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December 28, 2025

Sunday After Christmas

BUT WHEN THE SET TIME
HAD FULLY COME,
GOD SENT HIS SON TO BE
BORN OF A WOMAN...

Galatians 4:4



† Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 2 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) †

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 389 v. 1-6 *Let All Together Praise Our God*

LSB 389 v. 1-6

Invocation

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

P In the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

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

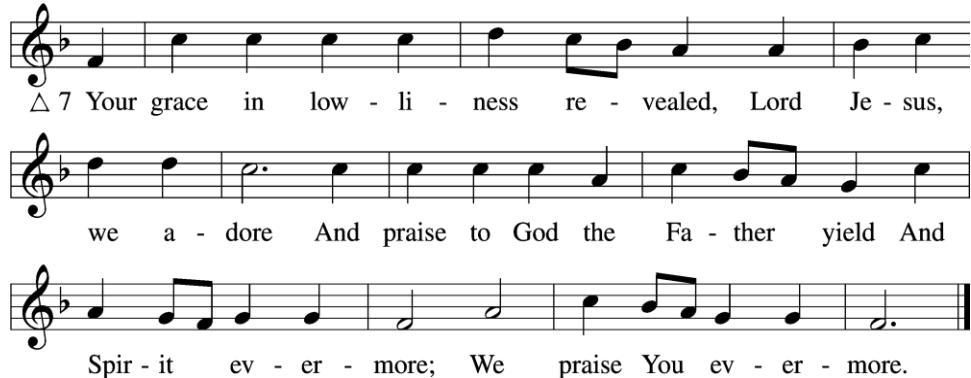
P God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.
C **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**
P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:5, 7-9)
P Let us pray...

C **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer:**

We confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

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 joy and peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord...

“Let All Together Praise Our God” LSB 389 v. 7



△ 7 Your grace in low - li - ness re - vealed, Lord Je - sus,
we a - dore And praise to God the Fa - ther yield And
Spir - it ev - er - more; We praise You ev - er - more.

Text: tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001 Text and tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561

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Tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son You even more wondrously redeemed us to Yourself. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us. We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 63:7-9 (EHV)

⁷ I will tell about the LORD’s mercies, about the praises of the LORD,
about all that the LORD has done for us,
about his great goodness to the house of Israel,
which he performed for them according to his abundant compassion,
and according to his great mercy.

⁸ He said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely,”
so he became their Savior.

⁹ In all their anguish he felt anguish,
and the Angel of his Presence saved them.

In his love and in his pity he himself redeemed them,
and he took them up and carried them all the days of old.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:13-23 (EHV)

P The Gospel reading is from Matthew 2:13-23.

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

¹³ After the Wise Men were gone, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared to Joseph in a dream. He said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, because Herod will search for the child in order to kill him."

¹⁴ Joseph got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and left for Egypt. ¹⁵ He stayed there until the death of Herod. This happened to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

¹⁶ When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Wise Men, he was furious. He issued orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and in all the surrounding countryside, from two years old and under. This was in keeping with the exact time he had learned from the Wise Men. ¹⁷ Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

¹⁸ A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children, and she refused to be comforted,
because they are no more.

¹⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt. The angel said, ²⁰ "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to kill the child are dead."

²¹ Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus, Herod's son, had succeeded his father as ruler in Judea, he was afraid to go there. Since he had been warned in a dream, he went to the region of Galilee. ²³ When he arrived there, he settled in a city called Nazareth. So what was spoken through the prophets was fulfilled: "He will be called a Nazarene."

P Here ends our Scripture readings.

“Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn” LSB 391

Re - joice, re - joice this hap - py morn, A Sav - ior un -
 to us is born, The Christ, the Lord of glo - ry!

His low - ly birth in Beth - le - hem The an - gels from
 on high pro - claim And sing re - demp - tion's sto - ry!
 My soul, ex - tol God's great fa - vor; Bless Him ev - er
 For sal - va - tion; Give Him praise and ad - o - ra - tion!

Text: Birgitte Katerine Boye, 1742–1824; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937 Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608
 Text and tune: Public domain

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

W.S. p. 15

**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 there 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: 352 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

LSB 352

Sermon Text: Galatians 4:4-7 (EHV)

⁴ But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son to be born of a woman, so that he would be born under the law, ⁵ in order to redeem those under the law, so that we would be adopted as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts to shout, "Abba, Father!" ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son. And if you are a son, then you are also an heir of God through Christ.

Sermon Theme: The Birth that Changed Everything

1. It Changed the World's History



2. It Changed Your "History"



Offertory

LSB 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Sermon Hymn: "Now Are the Days Fulfilled"

TLH 99

Gal. 4: 4

Nun ist die Zeit erfüllt

Author unknown, 1746

Tr., Frederick W. Herzberger, †1930, alt.

6. 7. 6. 7. 6. 6. 6.

Was frag' ich nach der Welt

Ahasverus Fritsch, 1679

1 Now are the days ful - filled, God's Son is man - i - fest - ed,
2 Now are the days ful - filled, Lo, Ja - cob's Star is shin - ing;
3 Now are the days ful - filled, The child of God re - joic - es;

Now His great maj - es - ty In hu - man flesh is vest - ed.
The gloom - y night has fled Where-in the world lay pin - ing.
No bond-age of the Law, No curs - es that it voic - es,

Be - hold the might - y God, By whom all wrath is stilled,
Now, Is - rael, look on Him Who long thy heart hath thrilled;
Can fill our hearts with fear; On Christ our hope we build.

The wom - an's prom - ised Seed— Now are the days ful - filled.
Hear Zi - on's watch - men cry: Now are the days ful - filled.
Be - hold the Prince of Peace— Now are the days ful - filled. A - men.

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

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

Lord's Prayer

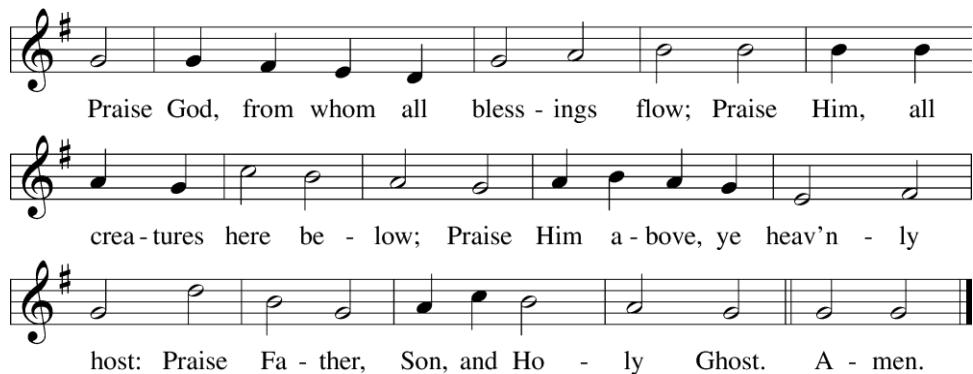
C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the 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.

The Doxology

LSB 805



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

Public domain

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:
12/28/25 **Choir – 8am**
Worship – 9am
No Sunday School or Bible Class (Christmas Break)
Sunday School Teachers' Meeting – 10:15am

This week:
Wednesday – New Year's Eve Worshp w/ Communion – 6:30pm
Thursday – New Year's Day
Mon. – Fri. – No School at MLS (Christmas Break – resumes on Mon. 1/5)

Church Cleaning: Team #10 (12/27-1/2); Team #1 (1/3-1/9)

Next Sunday:
1/4/26 *Epiphany Sunday*
Choir – 8am
Worship w/ Communion – 9am
Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am

In Your Mailbox – Messiah Church Calendar - *January*

ILC Professor Christmas Gifts – One way by which we praise God and express our thanks for the gift of His Son is through our gifts of love to others. With that in mind, we would like to gather a gift for the professors who serve our church body at Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary in Eau Claire. Monetary gifts may be placed in the box on the hall counter. Make checks out to "Messiah." The deadline is **TODAY, Sunday, Dec. 28th.**

New Year's Eve Worship With Communion – Wed. 12/31 @ 6:30pm –

Join us as we ring in the New Year with our Savior at our New Year's Eve worship service with communion this **Wed. 12/31 at 6:30pm.**

CLC Call News – Mr. Peter Reim has **received** the vacancy call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Pastor Michael Wilke of Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Saginaw, MI, has **received** the part-time call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Pastor Cory Drehle of Berea Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD, has **returned** the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. <> Pastor Ben Libby of Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY, has **returned** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI. <> Pastor Joe Naumann of Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, Mankato, MN, has **received** the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ.

Bible Readings:

| | |
|-------|---|
| 12/28 | Judges 9:22-33 Psalm 149 Acts 14:19-28 |
| 12/29 | Judges 9:33-57 Psalm 150 Acts 15:1-21 |
| 12/30 | Judges 10 Psalm 1 Acts 15:22-35 |
| 12/31 | Judges 11:1-27 Psalm 2 Acts 15:36-16:10 |
| 1/1 | Judges 11:28-12:7 Psalm 3 Acts 16:11-24 |
| 1/2 | Judges 12:8-13:8 Psalm 4 Acts 16:25-40 |
| 1/3 | Judges 13:9-25 Psalm 5 Acts 17:1-9 |



SCAN FOR
ONLINE
OFFERING

January Ushers

Cleaning Team 1/3-1/9

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| Ted Quade | <u>Team 1</u> |
| Mike Cutler | K/M Winters |
| Levi Schaller | A/L Hart |
| | P/E Tiefel |
| | E. Gurgel |
| Sam Lisak | M/T Mueller |

January Slideshow

| Fruits of Faith | Last Week: | To Date: |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Budgetary Offerings*: | \$11,885.05 | \$195,668.92 |
| Budgetary Needs: | \$8,642.65 | \$216,066.25 |
| Over (Under) Budget: | \$3,242.40 | (\$20,397.33) |
| Sunday School: | \$0.60 | \$20.10 |
| Missions: | \$300.00 | \$1,735.00 |
| MDF: | \$60.00 | \$635.00 |
| Kinship*: | \$659.87 | \$2,036.43 |
| ILC Building Fund*: | \$549.88 | \$1,544.87 |
| MSAF: | \$25.00 | \$475.00 |

*Includes 12/1-12/15 E-giving: \$6,920.05

Attendance Last Week (12/21): 127

Christmas Eve (12/24): 104

Christmas Day (12/25): 98

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