

Divine Service, Setting Three
The Second Sunday after the Epiphany
Sanctity of Life Sunday
19 January 2025

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CALL TO WORSHIP

BAPTISM HYMN: ♪“SEE THIS WONDER IN THE MAKING”

LSB 593 V. 1-3

- 1 See this wonder in the making:
God Himself this child is taking
As a lamb safe in His keeping,
His to be, awake or sleeping.**

- 2 Miracle each time it happens
As the door to heaven opens
And the Father beams, “Belovèd,
Heir of gifts a king would covet!”**

- 3 Far more tender than a mother,
Far more caring than a father,
God, into Your arms we place him/her/them,
With Your love and peace embrace him/her/them.**

We will use the order of baptism on page 268 of the hymnal

AFTER BAPTISM HYMN: ♪“SEE THIS WONDER IN THE MAKING”

LSB 593 V. 4

- 4 Here we bring a child of nature;
Home we take a newborn creature,
Now God’s precious son or daughter,
Born again by Word and water.**

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Stand

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the X Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. *Romans 13:12*
- C** **God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.** *1 John 1:5*
- P** And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. *John 3:19*
- C** **You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.** *Psalm 90:8*
- P** If your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! *Matthew 6:23*
- C** **I will bear the indignation of the Lord because I have sinned against him, until he pleads my cause and executes judgment for me. He will bring me out to the light; I shall look upon his vindication.** *Micah 7:9*
- P** Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God. *Isaiah 50:10*
Our Savior Christ Jesus has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light. *2 Timothy 1:10*
As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

INTROIT:

PSALM 27:1-2, 5-6, 13-14

- P** The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
- C** **The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**
- P** When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh,
- C** **my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.**
- P** For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
- C** **he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.**
- P** And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,
- C** **and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.**
- P** I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord
- C** **in the land of the living!**
- P** Wait for the Lord;
- C** **be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!**
- 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.**

Sit

HYMN OF PRAISE: ♪"O DAY OF REST AND GLADNESS"

LSB 906

O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light,
O balm of care and sadness, Most beautiful, most bright;
This day the high and lowly, Through ages joined to bless,
Sing, "Holy, holy, holy," The triune God confess.

This day at earth's creation The light first had its birth;
This day for our salvation Christ rose from depths of earth;
This day our Lord victorious The Spirit sent from heav'n,
And thus this day most glorious A threefold light was giv'n.

**△ That light our hope sustaining, We walk the pilgrim way,
At length our rest attaining, Our endless Sabbath day.
We sing to Thee our praises, O Father, Spirit, Son;
The Church her voice upraises To Thee, blest Three in One.**

Stand

COLLECT

P O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence that because He lives, we shall live also, and that neither death nor life nor things present nor things to come will be able to separate us from Your love, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT

ISAIAH 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

EPHESIANS 5:6-13

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA

G♪ Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 1:1-14

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

G ♪ **Glory be to Thee, 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 gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G♪ **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

G **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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

- 1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,
Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands
With the very Bread of peace.

- 2 Praise the One who blessed the children
With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons
With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water
To the desert's burning sand;
From this Well comes living water,
Quenching thirst in every land.

- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the One who makes us one.

SERMON: “LIFE SHINES IN DARKNESS”

PSALM 27:1

By Pastor John Schmidt

Stand

- ☐ The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- ☑ 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!**

Text: William W. How, 1823–97 Text: Public domain

PRAYERS

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P** O Lord, our Heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, the fruit of Your Spirit is love. Grant us to know that You have made all humankind for relationship and community and grant us to receive both our neighbor's life and our own as gift and privilege. Lord, in Your mercy,
- G hear our prayer.**
- P** The fruit of Your Spirit is joy. Your Son has come among us in suffering and resurrection that we may find delight in You and in each other. By the blessings that come from sharing life together who mark birthdays and who mark anniversaries, stir us to bear burdens and meet needs for one another. Lord, in Your mercy,
- G hear our prayer.**
- P** The fruit of Your Spirit is peace. Let the authorities of our people respect the sanctity of every human life and let the laws of our land reflect it. Drive away all complacency and cowardice from us that we may undertake civic action and public service to secure the welfare of the vulnerable. Lord, in Your mercy,
- G hear our prayer.**
- P** The fruit of Your Spirit is patience. Visit with the presence and power of Your Son any who experience surprise pregnancy, terminal diagnosis, infertility, or any other affliction especially.... For His sake relieve quickly that they recover completely and strengthen them to wait upon Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- G hear our prayer.**
- P** The fruit of Your Spirit is kindness. Work repentance, forgiveness, and healing in the hearts of those broken by the abortion of their own children or any other sin against the sanctity of human life. Keep us from ever viewing death as a solution to difficulty and put our trust in Your words and ways. Lord, in Your mercy,
- G hear our prayer.**
- P** The fruit of Your Spirit is goodness. Remove the evils of abortion, abuse, abandonment, euthanasia, suicide, embryo destruction, discrimination, and all other violences from among us. Make us instead to abound as You do in charity, goodwill, and fellowship. Lord, in Your mercy,
- G hear our prayer.**
- P** The fruit of Your Spirit is faithfulness. Embolden us to give voice to the worth and purpose of every person, no matter what age, appearance, or ability, and to hold fast this Gospel confession even under opposition and ridicule. Lord, in Your mercy,
- G hear our prayer.**
- P** The fruit of Your Spirit is gentleness. Endow our witness with courage and compassion, that we speak the truth of God in humility and show the love of Christ in servanthood. Soften and reform the hearts that advocate or entertain immorality until they stand beside us as sisters and brothers. Lord, in Your mercy,
- G hear our prayer.**

P The fruit of Your Spirit is self-control. Move us to expose and expel all the works of darkness by beholding and belonging to Your Light, even Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

G *And with thy spirit.*

P Lift up your hearts.

G *We lift them up unto the Lord.*

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

G *It is meet and right so to do.*

P It is truly meet, 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

G *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.*

LORD'S PRAYER

P 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.

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

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G *Amen.*

AGNUS DEI

G *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.*

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

- 1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**
- 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation,
Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**
- 3 Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**
- 4 From the cross Thy wisdom shining
Breaketh forth in conqu’ring might;
From the cross forever beameth
All Thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**
- 5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!**

△6 God the Father, light-creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ♪"THE PEOPLE THAT IN DARKNESS SAT"

LSB 412

- 1 The people that in darkness sat A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.
- 2 To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness, The gath'ring nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear
Their harvest treasures home, Their harvest treasures home.
- 3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a Son is giv'n,
And on His shoulder ever rests
All pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.
- 4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor,
The God by all adored, The God by all adored.
- 5 His righteous government and pow'r Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end, His reign shall have no end.

△6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us Thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art
And Holy Spirit, one, And Holy Spirit, one.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ♪"I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT"

LSB 411

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus. *Refrain*

Refrain:

In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

**2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. Refrain**

**3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain**

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Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

☩ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

☩ and His mercy endureth forever.

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.

☩ Amen.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

P The Lord be with you.

☩ And with thy spirit.

P Bless we the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

☩ Amen, amen, amen.

CLOSING HYMN: ♪ "CHRIST BE MY LEADER"

LSB 861

**Christ be my Leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future His care,
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.**

**Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.**

**Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.**

SILENT PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS