

# Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

First Sunday of Christmas

*Faithful Through Generations*

December 26, 2021



Organist: Jeff Rudi

PRELUDE

Welcome and Announcements

Carol

*“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

ELW #270

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

---

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth. **C: Amen.**

L: In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L: Holy God, we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.

L: I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. In Christ your sins are forgiven, and you are clothed in peace. **C: Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

---

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Carol

*“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*

ELW #283

## **THE FIRST READING**

**1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26**

Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. <sup>19</sup>His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. <sup>20</sup>Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD”; and then they would return to their home.

<sup>26</sup>Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

\*The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **THE SECOND READING**

**Colossians 3:12-17**

As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>Above all, clothe yourselves with 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 the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs 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.

\*The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Carol

*“Angels We have Heard on High”*

**ELW #289**

## **THE GOSPEL**

**Luke 2:41-52**

\*The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now every year [Jesus’] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. <sup>43</sup>When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day’s journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I

have been searching for you in great anxiety.” <sup>49</sup>He said to them, “Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

**\*The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.**

Carol	<i>“Away in a Manger”</i>	<b>ELW #277</b>
Carol	<i>“Silent Night”</i>	<b>ELW#281</b>
Carol	<i>“Joy to The World”</i>	<b>ELW# 267</b>
Carol	<i>“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”</i>	<b>ELW #275</b>
Carol	<i>“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”</i>	<b>ELW #288</b>

**\*THE APOSTLE’S CREED: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.)**

**\*The Peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.**

**\*HOLY COMMUNION**

**ELW p.172**

**L: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.**

**L: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them to the Lord.**

**L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**\*LORD’S PRAYER: 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.**

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

\*L: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Piano Solo

*“Rejoice! He is Here”*

Jeff Rudi

## BENEDICTION:

Carol

*“Go Tell It on the Mountain”*

**ELW #290**

\*L: Go in Peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior’s birth. **C: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*(\*Please Stand)*