



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



2nd Sunday of Christmas

January 2, 2022 10:30 Holy Communion

Today we read the only story in the Bible about Jesus' childhood. It is the story where Joseph and Mary take Jesus with them when they go to the temple for Passover. Jesus is twelve years old. When they leave for home Jesus stays behind, apparently not telling anyone. After three days frantic searching they find him still in the temple talking to the religious leaders. What does this story mean for us? And what does it tell us about the nature of Jesus?

Welcome to worship today!

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

Please observe social distancing and remain conscious of the need to prevent the spread of infectious disease. In this bulletin is an insert that will be used to determine today's attendance. It will also help to identify who was here if contact tracing is necessary. Please fill it out and place it in the offering plate.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Gathering Hymn Angels, from the Realms of Glory
For music turn to Hymn 275 in the Red Hymnal

**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:**

Refrain

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

**2. Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night.
God with us is now residing
yonder shines the infant light. *Refrain***

**3. Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations,
you have seen his natal star. *Refrain***

**4. All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One. *Refrain***

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4. Music: Henry T Smart, 1813-1879

Greeting (2 Corinthians 13:13)

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

C: And also with you.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
who sends the word with angels,
who is made flesh among all people,

and who breathes peace on all the earth.

C: Amen.

P: In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God:

C: we confess our sin before you.

We replace compassion with competition.

We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek.

We are quick to anger but slow to forgive.

We have not put on love in harmony with you.

Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word.

Swaddle our hearts with your peace,

that all we do, in word or deed,

may reflect your love born among us.

Amen.

P: I bring you good news of great joy for all people:

God has come among us

in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord.

In Christ your sins are forgiven

and you are clothed in peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise Cold December Flies Away

(For music turn to Hymn 299 in the Red Hymnal)

1. Cold December flies away at the rose red splendor.

April's crowning glory breaks

while the whole world wonders

at the holy unseen pow'r

of the tree which bears the flow'r.

On the blessed tree blooms the reddest flow'r

on the tree blooms the rose

here in love's own garden,

full and strong in glory.

2. In the hopeless time of sin shadows deep had fallen.

All the world lay under death.

Eyes were closed in sleeping.

But, when all seemed lost in night,

came the sun whose golden light

brings unending joy, brings the endless joy

of our hope, highest hope,
of our hope's bright dawning,
Son beloved of heaven.

3. Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world awakens.

In the lily's purest flow'r
dwells a wondrous fragrance.
and it spreads to all the earth
from the moment of its birth;
and its beauty lives. In the flow'r it lives,
in the flow'r, and it spreads
in its heav'nly brightness
sweet perfume delightful.

Text and music: Catalanian Carol; tr. Howard Hawhee

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

O God our redeemer, you created light that we might live, and you illumine our world with your beloved Son. By your Spirit comfort us in all darkness, and turn us toward the light of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

† WORD †

First Reading Numbers 9:1-5

The LORD spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying: ²Let the Israelites keep the passover at its appointed time. ³On the fourteenth day of this month, at twilight, you shall keep it at its appointed time; according to all its statutes and all its regulations you shall keep it. ⁴So Moses told the Israelites that they should keep the passover. ⁵They kept the passover in the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, at twilight, in the wilderness of Sinai. Just as the LORD had commanded Moses, so the Israelites did.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Poetry Psalm 147:12-20 (read together)

C: Jerusalem, give glory!

Praise God with song, O Zion!

**For the Lord strengthens your gates
guarding your children within.**

**The Lord fills your land with peace,
giving you golden wheat.**

**God speaks to the earth,
the word speeds forth.**

**The Lord sends heavy snow
and scatters frost like ashes.**

The Lord hurls chunks of hail.

Who can stand such cold?

God speaks, the ice melts;

God breathes, the streams flow.

**God speaks his word to Jacob,
to Israel, his laws and decrees.**

**God has not done this for others,
no others receive this wisdom**

Hallelujah!

Second Reading Hebrews 2:10-18

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

¹³And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again,

“Here am I and the children whom God has given me.”

¹⁴Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the

people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

After the reading the reader may say: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Psalm 98:3)

C: Alleluia. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. Alleluia

Gospel Reading Luke 2:40-51

The gospel is announced:

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 2nd chapter.

C: Glory to you O Lord.

⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

After the reading:

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day What Child Is This?
(For music turn to Hymn 296 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthem sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing,
Haste, haste to bring him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!**

2. **Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!**

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!**

Text: William Dix; Music: English Ballad, 16th century

Nicene Creed

P: Let us confirm our faith with the Nicene Creed

**C: 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 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

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with: Lord in your mercy,

The congregation will respond: **Hear our prayer.**

The pastor concludes the prayer:

P: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

† MEAL †

Special Music

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray: Gracious God,

C: your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.

As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus the Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

(Isaiah 6:3 - spoken)

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

P: In the night in which he was handed over our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you

and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

Communion Distribution

Welcome to the Lord's Supper! All who are baptized are invited to receive communion. You are invited to come forward to the altar. Due to the pandemic we are using wheat wafers and individual glasses. If you need a gluten free wafer please tell the pastor. White grape juice is available in the individual glasses for those who do not wish to take wine. As we commune together everyone is invited to sing the following hymns:

Lamb of God (Page 39 of the Blue Hymnal)

277 *Away in a Manger (Red Hymnal)*

294 *In the Bleak Midwinter (Red Hymnal)*

Communion Blessing After all have communed the pastor will say:

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

P: Let us pray:

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

Blessing

P: The God of hope

fill us with all joy and peace in believing,
so that we may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn On Christmas Night

(For music see Hymn 274 in the Red Hymnal)

1. **On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring.
On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring;
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful king's birth.**
2. **Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our redeemer made us glad?
Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free,
all for to gain our liberty.**
3. **When sin departs before his face,
then life and health come in its place.
When sin departs before his face,
then life and health come in its place.
Angels rejoice with us and sing,
all for to see the newborn king.**
4. **All out of darkness we have light,**

**which made the angels sing this night.
All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night.
“Glory to God in highest heav’n;
peace on earth, and goodwill. Amen.”**

Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt. Music: English traditional

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: God’s Work. Our Hands.

Worship assistants TODAY:

Greeters and Ushers	Helen Crown
Acolyte	Brody Ireland
Altar Care	Mary Zuege
Communion Assistant	
Nursery Care	<i>not offered during the pandemic</i>
Counters	
Coffee Hour	

Worship assistants for next Sunday, January 9, 2022

Greeters and Ushers	Linda Flood
Acolyte	Creed White
Nursery Care	<i>not offered during the pandemic</i>
Counters	
Coffee Hour	<i>Please sign up!</i>

Scripture readings from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible* copyright 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States. Psalm from *The Psalter* copyright 1994, Liturgical Training Publications. Variable worship texts from *Sundays and Seasons 2016* copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress.

St. John’s Lutheran Church
888 County Road 9, Victor, NY 14564
stjohnsvictor.com (585) 924-5192
The Rev. Jonathan Deibler, Pastor
William Shi, Pianist