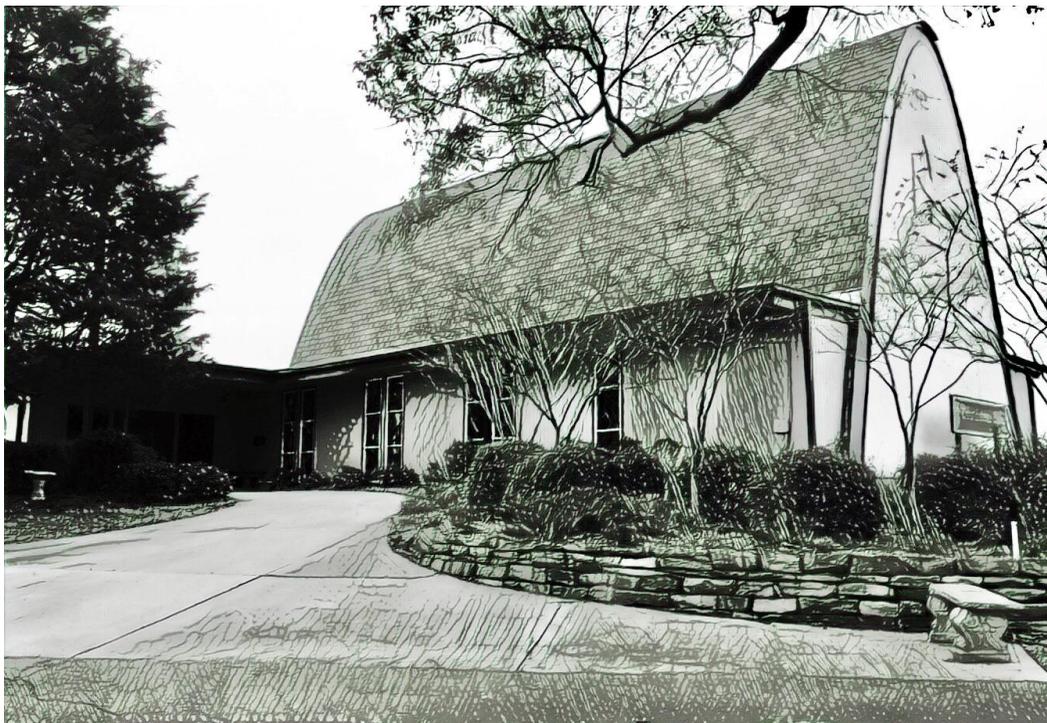


CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



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 SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

+ January 4, 2026 +

“I Must Be in My Father’s House”



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 beginning of the Lord’s disputation is taken from His twelfth year. This number of the evangelists was intended for the preaching of the faith. Nor is it idly that, forgetful of His parents according to the flesh, He who according to the flesh assuredly was filled with the wisdom and grace of God is found after three days in the temple. It is a sign that He who was believed dead for our faith would rise again after three days from His triumphal passion and appear on His heavenly throne with divine honor.”

– St. Ambrose of Milan, *Exposition of the Gospel of Luke*

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.

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

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

³ 1 Corinthians 11:28-32

⁴ 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

Not All the Blood of Beasts

#431

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: LAUDATE DOMINUM

Psalm 147:1, 5, 11-12; Ant. John 1:14



The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his | glory,*
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of | grace and truth.

Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;*
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.

Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;*
his understanding is beyond | measure.

But the LORD takes pleasure in those who | fear him,*
in those who hope in his | steadfast love.

Praise the LORD, O Je- | rusalem!*

Praise your God, O | Zion!

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 Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his | glory,*
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of | grace and truth.

KYRIE

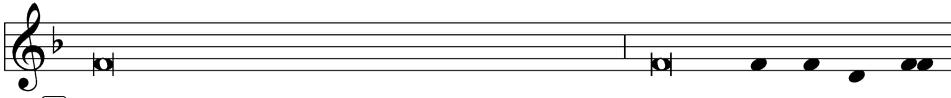
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



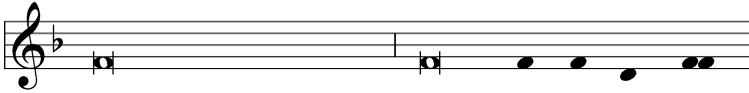
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



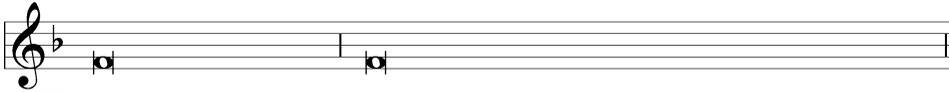
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



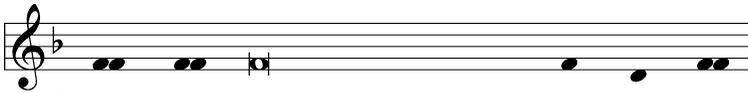
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



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.



G And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



G A - men.

Please be seated

OLD TESTAMENT

1 Kings 3:4-15

The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar.

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your

who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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 2:40-52

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

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

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

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold,

your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.” And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN

No Temple Now, No Gift of Price

#530

SERMON

The Only Sacrifice

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

#604, St. 1

Sung by cantor

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: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

For comfort, health, and recovery: **Jessica Barber, Debbie Caraway, Christy Chapman, Francis Dillon, Jana Entrekin, John Garner, Jennifer Haggard, Angelia Hall, Merina Hansen, Jim Hansford, Joseph Holleman, Sharon Holleman, Elaine Johnson, Linda Lau, Richard Mullis, Eloise Springer, Nicole Tatum, Dean Walker;**

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: **The Fields Family** and their loved ones.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19



☐ 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.



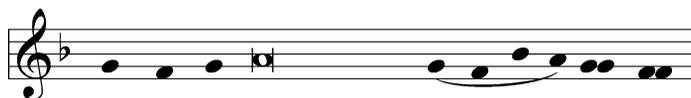
C And al - so with you.



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; 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

#957

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:



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 one of the pastors are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to a 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

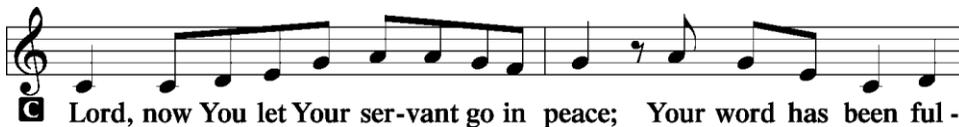
**The Infant Priest Was Holy Born
Within the Father's House**

**#624
#410**

Please stand following distribution of communion

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32





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.

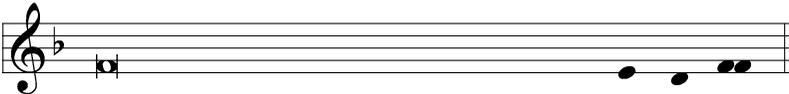
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your 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

Angels from the Realms of Glory

#367

Acknowledgments

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Serving Today:

Pastor: Rev. George Fields
Acolyte: William Held
Interpreter: Charlie Warren
Altar Guild: Mary Atchley

Elder: Keith Martin
Organist: Sr. Sara Fields
Cantors: Keith Martin, Jenny Merry

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.

Epiphany Divine Service: Did you know... the 12 Days of Christmas span the gap from December 25th until January 6th? That is unimportant trivia—until you realize that January 6th is *Epiphany*: Gentile Christmas! This is day on which Christ was revealed to the nations, represented in the Gentile magi. We shall celebrate this second Christmas with **Divine Service at 6:00 p.m. this Tuesday, January 6th.**

Installation of Rev. Christopher Clark: Rev. Clark has accepted the call to serve as associate pastor at our daughter congregation, Good Shepherd Lutheran in Brandon! Good Shepherd has invited us to his installation **this Saturday, January 10th, at 11:00 a.m.**, along with a potluck to follow. Let us join them in celebrating the arrival of this shepherd, and let us pray the Lord’s blessings upon him as he tends this flock.

Altar Flower Sign-Up: Sign up for the new year! Flowers have a long history of adorning the Lord’s altar, and you can help to continue this beautiful tradition. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

Readings for next Sunday, January 11th, the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord: Introit Ps. 2:7-12; Psalm 29; Isaiah 42:1-9; Romans 6:1-11; Matthew 3:13-17.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: January 5 – January 11

Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Divine Service – The Feast of the Epiphany
	7:00 p.m.	Elders Meeting
Saturday	11:00 a.m.	Installation of Rev. Christopher Clark @ GSL
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service – The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord



Issues, Etc.™

Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio

YOUR LIFELINE TO THE LUTHERAN WORLDVIEW... You can listen to in-depth teachings on interesting subjects like:

SACRED MUSIC FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON... "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come," "O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is," "Once in Royal David's City," "Silent Night, Holy Night," "Joy to the World," and more...

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org. Simply click on "Listen", choose "On Demand", then select from the vast array of speakers and topics available in the archives.

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



Why was it so important for Jesus to be born as a man?

Jesus had a big job ahead of Him when He was born! If you really think about it, Jesus was born to die on the cross to pay for the sins of the whole world. But before He died, He lived a perfect life under God's Law. That means that during His entire life, Jesus never sinned. Not even once! As a man, Jesus took the place of mankind under the Law and fulfilled it. That means that for every time we failed to keep the Law, Christ succeeded!

Why was it important for Jesus to be true God?

It would take more than an ordinary man to suffer and die on the cross to pay for the sins of the whole world. Jesus had to be true God so that He could live a perfect life and fulfill the requirements of the Law, die a perfect death on the cross, and rise from the dead victorious over sin, death and the devil! All of this He did in obedience to the Father and out of complete and total love for us. Through faith, the Holy Spirit delivers all of the great things Jesus won for us in His death and resurrection!



Parents: Review the Ten Commandments with your child (Ex. 20:1–17). Discuss the commandments and be sure to point out just how often we fail to keep them. Remind your child that because of Christ's perfect sacrifice on the cross, in faith we have the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation.





CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102
Church phone: (601) 366-2055
www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org