



*St. Paul Lutheran Church of Serbin
Festival Worship Service*

Christmas Day

December 25, 2022

9:00 AM

SON OF MAN AND SON OF GOD

We gather to celebrate the ultimate gift of God. This gift was promised at the very beginning of our need for a Savior from sin and from the last enemy, death, and He comes as the offspring of the woman. Yet the Promised One was not the son of Adam and certainly not Cain. Years later, the promise came to Abraham. But it was not yet the son of Abraham and certainly not Ishmael. Still the promise held to the great king David. But it was not yet the son of David and certainly not Absalom. Nevertheless, the promise was fulfilled through the house and lineage of David in the Son of Mary of Nazareth, the Son of God. To confirm this truth, both the evangelists Matthew and Luke give the genealogy—Matthew tracing the promise forward from Abraham, and Luke backward all the way to Adam. John describes the mystery of the Savior as a true human, born of the virgin Mary, and as true God, begotten of God the Father. Let us celebrate the gift in His eternal life-giving flesh and blood with the awe and reverence of the new, eternal life of faith as true children of God.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

HYMN: ♪ "IHR KINDERLEIN KOMMET"

**Ihr kinderlein kommet, O kommet doch all',
Zur Krippe her kommet in Bethlehems Stall
Und seht, was in dieser hoch-heiligen Nacht
Der Vater im Himmel für Freude uns macht!**

**O seht in der Krippe, im nächtlichen Stall,
Seht hier bei des Lichtleins hellglänz-endem Strahl,
In reinlichen Windeln, das himmlische Kind,
Viel schöner und holder, als Engelein sind.**

**O beugt wie die Hirten anbetend die Knie,
Erhebet die Händlein und danket, wie sie!
Stimmt freudig, ihr Kinder, wer sollt' sich nicht freu'n,
Stimmt freudig zum Jubel der Engel mit ein!**

WELCOME

HYMN OF INVOCATION: ♪ "ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY"

LSB 367

**1 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. Refrain**

Refrain:

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

2 Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the Infant Light. *Refrain*

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star. *Refrain*

4 Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear. *Refrain*

△ 5 All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the eternal Three in One. *Refrain*

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Stand

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

C Amen.

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.

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

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.

C Amen.

Sit

SONG: ♪"O DU FROHLICHE, O DU SELIGE"

**O du fröhliche, O du selige,
Gnadenbringende Weihnachtszeit!
Welt ging verloren, Christ ward geboren:
Freue, freue dich, O Christenheit!**

**O du fröhliche, O du selige,
Friedenbringende Weihnachtszeit!
Christ ist erschienen, uns zu versöhnen:
Freue, freue dich, O Christenheit!**

**O du fröhliche, O du selige,
Lebenbringende Weihnachtszeit!
König der Ehren, Dich voll'n wir ehren:
Freue, freue dich, O Christenheit!**

Stand

INTROIT

PSALM 98

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

P 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.

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

P 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.

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

P Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

C With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!

P Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!

C Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the LORD, for He comes to judge the earth.

P He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

C 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.

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

KYRIE

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** Amen.

Sit

HYMN: ♪“GLORY TO GOD, WE GIVE YOU THANKS AND PRAISE”

LSB 946

- 1** Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;
Of heav’nly joy and earthly peace we sing.
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,
Lord God, almighty Father, heav’nly King.

- 2** Lord Jesus Christ, the Father’s only Son,
You bore for us the load of this world’s sin.
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict’ry won,
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.

- △ 3** Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,
At God’s right hand in majesty most high:
Who with the Spirit worshiped and adored,
With all the heav’nly host we glorify.

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Stand

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Let us pray.
Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Sit

ADULT CHOIR ANTHEM: ♪“SHEPHERD’S GLORIA”

OLD TESTAMENT READING

DANIEL 7:13–14

- P** The Old Testament Reading is from Daniel, the seventh chapter.
I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and He came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him. And to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him; His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.
- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

ADULT CHOIR ANTHEM: ♪“THE LITTLE DRUMMER BOY”

EPISTLE

GALATIANS 4:1–7

P The Epistle is from Galatians, the fourth chapter.

I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA

♪ Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 1:1–18

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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 enlightens 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.’”) And 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.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES’ CREED

C 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.

Sit

SERMON HYMN: ♪“HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING”

LSB 380

- 1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the_angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!” *Refrain***

Refrain:

**Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”**

- 2 Christ, by highest heav’n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the_incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel! *Refrain***
- 3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris’n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. *Refrain***

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SERMON: “THIS IS MY SON: JESUS”

By Pastor John Schmidt

Stand

- P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
C Amen.

OFFERTORY

☩ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

As offerings are brought forward the congregation stands and sings.

OFFERING HYMN: ♪ "WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN

LSB 781 V. 1-2

1 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;

All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

2 May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive

And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth. Glory be to You, O God, for Your promised grace, forgiveness, and life given to us and to the whole world in Your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. By the great glory of His sacrificial death on the cross for the life of the world, we have peace—the peace of sins forgiven and of the sure and certain promise of eternal life, which begins now and is eternal in the promised resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Glory and praise to You, O God. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P As Your promised salvation came through the generations of men and women who, as husbands and wives became fathers and mothers of Your gifts of children, we give You thanks this day for our families. You have made us Your own sons and daughters, Your own children, by the water and Spirit of Holy Baptism. Bind parents and children in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Grant Your blessing and guidance to us all that we may reflect Your love to one another and to the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In a world still bound in the darkness and warfare of sin, let the light of Your salvation and peace be proclaimed throughout the world that many may come to the knowledge of, and faith in, Your promise and gift of life. Guide and direct the affairs of government that true liberty and freedom may abound that Your invitation may be freely extended to every needful heart. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Guide and direct the affairs of the one holy Christian and apostolic Church throughout the world to teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all. Grant Your defense and protection to all bishops, pastors, and people who suffer persecution. Bind us all as one family in the faith and confession of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the power of Your Word and Sacraments. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Visit with Your protection, love, and healing all who are alone, those suffering from any illness, the despairing, the troubled, and those at death's door. Embrace them in Your mighty and comforting arms of mercy and increase their faith and confidence in You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P With great reverence and love we remember before You, O everlasting God, all our departed relatives and friends. Keep all who have died in the faith in Jesus in Your peaceful presence that we, with them, may praise You as one family forever when our Lord and Savior raises us on the Last Day. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth. To You be all praise and worship, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, the one and only God, both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Sit

HYMN: ♪"GOD LOVES ME DEARLY"

LSB 392

1. **Gott ist die Liebe, lässt mich erlösen,
Gott ist die Liebe, Er liebt auch mich,
Drum sag' ich noch einmal: Gott ist die Liebe!
Gott ist die Liebe, Er liebt auch mich.**

2. **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.**

3. **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.**

2. **Er sandte Jesum, den treuen Heiland
Er sandte Jesum und macht' mich los.
Drum sag' ich noch einmal: Gott ist die Liebe!
Gott ist die Liebe, Er liebt auch mich.**

3. **Dich will ich preisen, Du ew'ge Liebe:
Dich will ich loben, so lang ich bin!
Drum sag' ich noch einmal: Godd ist die Liebe.
Gott ist die Liebe, er liebt auch mich.**

Stand

P Collect

C  Amen

GERMAN BENEDICTION

P Der Herr segne dich und behüte dich!
Der Herr erleuchte sein Angesicht über dich
Und sei dir gnädig!
Der Herr erhebe sein Angesicht auf dich und
Gebe dir Frieden!

C  Amen, Amen, Amen.

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, Amen, Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: ♪ "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN"

LSB 388

Refrain:

**Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!**

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

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

**3 Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain***

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SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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