

#### **Luther Memorial Church**

# Welcome!

Welcome to Christmas, the Nativity of Our Lord, at Luther Memorial. In every season of life, we invite your participation in the community of Christ the Gift. Whether in worship, study, fellowship or service, we welcome you and we welcome all to the Gift. Take part!

# **During worship**

Please silence your cell phone in the nave.

#### LIVESTREAM BROADCAST

This service may be livestreamed on our website at www.luthermem. org and YouTube. Cameras are installed in the nave, and worshipers may occasionally be visible on this broadcast.

#### **PARKING**

Free parking is available Sundays in the Grainger Hall parking ramp, one block east of the church, off Brooks Street. For closer access, parking is reserved in the garage under the church off Conklin Place alley.

#### **RESOURCES**

T-coil audio is available in the nave. Ushers can provide hearing assistance and a wheelchair, if needed. Prayer shawls are available in the narthex.

#### **CHILDCARE**

Infants and children are welcome in worship. Changing tables are located in the restrooms.

#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

All baptized Christians are encouraged to receive Holy Communion. Please ask a pastor for a gluten-free communion wafer, if needed.

#### **LEARN MORE**

If you would like a pastor to call, or want to learn more, please fill out a pew card and place in the offering plate.

# **Holy Communion**

CHRISTMAS DAY SATURDAY, DEC. 25, 2021 | 10:30 AM

PRELUDE Pastorale from Christmas Concerto | Archangelo Corelli

#### **GATHERING**

**#287 ENTRANCE HYMN** Let All Together Praise Our God

#### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

**#275 HYMN OF PRAISE** Angels, from the Realms of Glory (*Stanza 1*)

1. Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you make yourself known in your Son, Jesus, redeemer of the world. We pray that his birth will free us from the old slavery of our sin to serve you in joy and thanksgiving. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

#### WORD

Please sit.

FIRST READING Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **SECOND READING** Hebrews 1:1-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

#291 HYMN Let Our Gladness Have no End

GOSPEL John 1:1-14

#### 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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

**SERMON** 

Please stand.

**#295 HYMN OF THE DAY** Of the Father's Love Begotten

#### NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.** 

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please greet your neighbor: Peace be with you.

#### MEAL

Please sit. **OFFERING** 

MUSIC AT THE OFFERING Greensleeves to a Ground | Anonymous

#### Please stand.

#### **#296 OFFERTORY** What Child Is This (*Stanza 3*)

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.

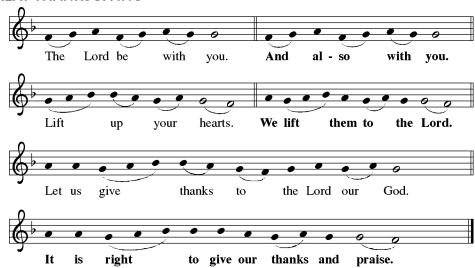
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby; joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

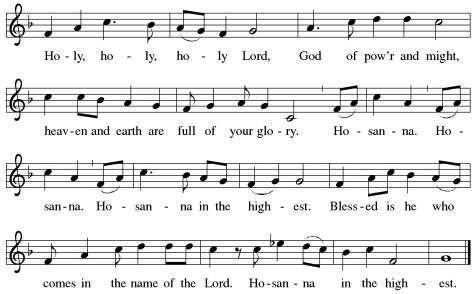
Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.





## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy... until he comes.



Remembering, therefore... now and forever.



## LORD'S PRAYER



Our Fa-ther, who art in heav- en, hal- low- ed be



thy name, thy king-dom come, thy will be done,



on earth as it is in heav- en. Give us this day our



dai- ly bread;

and for- give us our tres-pass- es,



as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us; and lead us



not in- to temp-ta- tion, but de-liv- er us from e- vil.

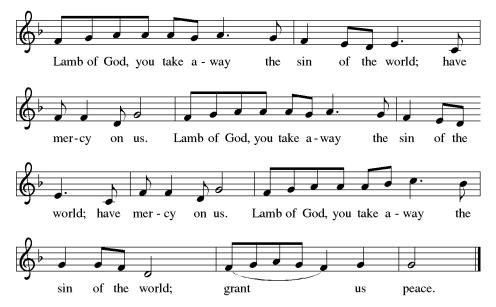


For thine is the king-dom, and the pow- er, and the



#### Please sit.

#### LAMB OF GOD



#### THE COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion. We receive the Body of Christ (bread\*) in our open hands. Christ is fully present in both bread and cup; persons unable to drink wine are encouraged to abstain from the cup and receive Christ in the bread. The Blood of Christ (wine) may be received in any of three ways: by drinking from the first chalice, by dipping the bread (intinction) into the chalice, or by drinking from an individual glass poured from a second chalice. Persons unable to drink wine are encouraged to abstain from the cup and receive Christ in the bread. \*Gluten-free bread is available on request.

#### **COMMUNION HYMNS**

- #288 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
- **#298** The Bells of Christmas

Please stand.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## **SENDING**

#### **BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Please turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the font.

**#290 RECESSIONAL HYMN** Go Tell It on the Mountain!

# DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

**POSTLUDE** Good Christian Friends, Rejoice! | Norman Dello Joio

# TODAY FROM THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

She "wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger." Why not in a cradle, on a bench, or on the ground? Because they had no cradle, bench, table, board, or anything whatever except the manger of the oxen. That was the first throne of this King. There in a stable, without man or maid, lay the Creator of all the world. And there was the maid of fifteen years bringing forth he first-born without water, fire, light, or pan, a sight for tears! What Mary and Joseph did next, nobody knows. The scholars say they adored. They must have marveled that this Child was the Son of God. He was also a real human being. Those who say that Mary was not a real mother lose all the joy. He was a true Baby, with flesh, blood, hands and legs. He slept, cried, and did everything else that a baby does only without sin.

Martin Luther (1483-1546)

## **SERVING TODAY**

PRESIDER & PREACHER Pastor Brad Pohlman

ORGANIST Andrew Schaeffer

ASSISTING MINISTER Surya Blasiole

COMMUNION ASSISTANT Dan Ruge

**LECTOR** Caroline Oldershaw

**CRUCIFER** 

SACRISTAN Dan Ruge

**HEAD USHER** Sue Bangert

VIDEO DIRECTOR Lee Powell

SOUND OPERATOR Lee Powell

Our thanks to Karen Snowberg and Ron Nelson for playing this morning.

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