

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January 3, 2021

Worship Focus

Company's Coming: Living the Celebration



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Order of Service for SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Service of Word and Sacrament

Christian Worship, p. 26

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✠ Gathering ✠

OPENING HYMN

43 – To Thee My Heart I Offer



1 To thee my heart I of - fer, O Christ - child
2 My heart with - in is glow - ing, O Christ - child
3 What brought thee to the man - ger, O Christ - child,
4 Let me be thine for - ev - er, O Christ - child



sweet and dear, Up - on thy love re - ly - ing; Oh,
sweet and dear, I love thee, Lord and Sav - ior; Oh,
sweet and dear? Thy love for me, a stran - ger—Oh,
sweet and dear. Up - hold me with thy mer - cy; Oh,



be thou ev - er near! Take thou my heart and give me thine,
be thou ev - er near! I see thee in a man - ger laid,
be thou ev - er near! O Lord, how great is this thy love
be thou ev - er near! From thee I glad - ly all re - ceive,



And let it be for - ev - er mine, O Je - sus,
Near cat - tle rest - ing un - a - fraid; I see thy
That reach - es down from heav'n a - bove, Thy love for
And what is mine to thee I give; My heart, my



ho - ly, un - de - filed, My Sav - ior meek and mild.
deep hu - mil - i - ty And low - ly bow to thee.
us, by sin de - filed, That made thee, God, a child!
soul, and all I own—Let these be thine a - lone.

Text: *Ausserlesenes . . . GesangBuchlein*, Trier, 1653, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941.
Tune: CORDIS DONUM (76 76 88 86) *Ausserlesenes . . . GesangBuchlein*, Trier, 1653.

INVOCATION

Minister The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

M God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



✘ The Word ✘

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 3:4-15

Solomon asks for wisdom to rule his people.

¹KINGS 3:4 The king went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices, for that was the most important high place, and Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, “Ask for whatever you want me to give you.”

⁶ Solomon answered, “You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart. You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day.

⁷ “Now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David. But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. ⁸ Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number. ⁹ So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?”

¹⁰ The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. ¹¹ So God said to him, “Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, ¹² I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. ¹³ Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for--both riches and honor--so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings. ¹⁴ And if you walk in my ways and obey my statutes and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life.” ¹⁵ Then Solomon awoke--and he realized it had been a dream.

He returned to Jerusalem, stood before the ark of the Lord’s covenant and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then he gave a feast for all his court.

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:3-14

God has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.

¹EPHESIANS 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. ⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵ he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will-- ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace ⁸ that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding. ⁹ And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, ¹⁰ to be put into

effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment--to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.

¹¹ In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, ¹² in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. ¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession--to the praise of his glory.

GOSPEL

Luke 2:40-52

Jesus remains behind in the Temple, giving proof of his growing in wisdom and stature.

LUKE 2:40 And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.

⁴¹ Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. ⁴³ After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

⁴⁹ "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁵¹ Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:





1 To shep - herds as they watched by night Ap - peared
 2 "At Beth - le - hem, in Da - vid's town, As Mi -
 3 Oh, then re - joice that through his Son God is
 4 What harm can sin and death then do? The true
 5 Not one he will or can for - sake; His cov -



a host of an - gels bright; "Be - hold the ten - der
 cah did of old make known. It is the Christ, your
 with sin - ners now at one; Made like your - selves of
 God now a - bides with you. Let hell and Sa - tan
 'nant he will nev - er break. Let ev - 'ry scheme the



babe," they said, "In yon - der low - ly man - ger laid,
 Lord and King, Who will to all sal - va - tion bring."
 flesh and blood, Your broth - er is th' e - ter - nal God.
 storm and rave, Christ is your broth - er— you are safe.
 tempt - er try, You may his ut - most pow'rs de - fy.

6 You shall and must at last prevail.
 God's own you are; you cannot fail.
 To God forever sing your praise
 With joy and patience all your days.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.
 Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (LM) Latin melody, 15th century, adapt.

✠ Sermon ✠

Ephesians 1:3-14

Company's Coming... Living the Celebration

Sermon notes:

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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 Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully 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.

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

✠ Prayers ✠

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

In thanksgiving for the eternal Word made flesh and His dwelling among us, full of grace and truth; that His praise would be extended into all the world; and that many more with us would come to hope in His steadfast love, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For Christian homes, that following the example of our Lord Jesus, all children would be diligent to hear the Word of God, grow in wisdom and stature, submit to earthly parents, and always be about the heavenly Father's business and in His house, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church, blessed in Christ, the Beloved, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins; for the preaching of the Gospel of salvation and the seal of the promised Holy Spirit in Baptism; and to raise up faithful preachers among us to the praise of Christ's glory until we acquire the inheritance promised us in Him, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the leaders and elected officials of our nation, especially for their wisdom that, as God once gave His servant Solomon unsurpassed wisdom to rule Israel, He would also enable them to discern between good and evil and govern our people wisely, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and everyone in any kind of need [*especially _____*]; for patience and healing according to God's will; in thanksgiving for every blessing and kindness shown to us in Christ [*especially for _____*]; and for those who mourn, [*especially _____*], let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who come to the blessed Sacrament this day, that as Christ once won our redemption through His blood, so now, according to the riches of His grace, He would grant us worthy repentance, confident faith and unity in a sincere confession, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

✠ The Sacrament ✠

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M 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, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask that only those who are members of Calvary or churches within our fellowship come forward to receive the Lord's Supper.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

37 - Once Again My Heart Rejoices



1 Once a - gain my heart re - joic - es As I hear
 2 Hear! The con - quer - or has spo - ken: "Now the foe,
 3 Should we still fear God's dis - pleas - ure, Who, to save,
 4 God be - comes the vic - tim, tak - ing Man-kind's place
 5 Soft - ly from his low - ly man - ger Je - sus calls



Far and near Sweet - est an - gel voic - es.
 Sin and woe, Death and hell are bro - ken!"
 Free - ly gave His most pre - cious treas - ure?
 By his grace, Full a - tone - ment mak - ing.
 One and all, "You are safe from dan - ger.



"Christ is born!" their choirs are sing - ing Till the air
 God is man, man to de - liv - er, And the Son
 To re - deem us he has giv - en His own Son
 For our life his own he ten - ders, And his grace
 Chil - dren, from the sins that grieve you You are freed;



Ev - 'ry - where Now with joy is ring - ing.
 Now is one With our blood for - ev - er.
 From the throne Of his might in heav - en.
 All our race Fit for glo - ry ren - ders.
 All you need I will sure - ly give you."

6 Come, then, banish all your sadness!
 One and all,
 Great and small,
 Come with songs of gladness;
 We shall live with him forever
 There on high
 In that joy
 Which will vanish never.

✂ Sending ✂

PRAYER

M Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



CLOSING HYMN

59 – Christ the Lord to Us is Born



1 Christ the Lord to us is born, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Proph - e - sies in days of old, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Our poor hu - man form he took, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 God has saved us through his Son, Al - le - lu - ia!



On this joy - ous Christ - mas morn, Al - le - lu - ia!
God has sent him as fore - told, Al - le - lu - ia!
Realms of heav - en he for - sook, Al - le - lu - ia!
Con - quered lies the e - vil one, Al - le - lu - ia!

Refrain



Of a vir - gin low - ly, He, the King most



ho - ly, Born this day to save us.

Text: Bohemian carol, 15th century, abr.: tr. Vincent Pisek, 1859–1930, alt.
Tune: NARODIL SE KRISTUS PAN (74 74 with Refrain) Bohemian carol, 15th century.



After worship, please feel free to greet your neighbors OUTSIDE, keeping in mind the social distancing recommendations of six feet spacing.