



*Welcome to*  
**SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

***First Sunday After Christmas***

Sunday, December 29, 2024

“In Nomine Iesu”

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**Welcome** to the Lord's House this morning for Divine Service. Rejoice, for the Lord comes to you here in this place to give you His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation through His precious means of grace – His Holy Word and Sacraments. We pray the Lord's richest blessings upon you as you receive these Divine gifts.

Please make your visit known to us by introducing yourself to us after the Service and by signing the guest book that is in the hallway on the left as you leave the sanctuary. The Lord be with us in Divine Service this morning!

All members and guests are asked to fill out the registration form that can be found in the pew rack. Just jot down the names of those in attendance. Thank you for taking the time to do this, we appreciate it.

In the celebration of Holy Communion we joyfully receive the true body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine. Since this is also a sign of our common confession of faith, we welcome to the Lord's Supper all those who are presently confirmed members of congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. If you wish to commune for the first time at St. Paul's, please speak to a Pastor before the service.

## **Prelude**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

**The Order of Worship**  
Lutheran Service Book –  
Divine Service Four with Communion

## Hymn of Invocation

*“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”*

LSB #386

### Invocation *(please stand)*

P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son  
and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

### Confession and Absolution

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord,  
who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness;  
therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake 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 (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Ps. 98:1-4; antiphon: Is. 52:10*

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

P Oh sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things!  
C **His right hand and his holy arm have worked  
salvation for him.**

P The LORD has made known his salvation;  
C **he has revealed his righteousness in the sight  
of the nations.**

P He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to  
the house of Israel.  
C **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation  
of our God.**

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

All **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the  
Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and  
will be forever. Amen.**

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

### Kyrie



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## Gloria in Excelsis



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King,  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## Salutation

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## Collect of the Day

**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** Amen.

*(be seated)*

## Old Testament Reading

*Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15*

<sup>1</sup>The Lord said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>“Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”

<sup>3</sup> Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the Lord brought you out from this place.

<sup>11</sup> “When the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, <sup>12</sup> you shall set apart to the Lord all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the Lord's. <sup>13</sup> Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. <sup>14</sup> And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. <sup>15</sup> For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the Lord killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the Lord all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’”

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*Colossians 3:12-17*

<sup>12</sup>Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup> bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup> And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup> 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.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

**Alleluia and Verse** (*please stand*)

The musical score consists of four staves of music in a 7/8 time signature. The first staff is the Alleluia: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The second staff is the Verse: "These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God." The third staff is the Alleluia: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The fourth staff is the Alleluia: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." Each staff begins with a square symbol containing a letter: 'A' for the first Alleluia, 'V' for the Verse, and 'A' for the second Alleluia.

**Holy Gospel**

*Luke 2:22-40*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup> And 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 <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup> 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. <sup>26</sup> 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. <sup>27</sup> 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, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup> “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,

according to your word;  
<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation  
<sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> 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 <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup> 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, <sup>37</sup> 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. <sup>38</sup> 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.

<sup>39</sup> And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> 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.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

### Nicene Creed

All I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin



**Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*(be seated)*

## **Children's Message**

**Hymn of the Day** *"Let All together Praise Our God"* LSB #389

## **Sermon**

## **Presentation of the Offering**

## **Prayers of the Church**

*(After each portion of the prayers)*

**P** Lord, in your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

**P** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## Service of the Sacrament

**Preface** (*please stand*)

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also 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 proper that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

### Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.

C **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

P Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

All **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

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 Amen.

**Agnus Dei**

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
 You take the sin of the world a - way;  
 You take the sin of the world a - way;  
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

**Distribution (be seated)**

*(All members of our St. Paul’s family are invited to meet the Lord in this Sacrament. When at the table, please indicate your preference of common or individual cup.)*

*The CENTER RING of the individual communion cup tray contains white grape juice. The OUTER RINGS contain red wine. Gluten free wafers are available from a communion assistant.)*

**Distribution Hymns**

“Come, Let Us Eat”

LSB #626

“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

LSB #352

## Nunc Dimittis (please stand)

**C** 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;  
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -  
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## Post-Communion Collect

**P** 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** Amen.

## Benedicamus

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **Benediction**

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 Amen.

**Closing Hymn** “*Let Our Gladness Have No End*” LSB #381

*(be seated)*

## **Silent Prayer**

## **Postlude**

“Soli Deo Gloria”

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