



“Today in the town of David  
a Savior has been born to you;  
he is Christ the Lord.”

Luke 2:11



### **Welcome to Our Redeemer**

Christmas is a time of good news and great joy. It is when God the Father kept his faithful promise and sent his Son to be the Savior of all. Because of God’s faithfulness we can rejoice. Our sins are forgiven. Heaven is open. Eternal life is ours. All this leads us to rejoice in everything and for everything we have received through our new-born Savior, Jesus Christ.

### **About the Service**

The Order of Worship is printed in this folder. It is a service which draws our attention to God’s faithful promise, and leads us to rejoice in God faithfully keeping his promise in the birth of Jesus. May our good and gracious God bless us as we stand in his presence, as we worship him in love, and praise him with thanksgiving. Spoken and sung responses are indicated.

There are children’s worship folders available in the basket by the front door. Restrooms are located in the fellowship hall. When you leave the church, go left to the double doors.

## The Order of Worship

### **Pre-Service Music**

### **Opening Hymn**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
*Christian Worship 55*

## **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

P: Our confidence throughout Advent was that our faithful God kept his promises faithfully. It turned our thoughts to the Lord and his promise to send a Savior. When the time was right, God kept his promise and Jesus came into the world. Our joy today, at the birth of Jesus, is no longer that he would come, but he has come, and has brought us joy and every rich blessing of his grace.

### Rejoice in the Promises of God

*Isaiah 9:1-7*

<sup>1</sup>Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for the land that was in anguish. In former times, he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will cause it to be glorious, along the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, in Galilee of the Gentiles.

<sup>2</sup>The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. For those living in the land of the shadow of death, the light has dawned. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation. You have increased its joy. They rejoice before you like the joy at harvest time, like the celebration when people divide the plunder. <sup>4</sup>For you have shattered the yoke that burdened them. You have broken the bar on their shoulders and the rod of their oppressor, as you did in the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>Every boot that marched in battle and the garments rolled in blood will be burned. They will be fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born. To us a son is given.

The authority to rule will rest on his shoulders.

He will be named:

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup>There will be no limit to his authority and no end to the peace he brings. He will rule on David's throne and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from now on, into eternity.

The zeal of the LORD of Armies will accomplish this.

Rejoice in the Promises Faithfully Kept by God

*Romans 15:5-13*

<sup>5</sup> And may God, the source of patient endurance and encouragement, grant that you agree with one another in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> so that with one mind, in one voice, you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup> For this reason, accept one another as Christ also accepted you to the glory of God. <sup>8</sup> For I am saying that Christ became a servant of those who are circumcised for the sake of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs. <sup>9</sup> He also did this so that the Gentiles would glorify God for his mercy, as it is written:

For this reason I will praise you among the Gentiles, and I will sing to your name.

Rejoice, you Gentiles, with his people.

<sup>10</sup> And again it says:

Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples give him praise.

<sup>12</sup> And again Isaiah says:

There will be a Root of Jesse, and he is the one who will rise up to rule the Gentiles; on him the Gentiles will place their hope.

<sup>13</sup> Now may the God of hope fill you with complete joy and peace as you continue to believe, so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Rejoice in the New Born Savior

*Luke 2:8-20*

<sup>8</sup> There were in the same country shepherds staying out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified! <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. For behold, I bring you good news of great joy, which will be for all people: <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David, a Sa-

avior was born for you. He is Christ<sup>[a]</sup> the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> Suddenly, there was with the angel a multitude from the heavenly army, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward mankind.”

<sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Now let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup> So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they had seen him, they told others the message they had been told about this child. <sup>18</sup> And all who heard it were amazed by what the shepherds said to them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

P: Our prayer as we light the Christ candle and rejoice in Jesus’ birth is: “Lord, you are faithful in everything you do, and in your faithfulness you have given us a Savior.

*Lighting of the Christ Candle*

**Advent Candle Hymn**

“Joy to the World”  
*Christian Worship 62 st. 1 & 2*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev’ry heart prepare him room  
And heav’n and nature sing,  
And heav’n and nature sing,  
And heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

### **The Confession of Sins**

P: At the invitation of our heavenly Father, and for the sake of our new-born Savior Jesus Christ, let us come in true sorrow and repentance to humbly confess our sins.

O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger  
or discipline me in your wrath.

For your arrows have pierced me,  
and your hand has come down upon me.

My guilt has overwhelmed me  
like a burden too heavy to bear.

All my longings lie open before you, O LORD;  
my sighing is not hidden from you.

I wait for you, O LORD;  
you will answer, O LORD, my God.

### **Congregation sings**

*Psalm 73*

#### *Refrain*



Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and  
not be a - fraid. For the Lord is my strong-hold and my  
sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

P: We join in humbly confessing our sins to the Lord who has promised to hear us and purify us from our sins.

**C: O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger  
or discipline me in your wrath.**

**Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am faint;  
 O LORD, heal me, for my soul is in languish.  
 Turn, O LORD, and deliver me;  
 save me because of your unfailing love.  
 I am worn out from groaning.  
 My eyes grow weak with sorrow.**

*Congregation sings*

*Psalm 73*

*Refrain*

Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and  
 not be a - fraid. For the Lord is my strong-hold and my  
 sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

**The Assurance of Forgiveness**

P: Hear the gracious assurance of our loving heavenly Father who brought his Son into the world to be our Savior.

Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven,  
 whose sins are covered.

Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against  
 him and in whose spirit is no deceit.

When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my  
 groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;  
 my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you  
 and did not cover up my iniquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord" —  
 and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

## Hymn of Praise

“Joy to the World”  
*Christian Worship 62 st. 3 & 4*

No more let sins and sorrows grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love.

## Prayer for Christmas Day

P: O gracious Lord and Father, today we burst into songs of joy and gladness. You have kept your promise and sent your Son into the world. As true God and true Man he accomplished everything needed for our rescue. He fulfilled your holy law faithfully and without sin. He offered you the perfect sacrifice without spot or blemish. He even triumphed over all our enemies through his resurrection to life. Bless us with the faith we need to put our trust in him. Fill us with joy in knowing he has come to save. Purify our love that the peace we receive today grows in our hearts and lives until we receive the eternal peace of heaven. There we will join the angelic choirs to praise you—together with your Son and the Spirit—throughout endless ages.



C: A — men!

## The Lessons for Christmas Day

## Old Testament

*Exodus 33 & 34*

<sup>33:18</sup>Then Moses said, "Please show me your glory."

<sup>19</sup>The LORD said, "I will make all my goodness pass in front of you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD in your presence. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will show mercy to whom I will show mercy." <sup>20</sup>He said, "You cannot see my face, for no human may see me and live."

<sup>21</sup>The LORD also said, "Look, there is a place next to me, where you shall stand on the rock. <sup>22</sup>It will happen that, while my glory passes by, I will put you in a crevice in the rock. I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup>Then I will take away my hand, and you will see my back. But my face will not be seen."

<sup>34:5</sup>The LORD came down in the cloud. He took his stand there with Moses and proclaimed the name of the LORD. <sup>6</sup>The LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed: "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, and overflowing with mercy and truth, <sup>7</sup>maintaining mercy for thousands, forgiving guilt and rebellion and sin. He will by no means clear the guilty. He calls their children and their children's children to account for the guilt of the fathers, even to the third and the fourth generation."

## Psalm in Response

P: Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations. He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

## *Congregation sings*

"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

*Christian Worship 61 st. 1*

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King;

Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all you nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th’ angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

**Epistle**

*Romans 8:31-32*

<sup>31</sup>What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup>Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?

**Psalm in Response**

P: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; make music to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, with trumpets and the blast of the ram’s horn—shout for joy before the LORD, the King.

**Congregation sings**

“Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”  
*Christian Worship 61 st. 2*

Christ, by highest heav’n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail th’ incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

**Gospel**

*John 1:1-18*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was with God in the beginning.

<sup>3</sup>Through him everything was made, and without him not one thing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of mankind. <sup>5</sup>The light is shining in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man, sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as an eyewitness to testify about the light so that everyone would believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The real light that shines on everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, yet his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. <sup>13</sup>They were born, not of blood, or of the desire of the flesh, or of a husband's will, but born of God.

<sup>14</sup>The Word became flesh and dwelled among us. We have seen his glory, the glory he has as the only-begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

<sup>15</sup>John testified about him. He cried out, "This was the one I spoke about when I said, 'The one coming after me outranks me because he existed before me.'" <sup>16</sup>For out of his fullness we have all received grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. The only-begotten Son, who is close to the Father's side, has made him known.

### **Psalm in Response**

P: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Let the rivers clap their hands, let them sing before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

*Congregation sings*

"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

Hail, the heav'nly Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth,  
Born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

**The Confession of Faith**

*(we will unite in the words of the Apostles Creed)*

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven and is seated  
at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church—the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Hymn of the Day**

**"Now Sing We, Now Rejoice"  
*Christian Worship 34***

**Sermon**

*Exodus 34:5-7*

**“Rejoice because the LORD, Your God, is Faithful!”**

In maintaining justice

In proclaiming mercy

**Handbells**

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

*Arranged by Bill Ingram*

*Choristers Guild*

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;  
There he lay, the Undefined, to the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place, can he be our Savior?  
As the saved of all the race who have found his favor.

Gentle May laid her child lowly in a manger;  
He is still the Undefined, but no more a stranger.  
Son of God of humble birth, beautiful the story;  
Praise his name in all the earth; Hail the King of Glory!

Thanksgiving

**Prayer for the Lord’s Blessing**

*Special prayers and intercessions*

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**C: 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.**

**Lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory**

**are yours now and forever. Amen!**

## Hymn

“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”  
*Christian Worship 42*

### Closing Response and Prayer

P: <sup>4</sup> Rejoice in the Lord always! I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup> Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if anything is excellent, and if anything is praiseworthy, think about these things. <sup>9</sup> The things that you learned, received, heard, and saw in me: Keep doing these things. And the God of peace will be with you.

P: O gracious Lord, our new-born Savior Jesus Christ, you have given us every reason to rejoice. You have released us from the punishment of God’s just judgment on our sin. You have freed us from the tyranny of our enemies. You have empowered us to live our lives to your glory and praise. Still, we know we will face countless challenges. There will be sadness, disappointment and failure. Our good intentions will never materialize, and our flesh will grow weary of doing your gracious good will. Renew us by your holy birth and precious work. Restore us through the power of your pure and faithful Word. Refresh us with the never-failing joy that is ours now, and will be ours forever—all through you the only Son of the Father—our Redeemer and Savior.



C: A ——— men!

### The Benediction

P: Brothers and sisters, aim for perfection, listen to God's Word, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and compassion will be with you.

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make his face shine upon you  
and be gracious to you;  
The Lord look on you with favor, and give you peace.



C: A— men. A— men. A — men.

### Closing Hymn

“Let Us All With Gladsome Voice”  
*Christian Worship 64*

### Silent Prayer

#### Announcements

**Today** - *Welcome in name of our new-born Savior!* May the joy and peace of our Savior's birth bring you comfort and blessing this day, and always. If you are visiting this morning, please sign a guest card in the pew, or the guest book by the entry. Also, come and worship again!

- Everyone is invited to stay after the service for some refreshments. They will be served in the fellowship hall.

**Sunday, December 26th**—The celebration of our Savior's birth continues! Our Sunday Worship and Live-streaming will begin at 9:30 am. We know that Jesus was born of the virgin Mary. We also know he became fully human, but why did Jesus have to take flesh and blood to himself? He did this to become our servant and the one who rescues us.

- There will be no Bible Study following the worship service. We will restart in the New Year.
- Following the worship service, Pastor Proeber will travel to Phoenix to do some home repairs. If you need to contact him, please call the parsonage, or his cell phone.



OUR REDEEMER  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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