



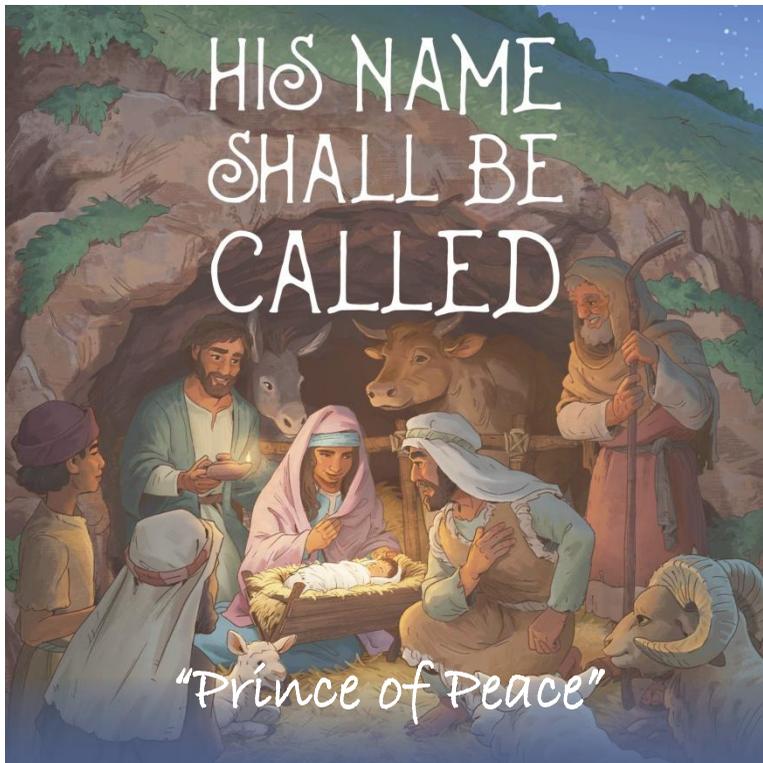
12145 W. EDGERTON AVE. | HALES CORNERS, WI 53130 | 414-427-9337  
<http://www.messiahhalescorners.com> † [Email: LBerthal@MessiahHC.org](mailto:LBerthal@MessiahHC.org)

Luke Bernthal, Pastor  
Paul Tiefel, Principal  
Levi Schaller, Teacher  
Carrie Reim, Teacher

Phone: 402-389-2147  
Phone: 715-869-3733  
Phone: 715-529-4368  
Phone: 715-529-4030

December 29, 2024

Sunday After Christmas



✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 111 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

## **Greeting and prayer:** (Pastor)

During our Wednesday Advent worship services we examined some of the titles given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6—Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. We looked at how each of these titles describes something about *who* Jesus is and *what* He did for our salvation.

Today we continue our Christmas celebration by looking at the fourth and final title from Isaiah 9:6: “Prince of Peace.” In this world we long for peace, but we fail to obtain it. True peace only comes through Jesus Christ, the Great Gift that came to us in the flesh at Christmas. He alone offers us true and lasting peace. Therefore, Jesus is given the title “Prince of Peace.” He rules over creation and gives us peace with God through His sacrifice on the cross for us. As a result, we, His believers are also able to be at peace with each other.

We pray that the Holy Spirit would bless our worship and study of His Word, and so, we begin our worship service with prayer...

## **Opening Hymn: 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful**

LSB 379

## **Invocation**

*We invoke (“call upon”) the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

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

## **Confession and Absolution**

*We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.*

- P** Let us confess our sins to God our Father...
- C** **Almighty God, Merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our sins and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus’ sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.**

**P** Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

**P** O Lord, open my lips.

**C** **And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.**

**P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

**C** **Make haste to help me, O Lord.**

LSB 385 v. 5

△ 5 All glo - ry for this bless - ed morn To God the  
Fa - ther ev - er be; All praise to You, O  
Vir - gin - born, And Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Prayer of the Day

**P** We pray:

Dear Jesus, Prince of Peace, give us the assurance once again that because of Your great sacrifice for us, nothing shall separate us from eternity with You. Move us to share, in thought, word, and deed, this gracious, peace-filled news with all we meet. We pray in Your holy name, dear Jesus, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## First Reading

*John 1:14-18 (EHV)*

<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and dwelled among us. We have seen his glory, the glory he has as the only-begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup> John testified about him. He cried out, "This was the one I spoke about when I said, 'The one coming after me outranks me because he existed before me.'" <sup>16</sup> For out of his fullness we have all received grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. The only-begotten Son, who is close to the Father's side, has made him known.

## Second Reading

*Luke 2:22-40 (EHV)*

**P** The second reading is from Luke 2:22-40.

**G Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!**

<sup>22</sup> When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they [Mary & Joseph] brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> (As it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male will be called holy to the Lord.") <sup>24</sup> And they came to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." <sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. This man was righteous and devout, waiting for the comfort of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup> Moved by the Spirit he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary according to the law, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him into his arms and praised God. He said,

<sup>29</sup> Lord, you now dismiss your servant in peace, according to your word,

<sup>30</sup> because my eyes have seen your salvation,

<sup>31</sup> which you have prepared before the face of all people,

<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.

<sup>33</sup> Joseph and the child's mother were amazed at the things that were spoken about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Listen carefully, this child is appointed for the falling and rising of many in Israel and for a sign that is spoken against, <sup>35</sup> so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

<sup>36</sup> Anna, a prophetess, was there. She was a daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old. She had lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> and then she was a widow of eighty-four years. She did not leave the temple complex, since she was worshipping with fasting and prayers night and day. <sup>38</sup> Standing nearby at that very hour, she

gave thanks to the Lord. She kept speaking about the child to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup> When they had accomplished everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town, Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> The child grew and became strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him.

**P** Here ends our Gospel readings.

**C** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ!**

LSB 412 v. 3, 4, 6



3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a  
4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Ev - er -  
△ 6 Lord Je - sus, reign in us, we pray, And make us  
Son is giv'n, And on His shoul-der ev - er rests All  
last - ing Lord, The Won - der - ful, the Coun - sel - or, The  
Thine a - lone, Who with the Fa - ther ev - er art And  
pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.  
God by all a - dored, The God by all a - dored.  
Ho - ly Spir - it, one, And Ho - ly Spir - it, one.

Text: John Morison, 1749–98, alt. Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561 Text and tune: Public domain

**Apostles' Creed** *We boldly confess what we believe.*

LSB 207

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

**I believe 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: 519 *In His Temple Now Behold Him***

LSB 519

**Children's Sermon** - *Children 10 years old and younger are invited to come up front.*

**Sermon Text: Isaiah 9:6-7 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup>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.  
<sup>7</sup>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.

**Sermon Theme: His Name Shall be Called – “Prince of Peace”**

- † Why is Jesus called the “Prince of Peace”?
  - “Prince” –
  - “Peace” –
  
- † What kind of “peace” did Jesus come to bring? (see **Luke 2:14; Romans 5:1**)
  
- † What does this “peace” Jesus gives us also move us to do?

## Offertory

TLH p. 12-13

**♪ 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.**

**Offering** *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

## Sermon Hymn: 380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

LSB 380

**Prayer of the Church (Responsive)** *We bring our prayers to God.*

- P** Oh Lord, we pray for all the families of this earth.
- C** **Wonderful Counselor, open the hearts and minds of parents and children, and bestow Your love on all who live in families. Inspire each member to turn expressions of love into actions that increase Christian love and family unity. Guard and protect them from the assaults of all who would cause their love to grow cold. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**
- P** Oh Lord, we pray for all who are homeless, without adequate food, or needing warm clothing.
- C** **Mighty God, help them, we implore You. Surround them with faithful people to meet their needs not only of food, clothing, and shelter but also for warmth, love, and personal care. Above all, Lord help them to know Your saving love and believe that You are their Savior Who has prepared a heavenly home for them. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**
- P** Oh Lord, we pray for all those who work.
- C** **Everlasting Father, in Your great ordering of all things, grant us faithful managers, healthy minds and bodies, strength of purpose, and resolve to do our best to Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**
- P** Oh Lord, we pray for all who have not heard and believed the joyful news.

**C** Prince of Peace, give opportunity and guidance to us and to believers around the world so that the Gospel may be proclaimed and people may be released from their bondage to sin. Grant that they find in You true peace, joy, love, and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

**P** Oh Lord, we pray for all in authority—our national, state, and local leaders.

**C** Lord over all, give Your people wise and caring governments. Rule in their hearts and help those in authority make decisions and enact laws that work for the good of those under them and for their neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

**P** Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray,

**C** for we pray in the name of the One whom You sent, the Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Amen.

**P** Hear us as we bring to You all that we have left unspoken, using the words You taught us:

## Lord's Prayer

**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.

**Benediction** *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

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



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

**Closing Hymn: 393 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** *(please stand for last verse)*

LSB 393

## Announcements



**Welcome!** We welcome all our visitors this morning.  
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

Today: **Choir – 8am**  
12/29/24 **Worship** (Sunday After Christmas) – **9am**  
**No Sunday School or Bible Class** (Christmas Break)

This Week: Tuesday – **New Year’s Eve Worship w/ Communion – 6:30pm**  
Wednesday – *New Year’s Day*

Church Cleaning: Team #8 (12/28-1/3/25); Team #9 (1/4-1/10)

Next Sunday: **Choir – 8am**  
1/5/25 **Worship w/ Communion – 9am**  
**Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am**

**“Thank You!”** - Thank you for all the cards, gifts, treats, and expressions of love and support that you have given to Jewels and me during this Christmas season. It has been a joy and a privilege to serve you and to share the Good News of our Savior with all of you in this ministry! May the Joy of the birth of our Savior Jesus fill your hearts, minds, and lives this Christmas Day and always. Praise be to God for His wonderful gift! - Pastor Luke & Jewels Bernthal

**Pastoral “Get to Know Each Other” Visits / Pastor Luke’s Contact Info** – After the Christmas season I will be resuming “face to face” visits with our members. These include a short devotion and some time to get to know each other. Wherever is most convenient and comfortable for you will work just fine for me (my office, your home, a coffee shop, etc.). Feel free to contact me via email, text, or phone call if you know of a day and time that will work for you. If I don’t hear from you, rest assured, I will be contacting you! I look forward to meeting you all and getting to know each other better soon! In Christ, Pastor Luke

### **Pastor’s Contact Info**

Email: [LBernthal@messiahhc.org](mailto:LBernthal@messiahhc.org) † Cell: **402-389-2147** † Church Office: **414-427-9337**

**3-Year Daily Bible Reading Plan** – On the back page of the bulletin you will find the Daily Bible Reading Plan. Beginning on New Year’s Eve it will be following a 3-year reading schedule. This breaks up the Bible readings into smaller, more manageable sections with an Old Testament and New Testament reading and a Psalm for each day. We hope that you will make use of these daily Bible readings in the New Year and will be blessed by your reading of God’s Word!

<b>Bible Readings:</b>	
12/29	Zechariah 13-14; Revelation 21
12/30	Malachi; Revelation 22
12/31	Gen. 1:1-19; Psalm 1; Matt. 1:1-17
1/1	Gen. 1:20-2:3; Psalm 2; Matt. 1:18-25
1/ 2	Gen. 2:4-25; Psalm 3; Matt. 2:1-12
1/3	Gen. 3; Psalm 4; Matt. 2:13-23
1/4	Gen. 4; Psalm 5; Matt. 3



SCAN FOR  
ONLINE  
OFFERING

<b>January Ushers</b>	<b>Cleaning Team 1/4-1/10</b>
Erik Nelson Tony Blue Chris Blue	B/L Blue D. Blue O. Docter I/K Stewart C/A Gerbitz
<b>January Slideshow</b> Kenny Winters	

<b>Fruits of Faith</b>	<b>Last Week:</b>	<b>To Date:</b>
Budgetary Offerings*:	\$8,690.02	\$191,629.70
Budgetary Needs:	\$8,571.29	\$214,282.25
Over (Under) Budget:	\$118.73	(\$22,652.55)
Missions:	\$75.00	\$1,205.00
MDF:	\$30.00	\$580.00
ILC Building Fund*:	\$1,049.75	\$1,999.75
ILCSAF:	\$150.00	\$880.00
MSAF:	\$70.00	\$355.00
IIF*:	\$445.35	\$545.35

**Attendance Last Sun. (12/22): 141**  
**Wed. Advent 3 (12/18): 70**  
 \*Includes 12/1-12/15 E-giving: \$5,810.62

Hymns and liturgical settings under copyright are used by permission through Concordia Publishing House, License #000013843, Onelicense.net, #A-720270, or Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Part 3 © 2024 CPH. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The ESV Bible, © 2001 by Crossway. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Scripture quotations marked EHV are from the Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) © 2019 Wartburg Project, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Scripture taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved. CCLI copyright license: 20299861, CCLI streaming license: 20299878.