

The Nativity of Our Lord
Christmas Day
December 25, 2020



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
gracelutheranrialto.com
Pastor Bill Maggard
Pastor Daniel A. Holm



Welcome to Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. We are a loving congregation who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and each other. We welcome you in the name of the Lord!

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an usher.

WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

Sunday	Divine Service w/The Lord's Supper	9:00 a.m.
	Online Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

**Per Re-opening Plan other classes
are suspended at this time.**

Scripture Readings for Next Sunday

**Isaiah 11:1-5 † Galatians 4:1-7
† Luke 2:22-40 †**

Sermon: Pastor Maggard

The Nativity of Our Lord
Divine Service III - Abbreviated

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.
who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

O almighty God, merciful Father,

I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Psalm Tone B



Introit

Psalm 98:1-4

For to us a child is born, to us a son | given;*

and the government shall be upon His | shoulder,

and His name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,*

Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done | marvelous things!*

His right hand and His holy arm have worked salva-
| tion for Him.

The LORD has made known His sal- | vation;*

**He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the
| nations.**

He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the
house of | Israel,*

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our
God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;*

break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

Gloria Patri

**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.**

Kyrie

**Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have
mercy upon us.**

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Collect of the Day

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

Sit

Old Testament

Micah 5:2-5a

²But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for Me
One who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient days.

³Therefore He shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of His brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴And He shall stand and shepherd His flock in the strength of
the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD His God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now He shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

⁵And He shall be their peace.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Tone B



Gradual

Psalm 118:26a, 27a, 23

Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the LORD!*

The LORD is God, and He has made His light to shine
up- | on us.

This is the LORD's | doing;*

It is marvelous | in our eyes.

Epistle

Titus 3:4-7

⁴But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared,
⁵He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but
because of His mercy. He saved us through the washing of
rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom He poured out
on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that,
having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs
having the hope of eternal life.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Verse

Liturgical Text

Alleluia. A holy day has dawned upon us. Come, all you
nations, and worship the Lord. **Alleluia.**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made

known to us.”¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this Child.¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Nicene Creed

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 † of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

Hymn of the Day

We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth

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- 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 though,
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!

Sermon

Pastor Holm

Grace Singers – *Heaven's Rose* *By Stan Pethel*

Diane Kline, Debbie Schwartz,
Carolyn Secor and Allan Dellinger

In days of old the prophets spoke fortelling of a time
when hope would come, when peace would be,
and God's own light would shine.
That holy night in Bethlehem the God of Heaven
chose to send His Son, the Promised One,
Our Redeemer, Heaven's Rose.

From the highest heaven to such a lowly birth;
heav'nly love was given, a gift to all the earth,
with the Father's blessing, freely unto those before Him
now confessing, "This is Jesus, Heaven's Rose."

As shepherd's bow the angels sing, and stars shine ever bright;
The miracle, our destiny was born that wondrous night.
What mystery, what joy divine; we join with all of those
who sing through all of history, "This is Jesus, Heaven's Rose."

From the highest heaven to such a lowly birth;
heav'nly love was given, a gift to all the earth,
with the Father's blessing, freely unto those before Him
now confessing, "This is Jesus, Heaven's Rose."

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming, from tender stem has sprung;
of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.
From the highest heaven to such a lowly birth;
heav'nly love was given, a gift to all the earth,
with the Father's blessing, freely unto those before Him now
confessing, "This is Jesus, Heaven's Rose," before Him now
confessing, "This is Jesus, Heaven's Rose," Heaven's rose,
Heaven's Rose.

Stand

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.**

Prayer of the Church

let us pray to the Lord,
Lord, have mercy.

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up unto the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
It is meet and right so to do.

It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

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, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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

Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Agnus Dei

**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

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

Amen.

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

Amen.

Communion Hymn #1 - *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* 388

Refrain:

Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
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 blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

Communion Hymn #2 - *Hark, the Herald Angels Sing* 380

1 Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King"

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel!

Refrain

3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

Refrain

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

Amen.

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.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
And His mercy endureth forever.

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, and Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord be you,
And with thy spirit.

Bless we the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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.

SERVING TODAY

Organist

Gail James

Elder

Richard Franzen

Communion Elder

Kurt Wampole

Altar Guild

Sherry Herrera, Gail Picado

Announcements

- ➔ Counter meeting after service on Sunday, December 27th.
Please see Diane Kline if you have questions.

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**