

# FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 28, 2025



**Jesus Is the Christ, the Anointed One**

**Calvary Lutheran Church**  
**9807 Church Road**  
**Dallas, TX 75238 + 214-348-5567**  
**[calvarydallas.org](http://calvarydallas.org)**



# Order of Service: FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Order of Service

The Service: Setting Four

## ✘ Gathering ✘

### OPENING HYMN

355 - Let All Together Praise Our God



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore his  
2 He leaves his heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, is born an  
3 He veils in flesh his pow'r di - vine a ser - vant's  
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, puts on our



high - est throne; to - day he o - pens heav'n a - gain and  
in - fant small, and in a man - ger, poor and lone, lies  
form to take, in want and low - li - ness must pine who  
hu - man frame, and in re - turn gives us his realm, his



gives us his own Son, and gives us his own Son.  
in a hum - ble stall, lies in a hum - ble stall.  
heav'n and earth did make, who heav'n and earth did make.  
glo - ry, and his name, his glo - ry, and his name.

5. He serves that I a lord may be—  
a great exchange indeed!  
Could Jesus' love do more for me  
to help me in my need,  
to help me in my need?

6. For us he opens wide the door  
of paradise today.  
The angel guards the gate no more;  
to God our thanks we pay,  
to God our thanks we pay.

### INVOCATION

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

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

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.**

*Be seated*

# SONG OF PRAISE

938 – This is the Feast



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



- 1    Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
- 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
- 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
- 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
- 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. *Refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *v. 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
 gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia! *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty God, the martyred innocents of Bethlehem showed forth your praise not by speaking but by dying. Put to death in us all that is in conflict with your will that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## ✠ The Word ✠

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 63:7-9

ISAIAH 63:7 I will tell of the kindnesses of the LORD,  
the deeds for which he is to be praised,  
according to all the LORD has done for us—  
yes, the many good things  
he has done for Israel,  
according to his compassion and many kindnesses.

<sup>8</sup>He said, “Surely they are my people,  
children who will be true to me”;  
and so he became their Savior.

<sup>9</sup>In all their distress he too was distressed,  
and the angel of his presence saved them.  
In his love and mercy he redeemed them;  
he lifted them up and carried them  
all the days of old.

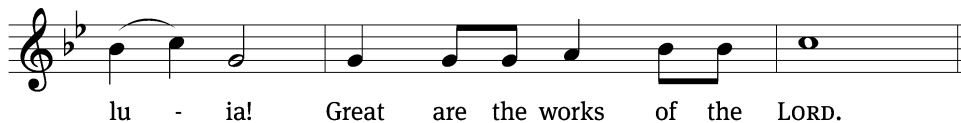
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM

Psalm 2D - Great Are the Works of the LORD

*Refrain*



*Tone*



Why do the nations / conspire  
and the peoples / plot in vain?

The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together a- / gainst the LORD  
and against his A- / noointed. *Refrain on previous page*

The One enthroned in / heaven laughs;  
the Lord / scoffs at them.

He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, / saying,  
“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy / mountain.” *Refrain on previous page*

I will proclaim the / LORD’s decree:

He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have become your / Father.”

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son**

**and to the Holy / Spirit,**

**as it was in the be- / ginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. / Amen.** *Refrain on previous page*

## SECOND READING

Galatians 4:4–7

GALATIANS 4:4 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. <sup>6</sup>Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the reading of the Gospel*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After an introduction, the congregation sings the refrain:

### Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Tone (sung by the cantor)



Come to us, Em - man - u - el; come and set your peo - ple free.

Repeat the refrain

## GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2:13–23

<sup>MATTHEW 2:13</sup>When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

<sup>14</sup>So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, <sup>15</sup>where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

<sup>16</sup>When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. <sup>17</sup>Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

<sup>18</sup>“A voice is heard in Ramah,  
weeping and great mourning,  
Rachel weeping for her children  
and refusing to be comforted,  
because they are no more.”

<sup>19</sup>After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt <sup>20</sup>and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.”

<sup>21</sup>So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, <sup>23</sup>and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Be seated

## HYMN OF THE DAY

329 - All My Heart Again Rejoices



1 All my heart a - gain re - joic - es as I hear  
2 Hear! The con - quer - or has spo - ken: "Now the foe,  
3 Should we fear our God's dis - plea - sure, who, to save,  
4 See the Lamb, our sin once tak - ing to the cross,



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 trea - sure?  
suf - f'ring loss, full a - tone - ment mak - ing.



"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



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.

5. Softly from his lowly manger  
Jesus calls  
one and all,  
"You are safe from danger.  
Children, from the sins that grieve you  
you are freed;  
all you need  
I will surely 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.

## ✠ Sermon ✠

Text: Galatians 4:4-7

# The Father's Christmas Wish

*Stand*

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS and MUSICAL OFFERING

*We appreciate the offerings given to support the work of God's Kingdom here and throughout the world.*

*Offerings can be given in any of these ways:*

- *Set in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary*
- *On the Calvary website: <https://calvarydallas.org/give/>*
- *Scan the QR code to the right...*



*Give us a record of your visit through our online Connection Card, or by filling out the friendship register. The Connection Card tab can be found at the bottom right of any page of the Calvary website, <https://calvarydallas.org> or by scanning the QR code above.*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*You may remain seated for prayer*

We praise you for your deeds, O Lord. In your love and mercy you redeemed us. For to us a Child is born. **To us a Son is given.**

Send your Holy Spirit to our hearts. Strengthen our love for you. Strengthen our confidence in you. For to us a Child is born. **To us a Son is given.**

Rule over the nations of the earth. Govern and guide all rulers. Let your kingdom come with the spread of your holy Word, that good tidings of great joy may come to all people. For to us a Child is born. **To us a Son is given.**

All wise and mighty Father, you arranged all things for the coming of your Son, and you sent him at your set time. Work all things for the good of your people, that we may be faithful and ready at the set time when he comes again. For to us a Child is born. **To us a Son is given.**

Look with mercy and give your special blessing to those who weep during this season. Comfort those who mourn losses, heal those who are sick, and give the anxious patience that comes from faith in your promises. [We pray especially for...] Cheer them with your peace and good will in Christ. For to us a Child is born. **To us a Son is given.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

O God, when Herod killed the children of Bethlehem, you saved your only Son from death so that later, he might redeem the world by his death, and give us full rights as your children. Help us live as your people day by day, that we reflect your love and mercy always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

351 - He Whose Praise the Shepherds Sounded



1 He whose praise the shep - herds sound-ed— told, by  
2 Wise men— pre - cious gifts pre - par - ing, myrrh and  
3 Join in Mar - y's ju - bi - la - tion! An - gels,  
4 Sing through - out the sanc - tu - ar - y: Christ the



an - gel hosts sur - round-ed, that their fears were all un -  
gold and in - cense bear - ing, in true faith, their love de -  
in their heav'n - ly sta - tion, hail the birth that brings sal -  
King is born of Mar - y, God and man, our sins to



found-ed— now is born our glo - rious King!  
clar - ing— to the con - qu'ring Li - on cling.  
va - tion. Oh, how sweet their ho - ly song!  
car - ry. Thanks and praise to him be - long!

## PRAYER

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## BLESSING

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

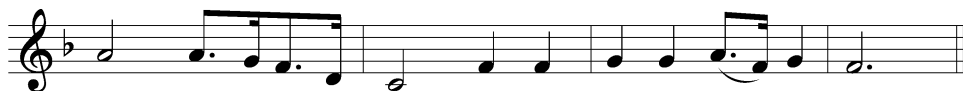
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace. **Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

361 - Go, Tell It on the Mountain



Go, tell it on the moun-tain, o-ver the hills, and ev - 'ry - where;



go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born.



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born,



be-hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

**After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.**

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Setting Four from *Christian Worship*

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Hymn 355 - Let All Together Praise Our God

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Psalm 2D - Great Are the Works of the LORD

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Text: Latin, 15th cent.; tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963

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Hymn 361 - Go, Tell It on the Mountain

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Prayer of the Church

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