

SERVICE of WORD and PRAYER
from With One Voice

THE PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS
INVOCATION

HYMN: "Away in a Manger"

January 2, 2022

Second Sunday of Christmas



If you are an online guest today, please
leave a record of your visit, below. Thank you!

[Online Guest Form](#)

Messiah Lutheran Church

7740 Hwy 72 West, Madison, AL 35758
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Away in a Manger 644

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus down his sweet head;
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus cry - ing he makes
close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.

the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay;
I love you, Lord Je - sus; look down from the sky
Bless all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care

the and and lit - tle by us for the Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and fit us for heav - en, to live with you morn - ing is night.
and fit us for heav - en, to live with you there.

THE GREETING & DIALOG

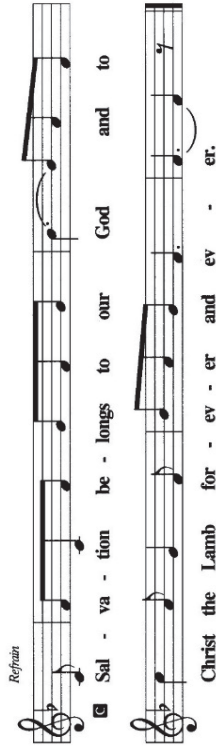
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
In the Word was life,
and the life was the light of all people.

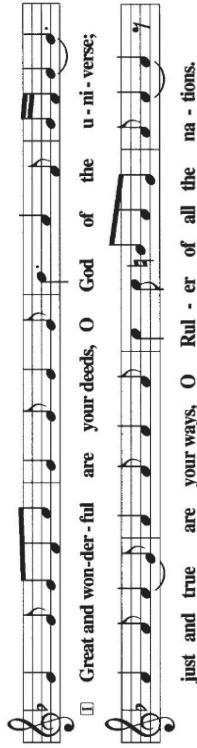
The Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

SCRIPTURE SONG

Refrain



Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to
Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

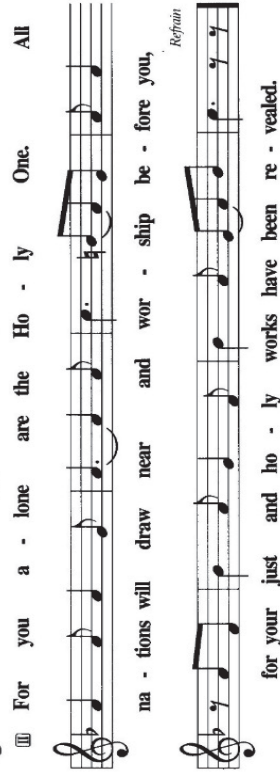


Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O God of the u - ni - verse;
just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na - tions.

Refrain



Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and sing the glo - ry of your name?
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All



na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,
Refrain
for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.
Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen

THE FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 31:7-14

- 7 For thus says the LORD:
Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel.”
- 8 See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.
- 9 With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.
- 10 Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.”
- 11 For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
- 12 They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.
- 13 Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy,
 I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.
 14 I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
 and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
 says the LORD.

THE SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Word of Life"

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!

Our hearts burn with - in us while you o - pen to us the Scrip-tures.

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!

THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL

John 1:1-18

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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

716 Word of God, Come Down on Earth

1 Word of God, come down on earth,
 2 Word eternal, throned on high,
 3 Word that caused blind eyes to see,
 4 Word that speaks God's tender love,

liv - ing rain from heav'n de -
 Word that brought to life cre -
 speak and heal our mor - tal
 one with God be - yond all

scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth faith and
 a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die, cru - ci -
 blind - ness; deaf we are: our heal - er be; loose our
 tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove, God the

hope and love un - end - ing, Word al - might - y, we re -
 fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the world re -
 tongues to tell your kind - ness, Be our Word in pit - y
 Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to all truth

vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
 stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.
 spo - ken, heal the world, by our sin bro - ken.
 lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

THE SERMON

Rebecca Mast

CHRISTMAS
 638 Holy Child within the Manger
 Carol at the Manger

Capo 1

1 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, long a -
 2 Once a - gain we tell the sto - ry, how your
 3 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, lead us

go yet ev - er near, come as friend to ev - ry
 love for us in your way, when the im - age of your
 ev - er in your way, so we see in ev - ry

stran - ger, come as hope for ev - ry fear.
 glo - ry wore an im - age like our own.
 stran - ger how you come to us to - day.

As you lived the bro - ken, greet the
 Come, en - light wis - dom, come and
 In our lives and in our liv - ing give us

out - cast, free the bound, us where you are found.
 fill us with your grace. May the fire of your com -
 strength to live as you, that our hearts might be for -

spo - ken, teach us now where you are found.
 pas - sion kin - dle ev - 'ry land and race.
 giv - ing and our spir - its strong and true.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary,

He 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,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father,

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

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith; **pray in the Holy Spirit.**

Keep yourselves in the love of God;

look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!

CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

(silence for reflection and self examination.)

Gracious God,

Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone.

Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life,

To the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, Agree with one another, live in peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

THE OFFERING

THE OFFERTORY: "Glory to You, God" vs. 1

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.
God, our Creator,

You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the Church, the human family, and all the world.

God of mercy,

Hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

THE BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen

We Three Kings of Orient Are 646

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a -
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a -
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri -

far, field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 gam; king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 - night; prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 fice; heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain

Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty

bright; west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

THE DISMISSAL
 THE POSTLUDE