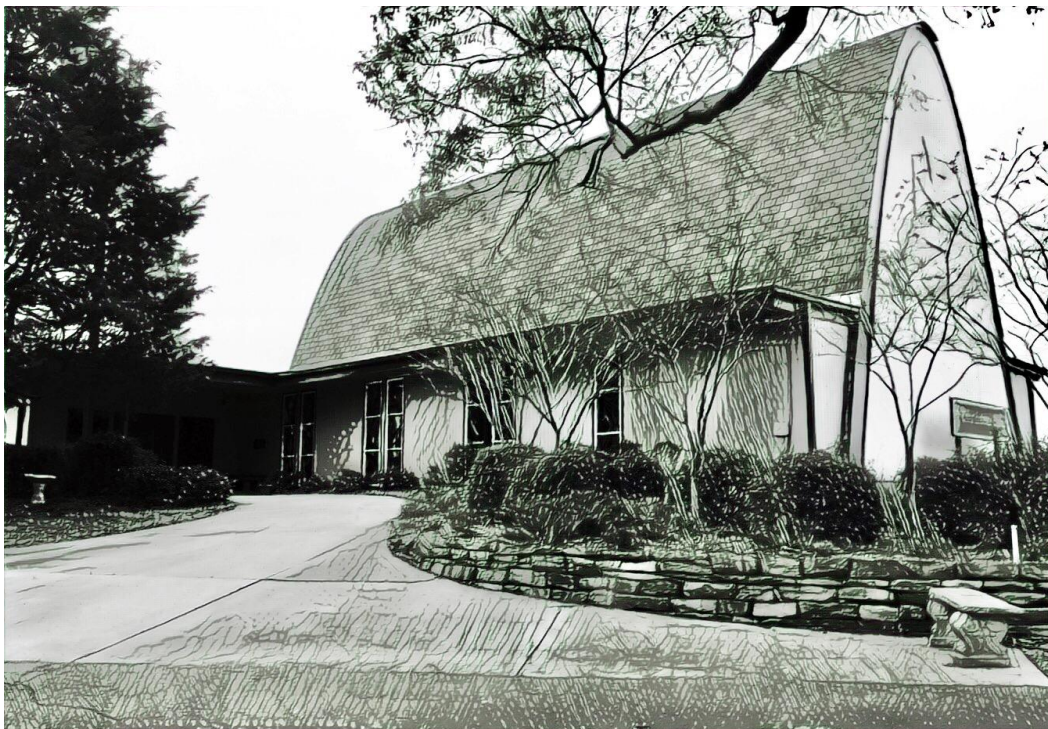


CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



Rev. George 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

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

+ December 21, 2025 +

“And Called His Name Jesus”



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:

“Joseph is the head of the Holy Family, father of the holy trinity on earth which
resembles so closely the Holy Trinity on high.”

—St. Peter Eymard

“I know not how anyone can ponder on the sufferings, trials, and tribulations the
Queen of Angels endured whilst caring for Jesus in his childhood, without at the same
time thanking St. Joseph for the services he rendered the Divine Child and his Blessed
Mother.”

—St. Teresa of Avila

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 Communion¹, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins², 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 meal³. 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 faith⁴, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

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

²Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

³1 Corinthians 11:28-32

⁴1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

DIVINE SERVICE I

PRESERVICE MUSIC

The congregation may use this time to pray and meditate.

OPENING HYMN

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

#347

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: DE PROFUNDIS

Psalm 130:5-8; Ant. Isaiah 64:1



Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down,*
that the mountains might quake at your | presence.

**I wait for the LORD, my | soul waits,*
and in his | word I hope;**

my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the | morning,*
more than watchmen for the | morning.

**O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is | steadfast love,*
and with him is plentiful re- | demption.**

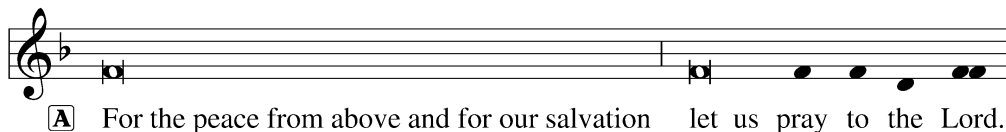
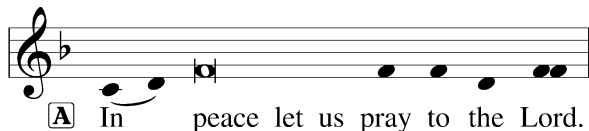
And he will redeem | Israel*
from all his in- | iquities.

**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.**

Oh that you would rend the heavens | and come down,*
that the mountains might quake at your | presence.

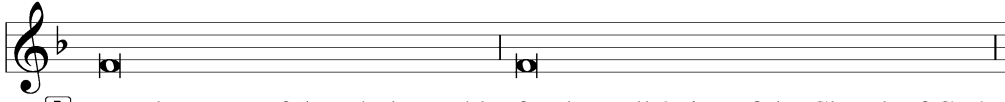
KYRIE

Mark 10:47

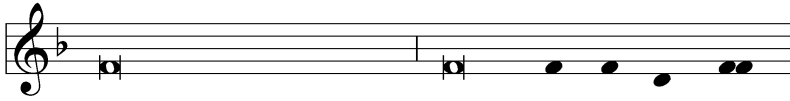




C Lord, have mer - cy.



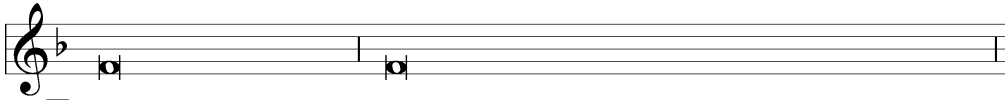
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



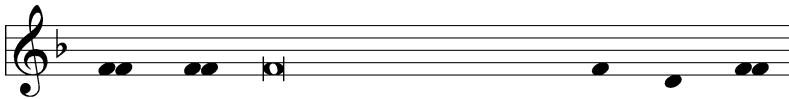
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



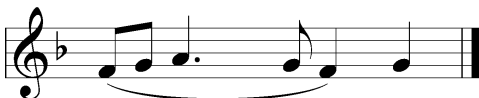
let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

During Advent, which is a season of preparation and repentance, we omit the Gloria in Excelsis.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Please be seated

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 7:10-17

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26



Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.*
Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.
Behold, your king is com- | ing to you; *
righteous and having sal- | vation.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.*
From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

EPISTLE

Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Matthew 1:18-25

P The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN

O Sing of Christ

#362

SERMON

Father and the Son

Please stand

NICENE CREED

C **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

CONFIRMATION HYMN

I Bind Unto Myself Today

Sung by cantor

#604, St. 1

CONFIRMATION OF NATHAN BROWNSTEIN

p. 272

CONFIRMATION HYMN

I Bind Unto Myself Today

#604, St. 2, 5

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: **Jessica Barber, Debbie Caraway, Christy Chapman, Jana Entrekin, John Garner, Jennifer Haggard, Angelia Hall, Jim Hansford, Joseph Holleman, Elaine Johnson, Richard Mullis, Eloise Springer, Nicole Tatum;**

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, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Tahlia Ferderer, George Fields, 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, Pippin Family, Deborah-Annette Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Jonnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Eloise Springer, Gary Stoeckmann, Dana Taquino, Lesley Tatum, Nicole Tatum, Donny Thomas, Nikki Vines, Leonard Watson, Cynthia Widlitze, Barbara Zeigler;**

For college and graduate students: **Sara Fields, James Hansford;**

For military servants and their families: **Glen Hansford, James Hansford, Bill Nelson, Steven Tatum;**

This week's prayer family: **Andy Evers** and his loved ones.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

G What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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



P The Lord be with you.



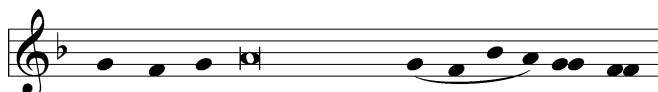
C And al - so with you.



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 Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. 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:



Our Fa - ther who art in heav - en, hal-low - ed be Thy name,

Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as

it is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly

bread; and for - give us our tres - pass - es as we for - give

those who tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in -

to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -

ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

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

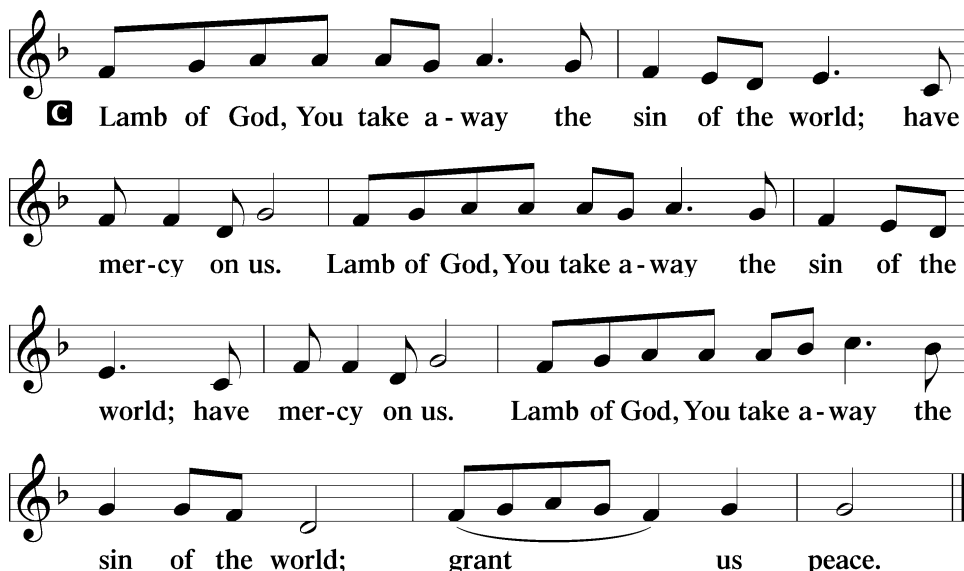
P The peace ✠ of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29



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

**O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness**

#372

#636

Please stand following distribution of communion

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32



The musical score is written on six staves in G-clef (treble clef) with a common time signature (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are in English and Latin. The first staff begins with a square symbol, likely a copyright or publisher's mark. The lyrics are: "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;", and "as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men."

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.

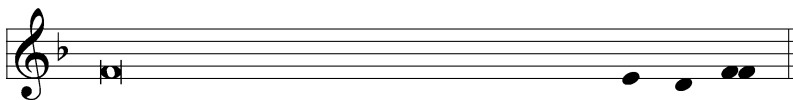
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and 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

O Bride of Christ, Rejoice

#335

Acknowledgments

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Serving Today:

Pastor: Rev. George Fields

Acolyte: Nathan Hansford

Interpreter: Denee Smith

Elder: Keith Martin

Organist: Sister Sara Fields

Altar Guild: Sabrina Goodlett

Confirmation of Nathan Brownstein: “We rejoice with thankful hearts,” as the rite says, that Nathan has been confirmed in the baptismal faith! We pray that God would continue His good work in Nathan until the day of its completion in the life of the world to come.

Fond Farewell: Dearest Denee Smith, our long-time sign language interpreter, is retiring from serving Christ Lutheran. Amidst our deep sadness in seeing her go, let us not let her leave without fanfare and outpouring of gratitude! We will celebrate her service and send her off with **a reception directly after today’s Divine Service**. Please join us as we thank God for the wondrous gift He has given us in Denee.

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-laaaaaaa! Christmas is not complete without caroling! Join us **tonight** as we spread the merry, Christological cheer. We shall meet **at Newk’s at 5 p.m.** (4450 I 55 N, Jackson, MS 39211) for dinner and begin caroling at several nursing homes at 6 p.m. Caroling books will be provided.

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols: We will hold vigil for the birth of our Lord on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24th. Join us at 6:00 p.m. to meditate upon this most holy miracle!

Christmas Day Divine Service: Celebrate the Holy Nativity with us as we greet our Incarnate Lord on Christmas Day (10:30 a.m.)! See Him present among us upon the altar and partake of Him in Holy Communion.

Christmas Recital & Musical Merry-Making: The annual Christ Lutheran Christmas Recital is coming soon – with a twist! As we enjoy the musical talents God’s given those among us, we will also sing some of our favorite Christmas hymns (a two-week Christmas season is way to short to get in all the good ones!). Join us for all the musical merry-making on **Saturday, January 3rd, at 2:00 p.m.!**

Readings for next Sunday, December 28th, the First Sunday after Christmas:

Introit Jer. 31:15-17; Psalm 111; Isaiah 63:7-14; Galatians 4 :4-7 ; Matthew 2 :13-23.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: December 22 – December 28

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols
Thursday 10:30 a.m. **Christmas Day Divine Service – The Feast of the Nativity**
Sunday 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:30 a.m. **Divine Service – The First Sunday after Christmas**



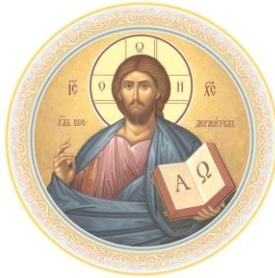
Issues, Etc.TM

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CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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Church phone: (601) 366-2055
www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org