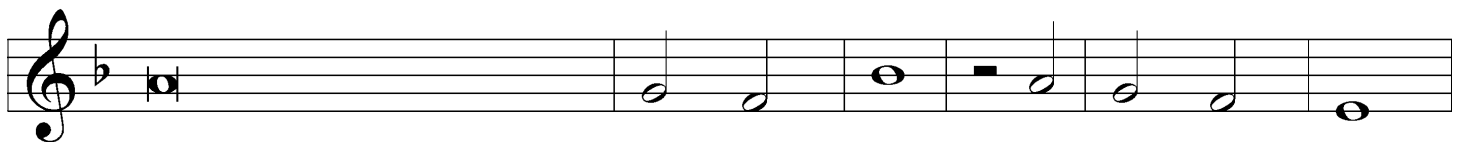
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



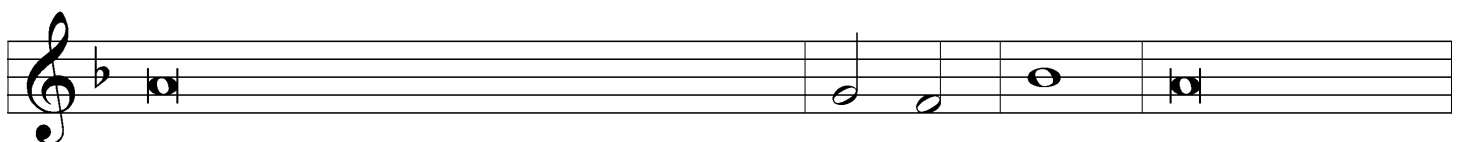
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



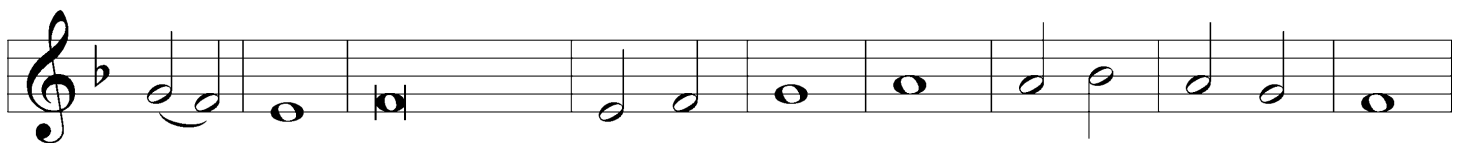
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



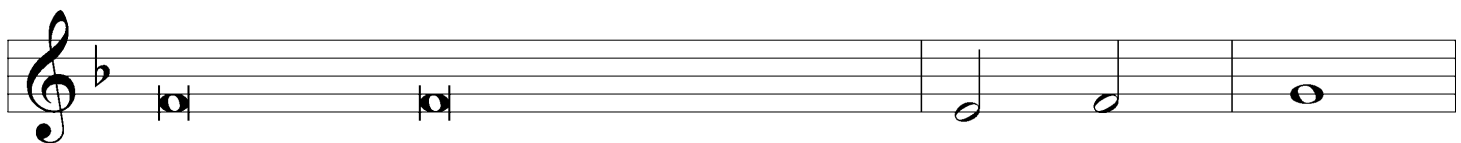
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



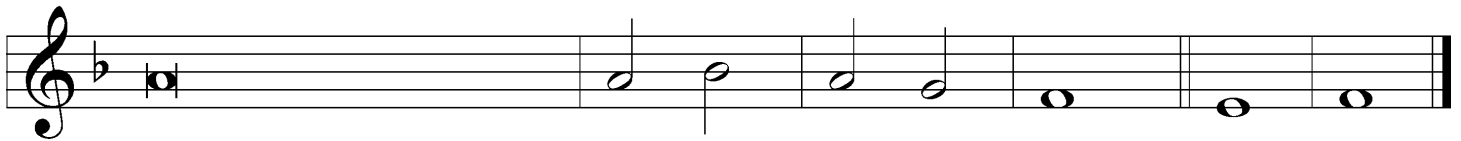
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

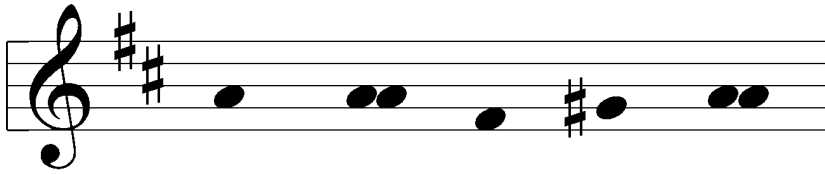


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

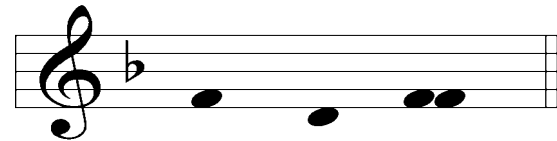
SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Please sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING *1 Kings 3:4-15*

(Solomon asks for an understanding mind, a listening heart.)

4 Now the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place: Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. 5 At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask! What shall I give you?"

6 And Solomon said: "You have shown great mercy to Your servant David

(Continue on next page) 7

my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day.

7 Now, O Lord my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my Father David, but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. 8 And Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted.

9 Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"

10 The speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

11 Then God said to him: "Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, 12 behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you. 13 And I have also given you what you have not asked: both riches and honor, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days. 14 So if you walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

15 Then Solomon awoke; and indeed it had been a dream. And he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, offered up burnt offerings, offered peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 119:97-104*

P Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.

C You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; for they are ever with me.

P I have more understanding than all my teachers, for Your testimonies are my meditation.

C I understand more than the ancients, because I keep Your precepts.

P I have restrained my feet from every evil way, that I may keep Your word.

C I have not departed from Your judgments, for You Yourself have taught me.

P How sweet are Your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

C Through Your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

EPISTLE *Ephesians 1:3–14*

(Paul tries to explain the overwhelming grace of God and our response to it.)

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, 5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace 8 which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, 9 having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, 10 that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. 11 In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, 12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

ALLELUIA

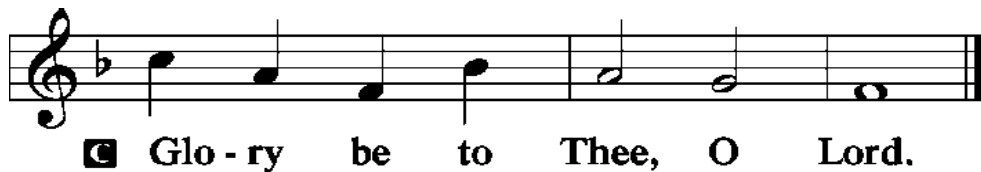


HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:40-52

(The boy Jesus is found in the temple.)

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



40 And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

41 His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover.

42 And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast. 43 When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it; 44 but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances. 45 So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. 46 Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. 47 And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers. 48 So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought You anxiously."

49 And He said to them, "Why did you seek Me? Did you not know that I must be about My Father's business?" 50 But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them.

51 Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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 will have no end.

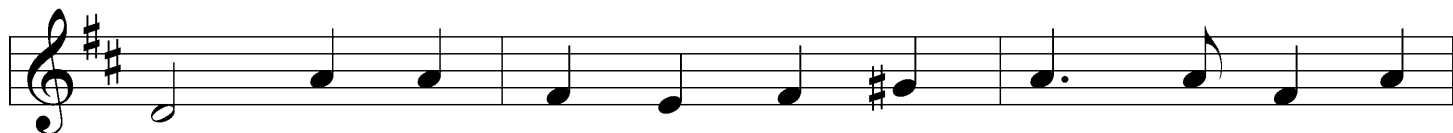
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please sit

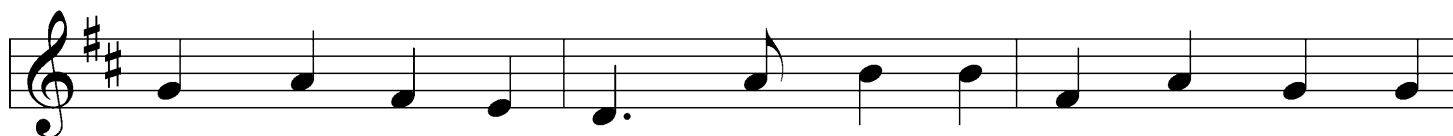
HYMN OF THE DAY

Oh, Blest the House

LSB 862



1 Oh, blest the house, what - e'er be - fall, Where Je - sus



Christ is all in all! A home that is not whol - ly



His— How sad and poor and dark it is!

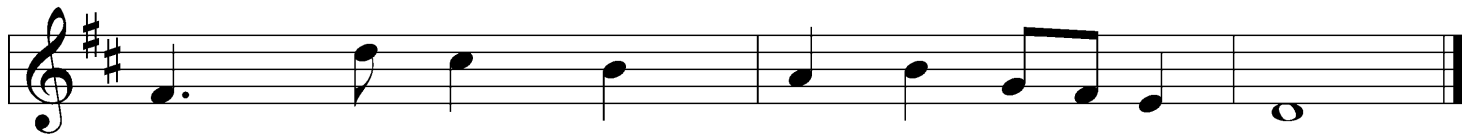
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2 Oh, blest that house where faith is found And all in
3 Oh, blest the par - ents who give heed Un - to their
4 Oh, blest that house; it pros - pers well. In peace and
5 Then here will I and mine to - day A sol - emn



hope and love a - bound; They trust their God and serve Him
chil - dren's fore - most need And wea - ry not of care or
joy the par - ents dwell, And in their chil - dren's lives is
prom - ise make and say: Though all the world for - sake His



still And do in all His ho - ly will!
cost. May none to them and heav'n be lost!
shown How rich - ly God can bless His own.
Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

"About His Father's business for us!"

Luke 2:49-52

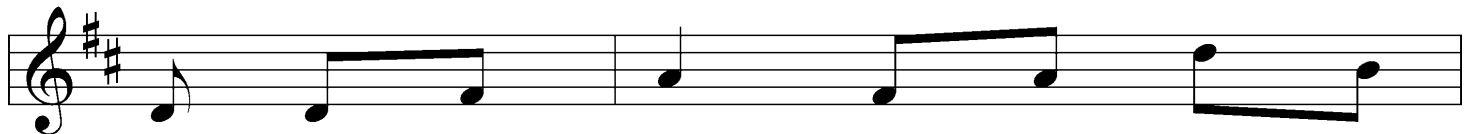
OFFERING

Please stand

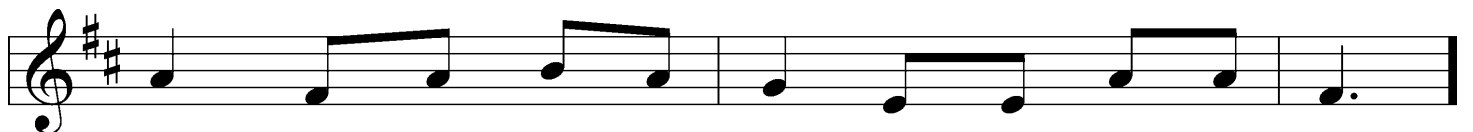
OFFERTORY

God Loves Me Dearly

LSB 392



1 God loves me dear - ly, Grants me sal -
2 I was in slav - 'ry, Sin, death, and
3 He sent forth Je - sus, My dear Re -
4 Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Him - self did
5 Now I will praise You, O Love E -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.
dark - ness; God's love was work - ing To make me free.
deem - er, He sent forth Je - sus And set me free.
of - fer; Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Paid all I owed.
ter - nal; Now I will praise You All my life long.



Text and tune: Public domain

SHARING OF THE PEACE *"Peace be with you"* [American Sign Language]

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Blessed be You, O God our Father, for in Your great wisdom, mercy, and love You have chosen us to be Your own children by faith in Christ. Grant to Your whole church Your light, love, and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Give wisdom, O God, to all preachers of Your Word, to all pastors and leaders in Your church, wherever they may be, that they may rightly divide Your Word, proclaim it with power, and administer Your Holy Sacraments according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Let Your Holy Spirit seek out and reveal Your salvation for those who hear and believe Your saving Gospel. Cast away all doubt and strengthen the faith of Your people everywhere. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Give peace among the nations, O Lord, that Your Word may not be bound but be proclaimed freely and boldly to all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Bring Your healing and comfort to all who are sick or injured or in any need, [especially . . .]. Give confidence in suffering and thankful hearts for Your every blessing. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Let the body and blood of Your Son strengthen faith and grant the wisdom that comes down from above, that all who commune may be

(Continue on next page)

one in confession and faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

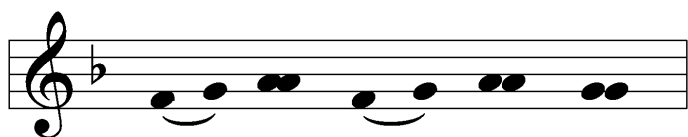
C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

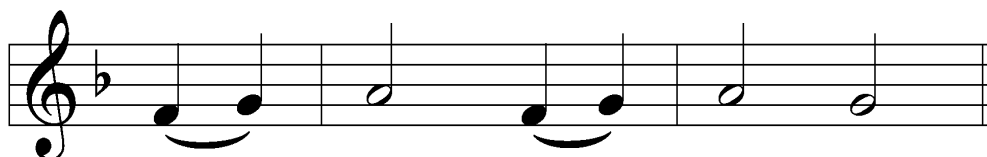
C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE



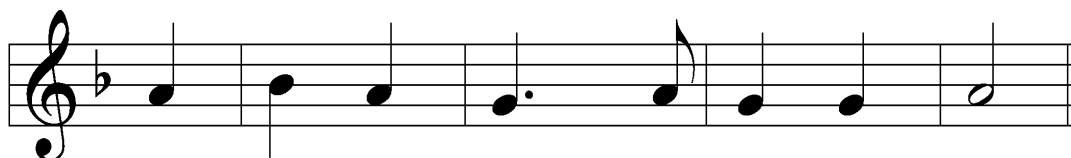
P The Lord be with you.



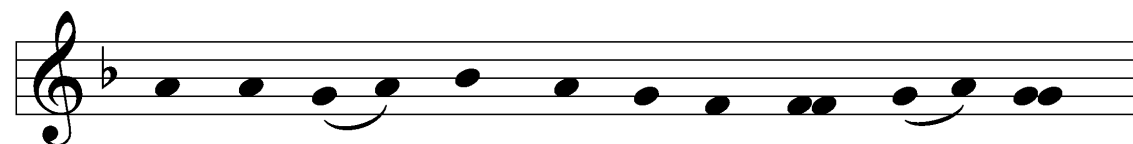
C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P 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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that,

seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. 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



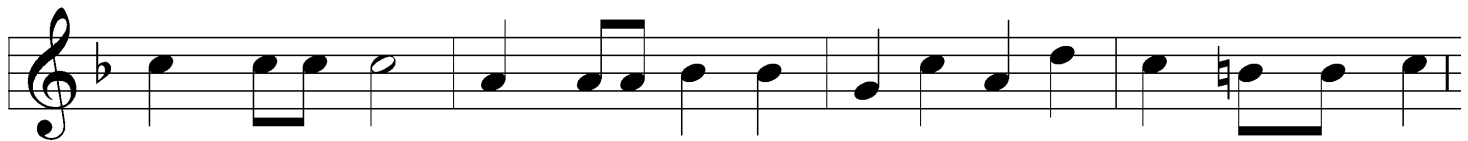
C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



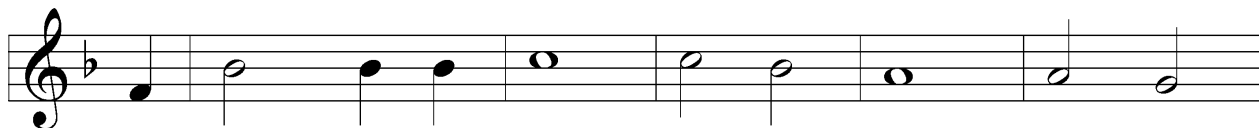
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

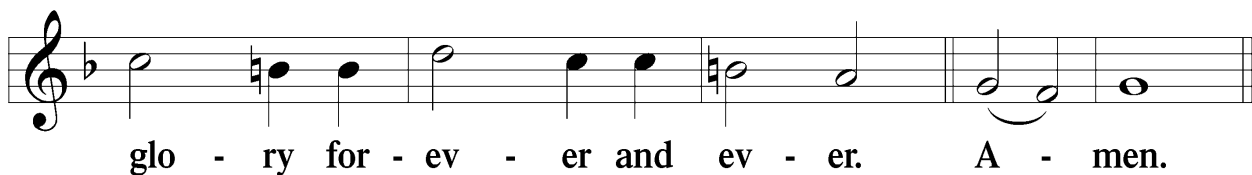
LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

C 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.



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the

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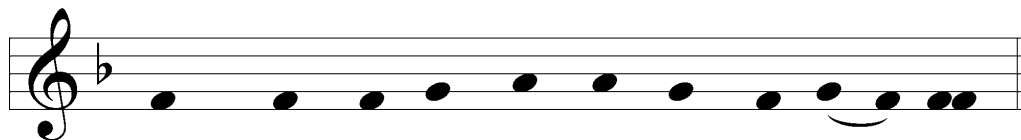


THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

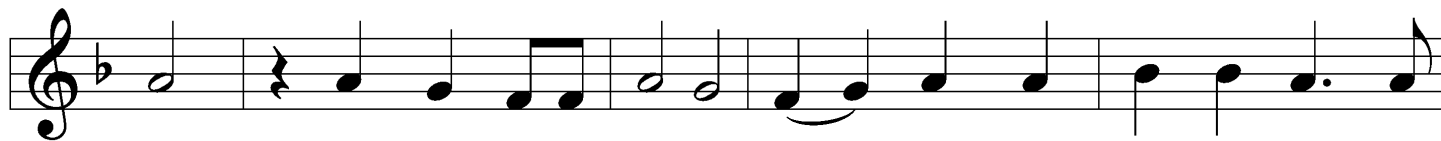
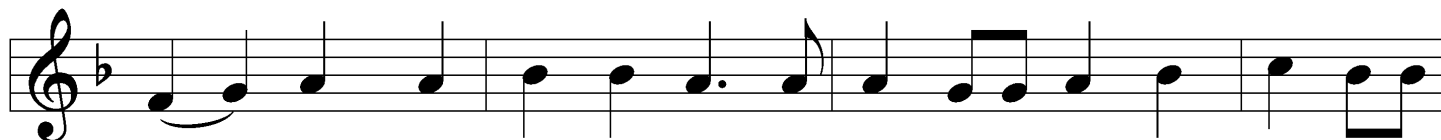
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P 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



AGNUS DEI





Please sit

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

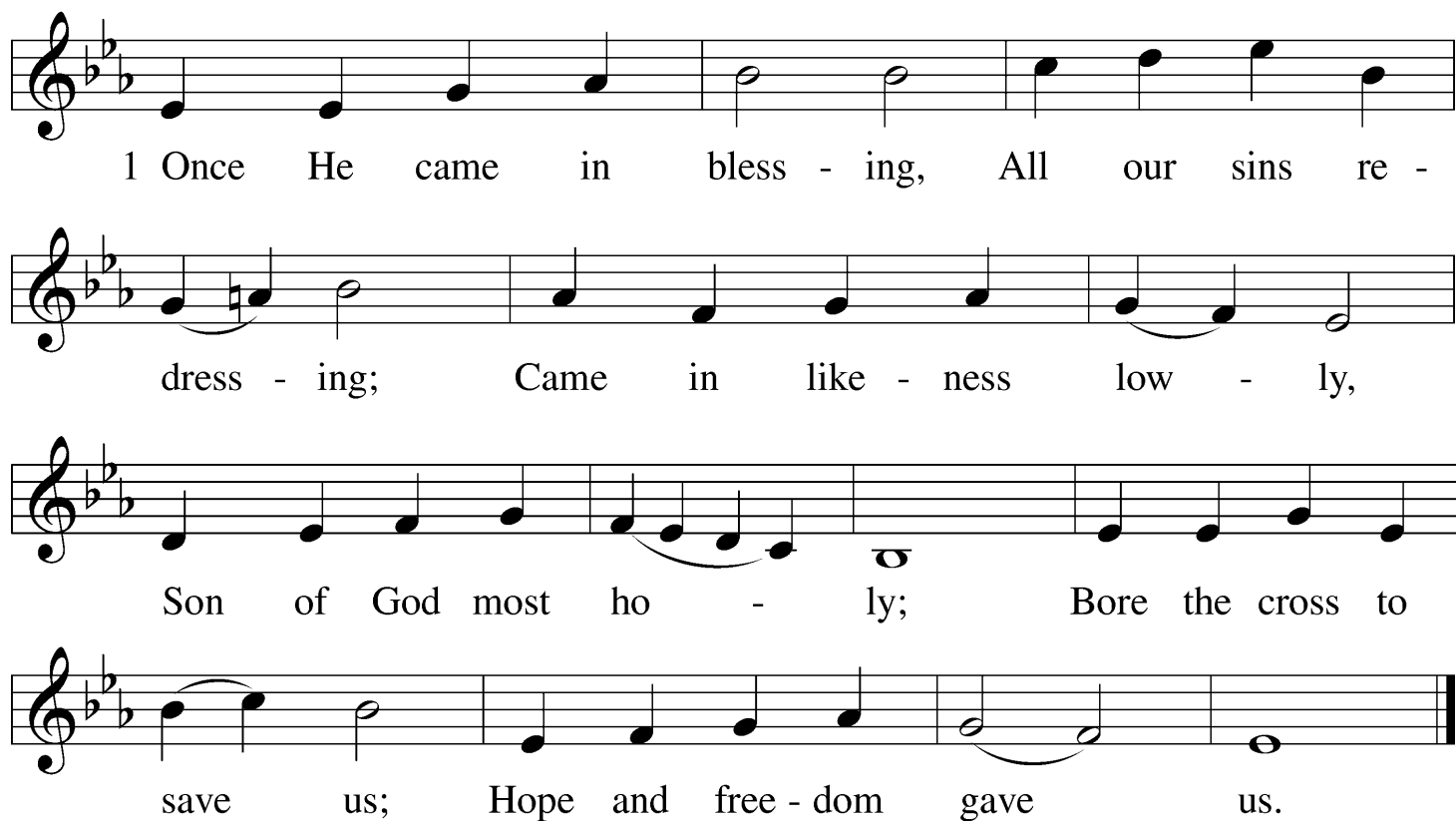
SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

Heavenly Father, in my Holy Baptism you have called me to be Your own possession. Prepare my heart to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal manna and drink of the river of the water of life freely, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

Once He Came in Blessing

LSB 333



2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He
 3 Soon will come that hour When with might - y
 4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -
 feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,
 pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor
 lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,
 Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will
 And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful
 That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -
 nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.
 shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.
 fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

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Please stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

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,
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

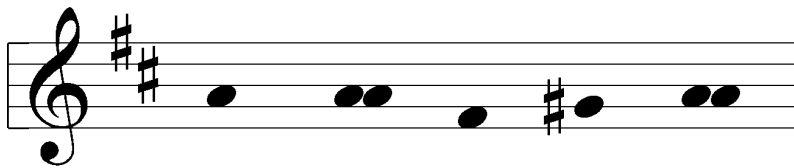
THANKSGIVING

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

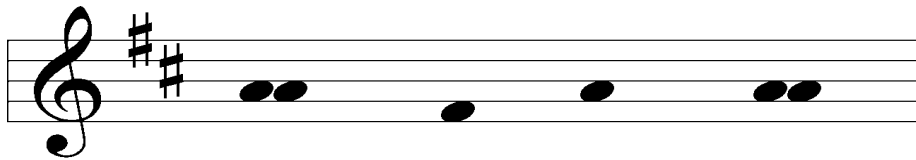
BENEDICAMUS



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

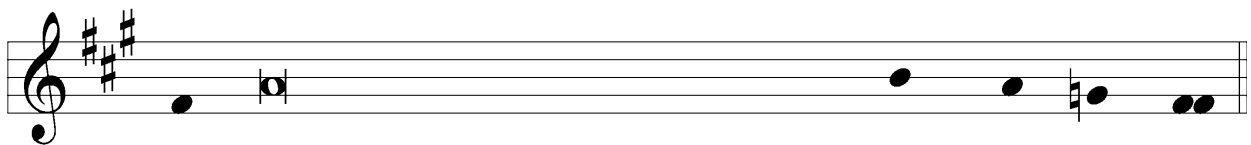
BENEDICTION



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Please sit

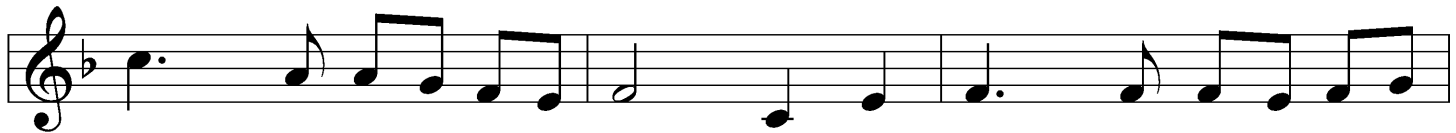
SENDING HYMN

Once in Royal David's City

LSB 376



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a
2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is
3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by
4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His
5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her
God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a
day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and
own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and
ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in



ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y
sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the
help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He
gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He
heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like



was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.
poor and mean and low - ly Lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
feels for all our sad-ness, And He shares in all our glad-ness.
leads His chil-dren on To the place where He is gone.
stars His chil-dren, crowned, All in white, His praise will sound!

Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

DECEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- > **Portals of Prayer** for October to December 2025 are available in the Narthex or office.
- > Join us for **Sunday School and Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Rev. Goetz is leading the class.
- > **Plastic bottle caps and can tabs** ARE still being collected.
- > **Family Confirmation Class** - Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.
- > **Adult Confirmation Class** - Fridays at 12 noon.
- > **Elders' Meeting** Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.
- > **Immanuel Lutheran School** classes resume Tuesday, January 6th, at 8:00 a.m.
- > **4th Quarter 2025 Voters' Meeting** at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 20th.
- > **Men's Steak Night/Bible Study**, Tuesday, January 27th at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

12/24/2025

Christmas Eve Service	73
Plate:	\$ 361.00
Envelopes:	\$ 261.00
Total:	\$ 622.00

12/25/2025

Christmas Day Service	36
Plate:	\$ 65.00
Envelopes: Advent	\$ 353.00
Total:	\$ 418.00

2025 average Income each Week:	\$ 3,745
2025 average Expenses each	\$ 4,178
2025 Expenses exceeds Income:	\$ 22,494
2026 Budget each Week:	\$ 4,480
For Church Balances, see Treasurer Reports	

Sermon Notes

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

12/28/2025		
Sunday Worship	65	
Plate:		\$ 649.00
Envelopes:		\$ 1,508.00
Other Env:		
Donations:		\$ 100.00
Tithely/On-Line		
	Total:	\$ 2,257.00
Bible Class:	23	\$ 16.00

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

Isaiah 42:1–9
Psalm 29
Romans 6:1–11
Matthew 3:13–17

The Lord Jesus Is Found in the Temple of His Church

The Lord Jesus “grew and became strong” (Luke 2:40); He “increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man” (Luke 2:52). As His body grew and developed, His mind also increased in knowledge and understanding. For as our brother in the flesh, that we might “have redemption through his blood” (Eph. 1:7), He lived by faith in the Word of His Father. Thus, He was catechized by His parents, who took Him up “to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover” (Luke 2:41); and when He was of age, He gave attention to the Holy Scriptures in His Father’s house (Luke 2:46, 49). Christ Jesus is still found in His Church, in “the word of truth, the gospel,” by which we are adopted by His Father and sealed with His Spirit (Eph. 1:5, 13). Thus do we gain “an understanding mind” to go about our vocations, discerning “between good and evil” (1 Kings 3:9). And so do we also go up to Jerusalem to stand “before the ark of the covenant of the Lord” (1 Kings 3:15), that is, in the Holy Communion of His body and blood.

Memory Verse Challenge: **Psalm 37:23–24**

The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way; though he fall, he shall not be cast headlong, for the Lord upholds his hand.

	Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule	
	January Sunday Servants:	
Elder:	Don Vogel	
Altar Guild:	Pam Terral/Maggie Weber	
Music:	Doris Pickering	
This Week	Second Sunday after Christmas	
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
Next Week	The Baptism of Our Lord	
Usher:	Ken Eilers	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
24	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am