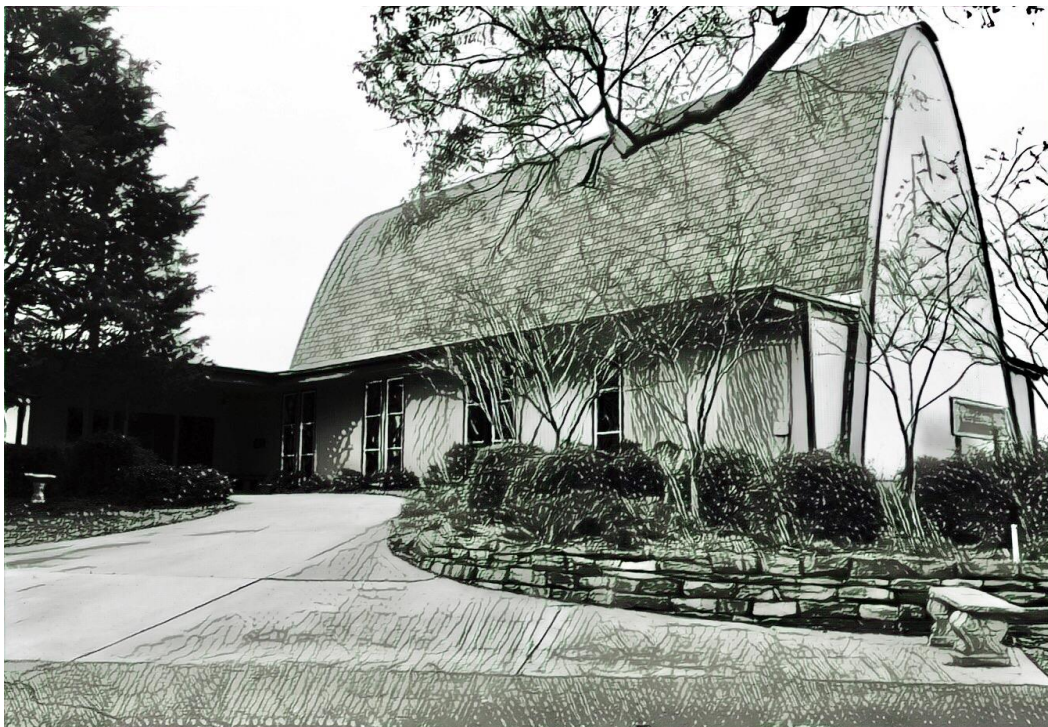


# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Rev. George N. Fields, Pastor**

Divine Service Each Week with Holy Communion: **10:30 a.m.**

Sunday School for all ages: **9:00 a.m.**

4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055

**[www.christlutheranjacksonms.org](http://www.christlutheranjacksonms.org)**

# THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

+ December 29, 2024 +

*“The Hearts of Man Will Be Revealed”*



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today, and pray God’s richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

*All members and our guests are asked to complete the worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew. Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex. We are so glad to have you worshipping with us today!*

*LARGE PRINT worship folders are available at the usher stand at the back of the nave.*

## **WELCOME:**

“The cross is a sign that is spoken against. Why? Because many who did not believe denied him at the cross. They ridiculed it both by deed and words. They gave him vinegar to drink, and offered him gall for his thirst, twisted a wreath of thorns to put on his brow, pierced his side with a spear, struck him with their hands, and shouted at him with offensive clamor: ‘He saved others, but cannot save himself’”

–Amphilochius, *On the Presentation of the Lord*

# THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion<sup>1</sup>, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins<sup>2</sup>, and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal<sup>3</sup>. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

**Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?**

**Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?**

**Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?**

**Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?**

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith<sup>4</sup>, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

---

<sup>1</sup> Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

<sup>3</sup> 1 Corinthians 11:28-32

<sup>4</sup> 1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

# DIVINE SERVICE I

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

*The congregation may use this time for prayer and meditation.*

## OPENING HYMN

**Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising**

**#375**

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

## INTROIT: CANTATE DOMINO

*Psalm 98:1-4; Ant. Psalm Isaiah 52:10*



The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the | nations,\*  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation | of our God.

**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.**

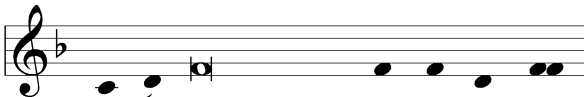
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;\*  
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

**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.**

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the | nations,\*  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation | of our God.

## KYRIE

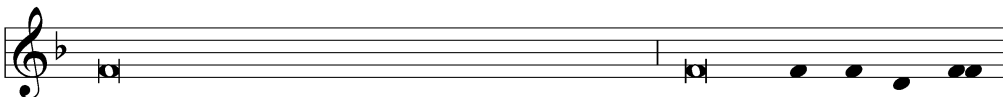
*Mark 10:47*



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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



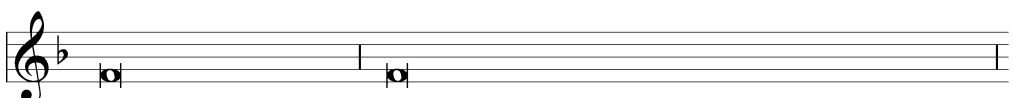
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



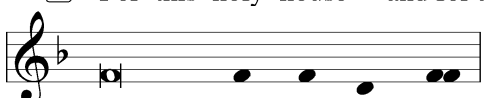
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



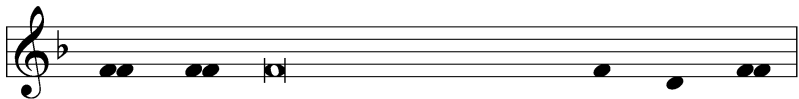
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



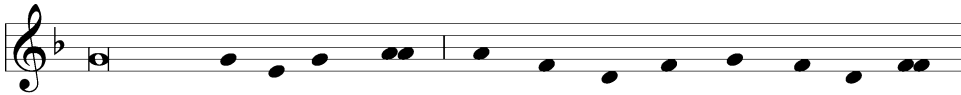
**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

# GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14, John 1:29



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Please be seated*





teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand*

### ALLELUIA

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 2:22-40*

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

**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.”

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,

according to your word;  
for my eyes have seen your salvation  
that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel.”

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**G** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Please be seated*

**OFFICE HYMN****All My Heart Again Rejoices****(#360, Tune #756)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1 All my heart again rejoices<br/>As I hear<br/>Far and near<br/>Sweetest angel voices.<br/>“Christ is born!” their choirs are singing<br/>Till the air<br/>Ev’rywhere<br/>Now with joy is ringing.</p> <p>2 Hear! The Conqueror has spoken:<br/>“Now the foe,<br/>Sin and woe,<br/>Death and hell are broken!”<br/>God is man, man to deliver,<br/>And the Son<br/>Now is one<br/>With our blood forever.</p> <p>3 Should we fear our God’s<br/>displeasure,<br/>Who, to save,<br/>Freely gave<br/>His most precious treasure?<br/>To redeem us He has given<br/>His own Son<br/>From the throne<br/>Of His might in heaven.</p> | <p>4 See the Lamb, our sin once taking<br/>To the cross,<br/>Suff’ring loss,<br/>Full atonement making.<br/>For our life His own He tenders,<br/>And His grace<br/>All our race<br/>Fit for glory renders.</p> <p>5 Softly from His lowly manger<br/>Jesus calls<br/>One and all,<br/>“You are safe from danger.<br/>Children, from the sins that grieve you<br/>You are freed;<br/>All you need<br/>I will surely give you.”</p> <p>6 Come, then, banish all your sadness!<br/>One and all,<br/>Great and small,<br/>Come with songs of gladness.<br/>We shall live with Him forever<br/>There on high<br/>In that joy<br/>Which will vanish never.</p> |
|--|--|

**SERMON***The Firstborn Son of Man**Please stand*

## NICENE CREED

**☩ I believe in one God,** (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4)  
**the Father Almighty,** (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3)  
**maker of heaven and earth** (Gen 1:1; Jn 1:1)  
**and of all things visible and invisible.** (Col 1:16)

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,** (Rom 10:9)  
**the only-begotten Son of God,** (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16)  
**begotten of His Father before all worlds,** (Jn 1:2)  
**God of God, Light of Light,** (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1)  
**very God of very God,** (Col 2:9) **begotten, not made,** (Jn 1:2)  
**being of one substance with the Father,** (Jn 10:30)  
**by whom all things were made;** (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3)  
**who for us men and for our salvation** (1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23)  
**came down from heaven** (Jn 6:41; Lk 15:20)  
**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary** (Lk 1:34-35)  
**and was made man;** (Jn 1:14)  
**and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.** (Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18)  
**He suffered and was buried.** (Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53)  
**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures** (1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6)  
**and ascended into heaven** (Acts 1:9)  
**and sits at the right hand of the Father.** (Acts 7:55)  
**And He will come again with glory** (Mt 26:64)  
**to judge both the living and the dead,** (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12)  
**whose kingdom will have no end.** (2 Pt 1:11)

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,** (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38)  
**the Lord and giver of life,** (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6)  
**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,** (Jn 15:26)  
**who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,** (Mt 3:16-17)  
**who spoke by the prophets.** (Eze 11:5)

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,** (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22)  
**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,** (Eph 4:5)  
**and I look for the resurrection of the dead** (1 Cor 15:35-49; 1 Thess 4:13-18)  
**and the life ✠ of the world to come.** (Mk 10:29-30; Mt 10:40-42)

**Amen.** (Ps 106:48)

*Us men* means all people.

*Christian:* the ancient text reads “catholic,” meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*After each petition of the prayer:*

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*For comfort, health, and recovery:* **Brian Atchley, Gary Atchley, Richard Brownstein, Tom Cantrell, Donna Carson, Nancy Daniels, Charles Dempsey, Betty Hansford, Nancy Jones, Roger Lindsey, Ward Marsh, Elaine Monaghan, Kathy Rothblum, Ed Sallis, Lily Smith, Sherri Smith, Eloise Springer, Nicole Tatum, Donny Thomas, Leslie Thomas;**

*For those who mourn:* the family and friends of **Randy Fowler;**

*For those who are ill or distressed:* **Jenalee Adams, Blair Alford, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Hunter Burkhalter, Wayne Burt, Bobby Carroll, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Tahlia Ferderer, George Fields, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Tim Hansen, Faye Hartman, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, April Ann Hubmann, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, John Koster, Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Deborah-Annette Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Jonnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Gary Stoeckmann, Lesley Tatum, Nicole Tatum, Donny Thomas, Leslie Thomas, Nikki Vines, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitze, Barbara Zeigler;**

*For college and graduate students:* **Sara Fields;**

*For military servants and their families:* **Gabriel Escude, Glen Hansford, Holden Hathcock, Bill Nelson, Steven Tatum;**

*For foreign missionaries*

*This week's prayer family:* **The Hansford Family** and their loved ones.

*Please be seated*

## **OFFERING**

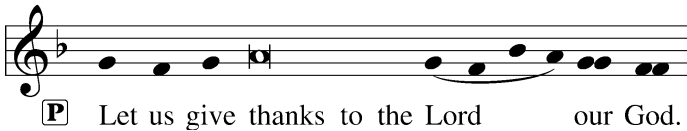
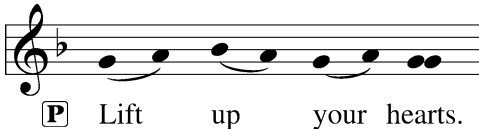
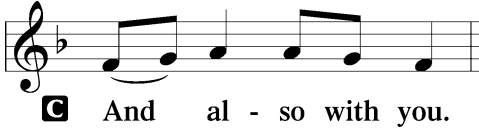
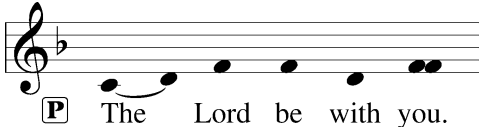
*Please stand*



# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## PREFACE

*2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*



**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



## SANCTUS

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. † Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**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.**

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

*Matthew 26:26-28*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

**PAX DOMINI**

*John 20:19*

**P** The peace ✠ of the Lord be with you always.



**C** A - men.

**AGNUS DEI**

*John 1:29*



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Please be seated*

### DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

*All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.*

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

<b>In His Temple Now Behold Him</b>	<b>#519</b>
<b>Let All Together Praise Our God</b>	<b>#389</b>
<b>A Great and Mighty Wonder</b>	<b>#383</b>

*Please stand following distribution of communion*

### NUNC DIMITTIS

*Luke 2:29-32*



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

### POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**A** Let us pray.

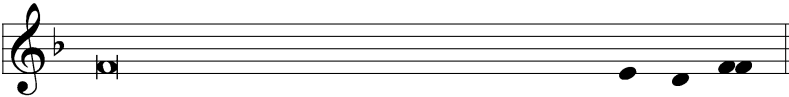
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

### BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24–26*



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A - men.

### CLOSING HYMN

### From East to West

#385

#### Acknowledgments

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**Serving Today:**

**Celebrant:** Rev. George Fields

**Acolyte:** William Hansford

**Interpreter:** Denee Smith

**Altar Guild:** Michelle Miller

**Elder:** Glen Hansford

**Organist:** Sr. Sara Fields

**Cantor:** James Hasnford

**Thank you!** To all who have helped throughout Advent and Christmas, thank you for your faithful service! From contributing food to Advent dinners, to cleaning the grounds and decorating the Christmas tree, to acolyting or singing in the choir, (and everything in between!) we could not have done it without you. Merry Christmas!

**CLC Christmas Recital:** The Christ Lutheran Christmas Recital is **at 2:00 p.m., this Saturday, January 4!** Come to hear the many musical talents with which God has blessed our church family – and stay afterward for some refreshments!

**Epiphany Vespers:** We shall celebrate the Feast of Epiphany a day early next Sunday; but the festivity doesn't end there! We are extending the celebrations to Epiphany proper, **Monday, January 6.** Join us for an **Epiphany vespers at 6 p.m.,** as we remember the revelation of our Savior not just to His chosen people, but to all the nations (that's *us!*). It is, indeed, a Gentile Christmas!

**Readings for next Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of Epiphany (observed):**

Introit Ps. 45:6-8; Psalm 72:1-11; Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3 :1-12; Matthew 2 :1-12.

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*This week at Christ Lutheran Church: December 30 – January 5*

**Friday**            **6:30 a.m.** Bible & Breaky @ Broadstreet

**Saturday**        **2:00 p.m.** Christmas Recital

**Sunday**           **9:00 a.m.** Sunday School for All Ages

**10:30 a.m. Divine Service – The Feast of Epiphany**



# Issues, Etc.™

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