



# *Christmas Day*

***Our Savior Lutheran Church***

5000 W. Tidwell, Houston TX 77091 • 713-290-9087 • [www. OSL.cc](http://www.OSL.cc)

## *Introduction to the Service*

*On behalf of the staff of Church and School we wish you and yours a truly blessed Christmas. May the Peace and the Joy of Bethlehem's Manger fill your hearts and your homes all the year to come.*

*A special word of welcome this Christmas Day to our guests and visitors. We are honored by your presence and we hope that you have been blessed by celebrating Christ's birth with our congregation. We would be delighted to have you become a part of this gathering of believers on a regular basis so that together we may praise and serve our God together. Please come again soon.*

*Our thanks to the many people who have given of their time and talent to make these holiday services the special events that they are. We are grateful to the members of the Altar Guild for the beautiful decorations which adorn our sanctuary on this Holy Day. Get your Poinsettia Dedication Book from an usher in the narthex.*

*To God be the Glory as His people serve Him in Joy and Love!*

**December 25, 2021**



*Order of Divine Service for*

# *Christmas Day*

*Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ*

+ + +

*In Nomine Jesu*

*Prelude*

***Sounds of Christmas***

Blake Crabtree, Trumpet & Colleen Crabtree, French Horn

# Introduction & Greetings

- P** I bring you good news of great joy: a Savior has been born to you. Alleluia!  
**C** *Unto us a child is born, a son is given. Alleluia!*  
**P** Hear the words of St. Luke: When the angels had gone from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, 'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us.' So they hastened, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. He is Christ the Lord. Alleluia!  
**C** *We worship and adore him. Alleluia!*

## Hymn

### O Come, All Ye Faithful

Text & Tune: John F. Wade – "Adeste Fideles"; LSB #379 © 2006 CPH



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come — ye to Beth - le - hem;  
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;  
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
Je - sus, to Thee — be — glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God — In — the — high - est:  
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

#### Refrain



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

(Stand)

## Confession of Sin

**P** As we kneel with the shepherds before the newborn Christ child, we open our hearts in penitence and faith: You, Lord, were born for our salvation. Lord, have mercy.

**C** *Lord, have mercy.*

**P** You came as Savior to bring wholeness and peace. Christ, have mercy.

**C** *Christ, have mercy.*

**P** You came to bring light into the darkness of our lives. Lord, have mercy.

**C** *Lord, have mercy.*

**P** Almighty God, sent his Son into the world to save sinners, bring you his pardon and peace, now and forever. Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

**C** *Amen.*



(Be Seated)

## Old Testament Lesson

### Isaiah 52:7–10

[7] How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” [8] The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion. [9] Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. [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.

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

## Epistle Lesson

### Hebrews 1:1–6

[1] Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, [2] but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. [3] He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, [4] having become as much superior

to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. [5] For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son”? [6] And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.”

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

*(Stand)*

## *Gospel for Christmas Day*

### **St. John 1:1–14**

[1] In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [2] He was in the beginning with God. [3] All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. [4] In him was life, and the life was the light of men. [5] The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. [6] There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. [7] He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. [8] He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. [9] The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. [10] He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. [11] He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. [12] But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, [13] who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. [14] And 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.

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

## *A Litany of Faith*

**P** We proclaim the Church’s faith in Jesus Christ;

**C** *We believe and declare that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is both divine and human;*

**P** God, of the being of the Father, the only Son from before time began; human from the being of his mother, born in the world.

**C** *Fully God and fully human; one human person with mind and body.*

**P** As God he is equal to the Father, as human he is less than the Father.

**C** *Although He is both divine and human he is not two beings but one Christ.*

**P** One, not by turning God into flesh, but by taking humanity into God.

**C** *Truly one, not by mixing humanity with godhead, but by being one person.*

**P** For as mind and body form one human being, so the one Christ is both divine and human.

**C** *The word became flesh and lived among us; we have seen His glory, the glory of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

(Be seated)

# Sermon Hymn

## O Sing of Christ

Text: Stephen P. Starke; Tune: English; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams – “Forest Green”; LSB #362 © 2006 CPH



1 O sing of Christ, whose birth made known The kind-ness of the Lord,  
2 What Ad-am lost, none could re - claim, And Par - a - dise was barred  
3 He came to that which was His own, But He was not re - ceived;  
4 Lord Je - sus Christ, You deigned to dwell A - mong us here on earth



E - ter - nal Word made flesh and bone So we could be re - stored.  
Un - til the sec - ond Ad - am came To mend what sin had marred.  
Yet still through Him God's glo - ry shone, And some His name be - lieved.  
As God with us, Em - man - u - el, To bring this ho - ly birth.



Up - on our frail hu - man - i - ty God's fin - ger chose to trace  
For when the time was full and right God sent His on - ly Son;  
To these He gave the right to be The heirs of heav'n a - bove,  
Though rich, You will - ing - ly be - came One with our pov - er - ty,



The full-ness of His de - i - ty, The i - con of His grace.  
He came to us as life and light And our re - demp-tion won.  
Born not of hu - man an - ces - try But born of God in love.  
That we might share Your wealth and name For all e - ter - ni - ty!

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## Sermon

(Stand for the reading of the text)

### “The True Meaning of Christmas”

Text: John 1:1–14

# Offering

## Voluntary

### **Merry Christmas Medley**

Arranged by Melody Bober

Emily & Olivia Thielke, piano duet



(Stand)

## Prayers

- P** We bring before God our needs and the needs of his world. Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given. Wonderful Counselor, give your wisdom to the rulers of the nations. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** *Hear our prayer.*
- P** Mighty God, make the whole world know that the government is on your shoulders. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** *Hear our prayer.*
- P** Everlasting Father, establish your reign of justice and righteousness forever. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** *Hear our prayer.*
- P** Prince of peace, bring in the endless kingdom of your peace. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** *Hear our prayer.*
- P** Almighty Lord,
- C** *Hear our prayer, and fulfill your purposes in us, as you accomplished your will in our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

## Lord's Prayer

- 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*

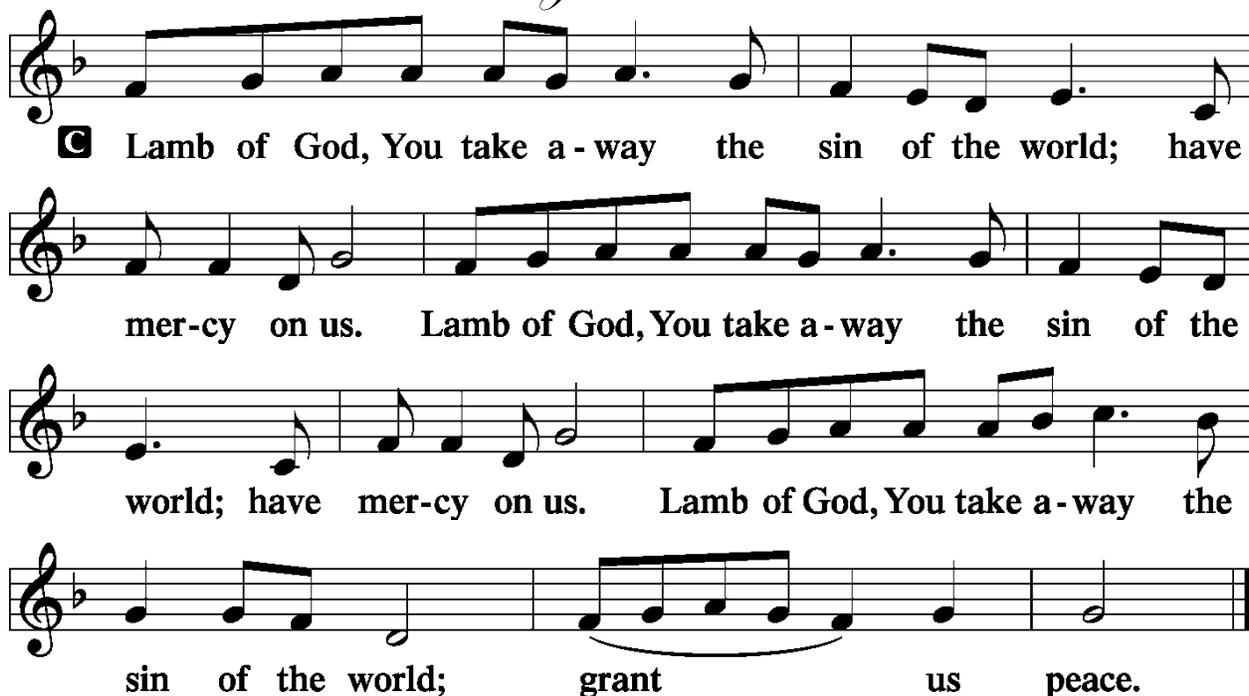
## Words of Institution

- 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

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** *And also with you.*

## Agnus Dei



**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.

(Be Seated)

## Distribution

(This congregation observes the Biblical practice of “Closed Communion.” The Word of God teaches that the bread and wine of the Sacrament are the true Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. This precious gift of God’s grace is to be received in a sense of reverent awe after careful self-examination. The Bible defines that self-examination as a personal recognition of the real presence of Christ’s Body and Blood in the Sacrament, and a repentant acknowledgment of my own sinfulness recognizing my absolute dependence upon Christ as the only source of forgiveness for my sin. Scripture further instructs that our participation in Christ’s Body and Blood together is the most profound and powerful way for Christians to acknowledge their unity in the faith. That is to say, when we share in the Body and Blood of Jesus at this altar, we are thereby indicating our common commitment to all of the doctrines of God’s Word as they are taught in this congregation. Because of these Biblical convictions, we respectfully request that visitors, who wish to join us in receiving the Body and Blood of Christ and thereby identify with our confession of Bible truth, speak with one of our pastors before attending the Lord’s Supper. Thank you for your kindness.)

### Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Text: Charles Wesley; Tune: Felix Mendelssohn – “Mendelssohn”; LSB #380 © 2006 CPH



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav’n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



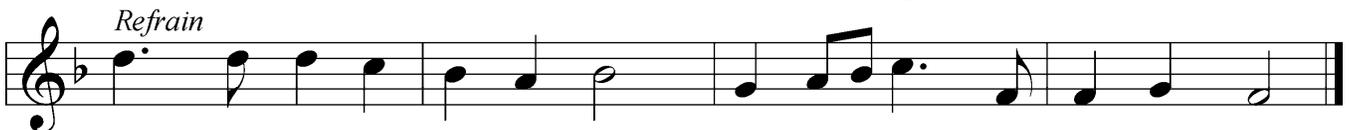
Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!”  
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin’s womb.  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty!  
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, “Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!”  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im - man - u - el!  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.



Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born King!”

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# Ministry of Music

## O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild

Text: Valentin Thilo; Tune: setting: J. S. Bach – “O Jesulein Süß”; LSB #546 © 2006 CPH

Olivia Thoele

1. O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild! For sinners You became a child.  
You came from heaven down to earth In human flesh through human birth.

O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!

2. O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild! With God we now are reconciled.  
You have for all the ransom paid, Your Father's righteous anger stayed.

O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!

3. O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild! Joy fills the world which sin defiled.  
Whate'er we have belongs to You; O keep us faithful, strong, and true.

O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!

## Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

Text: Latin & German, 14<sup>th</sup> cent.; Tune: German – “In Dulci Jubilo”; LSB #386 © 2006 CPH



1 Now sing we, now re - joice,	Now raise to heav'n our voice;
2 Come from on high to me;	I can - not rise to Thee.
3 Now through His Son doth shine	The Fa - ther's grace di - vine.
4 Oh, where shall joy be found?	Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth	Poor in a man - ger lies;
Cheer my wea - ried spir - it,	O pure and ho - ly Child;
Death was reign - ing o'er us	Through sin and van - i - ty
Where the an - gels sing - ing	With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth	The sun in yon - der skies.
Through Thy grace and mer - it,	Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
Till He o - pened for us	A bright e - ter - ni - ty.
Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing	In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art!	Thou my Sav - ior art!
Draw me un - to Thee!	Draw me un - to Thee!
May we praise Him there!	May we praise Him there!
Oh, that we were there!	Oh, that we were there!

(Stand)

## Canticle

### *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

Text: Martin Luther; Tune: "Vom Himmel Hoch"



1. "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good news to  
2. Glo - ry to God in high - est heav'n, Who un - to us His



ev - 'ry home; Glad ti - dings of great joy I bring, Where-  
Son hath giv'n! While an - gels sing with pi - ous mirth A



of glad I new now year will to say all and the sing:  
glad new year to all the earth.



## Benediction

**P** May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Joseph and Mary, and the peace of the Christ child be yours this Christmas. And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

**C** *Amen.*

# Closing Hymn

## Joy to the World

Text: Isaac Watts; Tune: George Frideric Handel – “Antioch”; LSB #387 © 2006 CPH



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

## Postlude

### Joy to the World

By M. Burkhardt

#### Acknowledgments:

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