

**Welcome!** We are happy to share God's peace with everyone. Visitors are invited to sign our guest book in the entryway. If you have any questions, the ushers are ready to help. Feel free to visit after the service.

- Aids to assist with hearing (Williams Sound System) are available from the ushers.
- Printed copies of the sermon are available on the tract desk.
- Large Print Service binders can be found on the tract desk.
- Personal prayers for use before church or during the week are printed on p. 255- 258 in the hymnal.
- For a personal preparation for Holy Communion, please see pages 295-296 in your hymnal.

**Please note: the Sunday service is being recorded and streamed on YouTube.**

**[www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar](http://www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar)**

Our Lord teaches in his Word that in Communion we receive Jesus' true body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine, and that participation is also a declaration that we believe what our fellow communicants believe. In obedience to God's Word, then, we ask that only those who agree on all points of teaching—those who belong to a WELS or ELS church—

and are confirmed partake in the Lord's Supper today. If you are not a member of WELS or ELS church but would like to pursue that unity of faith, or if you have questions, please speak with Pastor.

**Setting 3: pg. 188**

**366 O Rejoice, All Christians Loudly**

CW 366

1 O rejoice, all Christians, loudly,  
for our joy has now begun;  
wondrous things our God has done.  
Tell abroad his goodness proudly,  
who our race has honored thus,  
that he has befriended us. (Refrain)

**Ref Joy, O joy, beyond all gladness!  
Christ has done away with sadness!  
Hence, all sorrow and repining,  
for the Sun of grace is shining!**

2 See, my soul, your Savior chooses  
poverty and weakness, too;  
in such love he comes to you.  
Neither crib nor cross refuses,  
all he suffers for your good  
to redeem you by his blood. (Refrain)

3 Lord, how shall I thank you rightly?  
I am saved eternally  
by your life and death for me.  
Let me not forget it lightly,  
but with all my heart believe  
that from you I shall receive. (Refrain)

*Please stand for the final stanza*

4 Jesus, guard and guide your members,  
fill them with your boundless grace,  
hear their prayers in ev'ry place.  
Fan to life faith's glowing embers;  
grant all Christians far and near  
holy peace, a glad new year. (Refrain)

Text: Christian Keimann, 1607–1662; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Text: Public domain

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the  
Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

**Confession** CW 188

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and  
the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,  
I am sinful by nature  
and have sinned against you in my thoughts,  
words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;  
I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and  
forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins  
with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a  
sinner.**

***(Silence for meditation and reflection)***

**Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us.  
He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as  
the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.  
Therefore, as a called 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.  
Amen.**

**Lord, Have Mercy**

**CW 190**

**In peace let us pray to the Lord.**

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

**Glory to God in the Highest**

**CW 191**

***Refrain:* Glory to God in the highest, glory to God, and peace to his people on earth, and peace to his people on earth.**

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen. *Refrain*

## **THE WORD**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*(Be seated)*

## **First Reading**

*Isaiah 52:7–10*

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of a herald,  
who proclaims peace and preaches good news,

who proclaims salvation,  
who says to Zion, “Your God is king!”  
8The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their  
voices.  
Together they shout for joy,  
because with both eyes they will see it when the  
LORD returns to Zion.  
9Break out, shout for joy together, you ruins of  
Jerusalem,  
because the LORD is comforting his people.  
He is redeeming Jerusalem.  
10The LORD lays bare his holy arm before the eyes of  
all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation  
from our God.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **98 Joy to the World**

*Psalm 98*

1 Joy to the world, the LORD is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
let ev’ry heart prepare him room  
and heav’n and nature sing,  
and heav’n and nature sing,  
and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow  
nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow  
far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found,  
far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, alt.

Text: Public domain

## Second Reading

*Hebrews 1:1–9*

<sup>1</sup>In the past, God spoke to our forefathers by the prophets at many times and in many ways. <sup>2</sup>In these last days, he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he



made the universe. <sup>3</sup>The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact imprint of the divine nature. He sustains all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he took his seat at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

<sup>4</sup>The Son became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup>For to which of the angels did God ever say:

You are my Son. Today I have begotten you?

And again:

I will be his Father, and he will be my Son.

<sup>6</sup>And again, when he brought his firstborn into the world, he said:

Let all God's angels worship him.

<sup>7</sup>About the angels he says:

He makes his messengers winds and his ministers flaming fire.

<sup>8</sup>But about the Son he says:

God, your throne is forever and ever,  
and the scepter of righteousness is the scepter of  
your kingdom.

<sup>9</sup>You have loved righteousness and hated  
wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with  
the oil of joy beyond your companions.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Stand)*

**Gospel Acclamation**

*Galatians 4:4,5*

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

**Gospel**

*John 1:1–14*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup>Through him everything was made, and without him not one thing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. <sup>5</sup>The light is shining in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man, sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as an eyewitness to testify about the light so that everyone would believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The real light that shines on everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not recognize him.

<sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, yet his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. <sup>13</sup>They were born, not of blood, or of the desire of the flesh, or of a husband's will, but born of God.

<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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*(Be seated)*

### **358 Of the Father's Love Begotten**

CW 358

- 1     Of the Father's love begotten  
      ere the worlds began to be,  
      he is Alpha and Omega,  
      he the source, the ending he,  
      of the things that are, that have been,  
      and that future years shall see  
      evermore and evermore.
- 2     Oh, that birth forever blessèd  
      when the virgin, full of grace,  
      by the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
      bore the Savior of our race,

and the babe, the world's Redeemer,  
first revealed his sacred face  
evermore and evermore.

3 This is he whom seers and sages  
sang of old with one accord,  
whom the voices of the prophets  
promised in their faithful word.  
Now he shines, the long-expected;  
let creation praise its Lord  
evermore and evermore.

4 Let the heights of heav'n adore him,  
angel hosts his praises sing,  
pow'rs, dominions bow before him  
and extol our God and King.  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
ev'ry voice in concert ring  
evermore and evermore.

5 Christ, to thee, with God the Father,  
and, O Holy Ghost, to thee  
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving  
and unending praises be,  
honor, glory, and dominion  
and eternal victory  
evermore and evermore.

Text: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348–c. 413, abr.; (sts. 1–4): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; (st. 5): tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821–1877, alt.

Text: Public domain

## **Sermon**

Isaiah 52:7-10

Your God Is King!

I. Listen to the good news (7-8)

II. See his salvation (9-10)

*(Stand)*

## **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 in unity with the Father and the Son**

**is worshiped and glorified,**

**who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

***(Be seated)***

# Prayer of the Church

## Offering

## THE SACRAMENT

*(Stand)*

### Preface

CW 199

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whose wonderful and mysterious birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## **Holy, Holy, Holy**

CW 200

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts,  
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious  
Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation.  
In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent  
your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal  
Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling  
among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to  
redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by  
becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has  
destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to  
light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this  
Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith,  
strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for  
the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast.



Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

### **Words of Institution**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is

my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**Amen.**

### **Lamb of God**

CW 202

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us, grant us peace.

*(Be seated)*

### **Distribution**

*(As he distributes the elements, the minister says to the communicants:)*

Take and eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take and drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, poured out for the forgiveness of your sins.

*(As he dismisses the communicants, the minister says:)*

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go + in peace.

**Amen.**

### **359 We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth**

CW 359

1 We praise you, Jesus, at your birth;  
clothed in flesh you came to earth.

The virgin bears a sinless boy  
and all the angels sing for joy.

Alleluia!

2 Now in the manger we may see  
God's Son from eternity,  
the gift from God's eternal throne  
here clothed in our poor flesh and bone.

Alleluia!

3 The virgin Mary's lullaby  
calms the infant Lord Most High.  
Upon her lap content is he

who keeps the earth and sky and sea.

Alleluia!

- 4 The Light eternal, breaking through,  
made the world to gleam anew;  
his beams have pierced the core of night,  
he makes us children of the light.

Alleluia!

- 5 The very Son of God sublime  
entered into earthly time  
to lead us from this world of cares  
to heaven's courts as blessed heirs.

Alleluia!

- 6 In poverty he came to earth  
showing mercy by his birth;  
he makes us rich in heav'nly ways  
as we, like angels, sing his praise.

Alleluia!

- 7 All this for us our God has done  
granting love through his own Son.  
Therefore, all Christendom, rejoice  
and sing his praise with endless voice.

Alleluia!

Text (st. 1): German, c. 1380; (sts. 1, 6): tr. Gregory J. Wismar, b. 1946; (sts. 2-7): Martin Luther, 1483-1546; (sts. 2, 4): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001; (sts. 3, 5, 7): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006  
Text (sts. 1, 3, 5-7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 2, 4): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716852

**(Stand)**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

# 361 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

CW 361

**Ref 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 lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessèd Christmas morn. (Refrain)

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work II, 1873–1925, verses, alt.

Text: Public domain

#### Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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## Upcoming Events

Sunday 12/28/2025.....9:00 AM Worship Service  
Monday 12/29/2025.....7:00 PM Worship Service  
Sunday 01/04/2026.....9:00 AM Communion Service  
Monday 01/05/2026.....7:00 PM Communion Service

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## Attendance

December 10<sup>th</sup>-Midweek Advent: 43 (snow)  
December 14<sup>th</sup>-Sunday Attendance: 104 Sunday School: 7  
Bible Class: 23  
Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>-Monday: 23  
Children's Christmas Service: 180

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### Our **Treasures** to Our Lord

General Fund: \$43,575.84

### Scan to Give

Sunday School: \$7.00

Fellowship Hall Rental: \$30.00

*These generous gifts reflect our giving on:*

*December 10, 14, 15, 17*



