



“Out of Egypt
I have called my son.”

Matthew 2:15, NRSV

The Order of Worship
*(We will follow the Service of Word and Sacrament
as it is printed on page 26 in the front section of the Hymnal)*

Opening Hymn “Help Us, O Lord, for Now We Enter”
Christian Worship 70

The Invocation

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

The Confession of Sins

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of the Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen!

Lord have Mercy

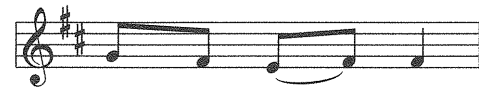
P: Jesus lived for us. Jesus died for us. Jesus rose from the dead and returned to heaven for us. Through his intercession, we know God the Father will hear and answer us for our good. With this confidence, we pray:

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer — cy.

P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



C: Christ, have mer — cy.

P: For the well-being of your holy church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise; hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer — cy.

P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care.



C: A — — men!

P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise;



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glor- ious is your name in

all the earth. Al—might—y God, mer- ci- ful Fa—ther,

you crown our life with your love. You take a- way our sin;

you com — fort our spir—it; you make us pure and

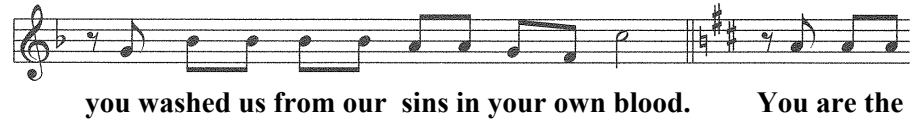
Ho—ly in your sight. You did not spare your on— ly Son,

but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,

how glor—ious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, e—ter—nal Word of the Fa—ther,

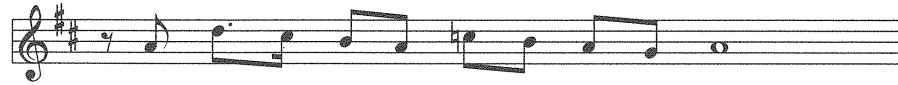
you came to live with us; you made your Fa—ther known;



you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the



King of glo—ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,



how glor—ious is your name in all the earth.

Prayer of the Day

P: O gracious Lord, whenever we consider the good and perfect gifts we have, we are moved to praise you for the miraculous things you have done. Still, we have greater reason to thank you for your control of even the smallest details of our life. Make your all-encompassing care the foundation of our hope. If we have doubts, or even if we are moved to question your goodness, lead us to Jesus. In him we see our hope, our refuge, our strength, as well as our peace and joy. Never allow the world to distract us or the devil to deceive us. Never let us receive any of the good things you do with indifference or ingratitude. Fill our hearts with joy in knowing you are our God who loves us, who cares for us, and who lives and reigns over us as the one true God—Father, Son and Spirit—now and eternally.



C: A — — men!

The Lessons from God's Word

Old Testament

Isaiah 63:7-9

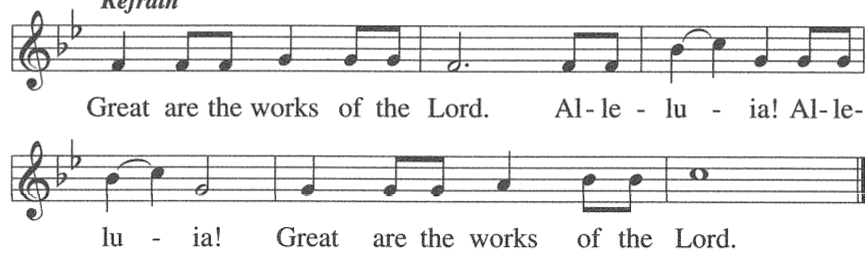
⁷I will tell about the LORD's mercies, about the praises of the LORD, about all that the LORD has done for us, about his great goodness to the house of Israel, which he performed for them according to his abundant compassion, and according to his great mercy.

⁸He said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely," so he became their Savior. ⁹In all their anguish he felt anguish, and the Angel of his Presence saved them. In his love and in his pity he himself redeemed them, and he took them up and carried them all the days of old.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 2

Refrain



Great are the works of the Lord. Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-lu - ia! Great are the works of the Lord.

Psalm tone *



Why do the nations | conspire, *
and the peoples | plot in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers
gather together a- | gainst the LORD, *
and against his A- | nointed One.

Refrain

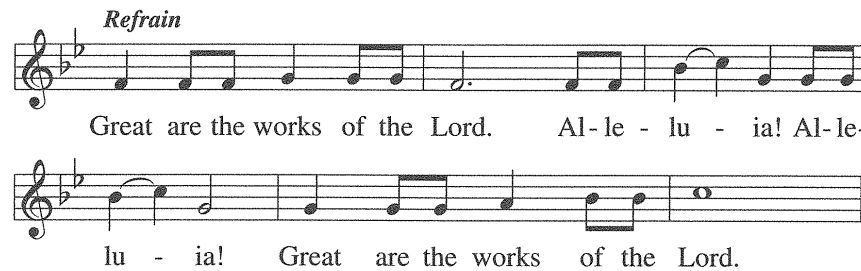
The One enthroned in | heaven laughs, *
the LORD | scoffs at them.



Then he rebukes them in his anger
 and terrifies them in his wrath, | saying, *
 “I have installed my King on Zion, my | holy hill.”

I will proclaim the decree | of the LORD; *
 He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have
 become your | Father.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son, *
 and to the Holy | Spirit,
 as it was in the be- | ginning, *
 is now, and will be forever. | Amen.



Epistle

Galatians 4:4-7

⁴But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son to be born of a woman, so that he would be born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those under the law, so that we would be adopted as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts to shout, “*Abba, Father!*” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son. And if you are a son, then you are also an heir of God through Christ.

Verse of the Day

P: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. How awesome is the LORD Most High, the great King

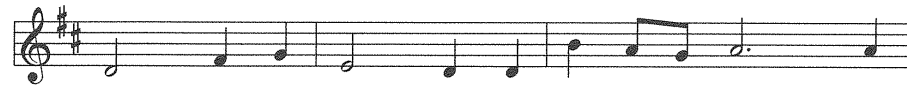
over all the earth! God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise. God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne. The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham, for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted.

Alleluia!



C: Al—le—lu—ia! Al—le—lu—ia! Al—le—lu—ia!



These words are writ—ten that we may be—lieve that



Je—sus is the Christ, the Son — of God.



Al—le—lu—ia! Al—le—lu—ia! Al—le—lu—ia!

Gospel

Matthew 2:1-23

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, ²“Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴He gathered together all the people’s chief priests and ex-

perts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet:

⁶ You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah: because out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people, Israel.”

⁷ Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. ⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him.”

⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. ¹¹ After they went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² Since they had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

¹³ After the Wise Men were gone, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared to Joseph in a dream. He said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, because Herod will search for the child in order to kill him.”

¹⁴ Joseph got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and left for Egypt. ¹⁵ He stayed there until the death of Herod. This happened to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

¹⁶ When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Wise Men, he was furious. He issued orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and in all the surrounding countryside, from two years old and under. This was in keeping with the exact time he had learned from the Wise Men. ¹⁷ Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

¹⁸ A voice was heard in Ramah,

weeping and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children,
and she refused to be comforted,
because they are no more.

¹⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt. The angel said, ²⁰ “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to kill the child are dead.”

²¹ Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus, Herod’s son, had succeeded his father as ruler in Judea, he was afraid to go there. Since he had been warned in a dream, he went to the region of Galilee. ²³ When he arrived there, he settled in a city called Nazareth. So what was spoken through the prophets was fulfilled: “He will be called a Nazarene.”

P: This is the Word of our God!



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”
Christian Worship 93

Sermon

Matthew 2:23

“God Considers the Small Stuff”

In the life of his Son
In the life of his children

The Confession of Faith

(We will join in the words of the Nicene Creed)

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

**On the third day he rose again in accordance
with the Scriptures;**

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son is

worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen!

Thanksgiving

Prayers for the Lord's Blessings

Special Prayers and Requests

Prayer for the Communicants

The Lord's Prayer

(spoken with the pastor)

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 of Preparation

“Here, O My Lord, I See You”
Christian Worship 315 st. 1-2

Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;
Here would I touch and handle things unseen,
Here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,
And all my weariness upon you lean.

This is the hour of banquet and of song;
Here is the heav’nly table spread anew.
Here let me feast and feasting still prolong
The brief bright hour of fellowship with you.

The Lord’s Supper is a Sacrament through which Jesus Christ our Savior strengthens our faith and forgives our sins. In it we receive His actual body and blood, as we receive the bread and the wine. If you have not communed with us before or if you are not familiar with our procedure, please do not come to the Lord’s Table today. We also encourage you to speak with our pastor following the service. He will be happy to share with you the necessary preparations to receive our Savior’s body and blood in a future service.

Our request comes out of love for you and concern for your spiritual well-being, so that you can receive the blessing our Lord wants you to receive.

The Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you.



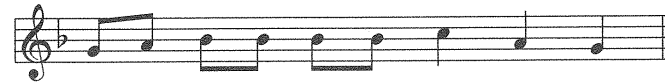
C: And al—so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Give praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. When the time had fully come, he sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Now have come the salvation, the power, the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks, honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus



C: Ho—ly, ho—ly, ho—ly, is the Lord of hosts;



The whole earth is full of your glo—ry.



You are my God, and I will ex—alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be—come my sal-



va—tion. Ho—ly, ho—ly, ho—ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo — ry.

The Words of Institution

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The Blessing of Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



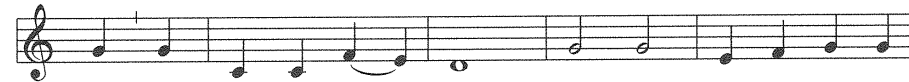
C: A — — — men.

O Christ, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a—way the sin of the



world; have mer—cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a—way the sin of the world; have mer—cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a—way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A ——— men.

The Congregation may be seated for the Distribution

During the Distribution _____

Please come forward along the west wall of the sanctuary allowing sufficient space between you and the next person. At the direction of the pastor, please come forward and he will place the bread in your hand, then the cup. After receiving the Body and the Blood, you will receive the Lord's blessing of peace. As you return to your seat, please place the cup in the tray on the far side of the altar, and return to your seat going along the east side of the sanctuary.

Thanksgiving

Song of Thanksgiving

(Congregation rises and sings)



Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re- news his prom- is- es and leads his peo- ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks- giv- ing. Al—le—lu—ia! Al—le—lu — ia!

Closing Prayer:

P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A ——— men.

The Benediction:

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you,

The Lord make his face shine on 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 loving and new-born Savior!*
May the undeserved love of God—Father, Son and Spirit—lead you to live your life with complete confidence in his faithfulness and loving care. If you are visiting us this morning, please sign our guest book, and visit us again—soon!

- Following the worship service there will be time for fellowship and some snacks prepared by the ladies of the congregation. Everyone is invited!
- There will be no Bible Study this morning. We will begin again next Sunday. God’s blessings on a quiet week!

Monday—There will be no handbell choir practice this evening. It will resume shortly into the new year.

Tuesday—There will be no Council Meeting this evening, however, we will meet on January 10th at 7:00 pm. Committees and chairman, please make sure you have your ministry plans and budgets ready for this meeting.

Wednesday—Bible Class will begin next week, January 11th with a new study. Watch for more information.

Friday—Office Hours from 10:30—2:30 pm.

Saturday—Church Cleaning: Scheffler

- Lawn beginning January 8th—J. Brown

Sunday, January 8th—Sunday Worship at 9:30 am. With the Baptism of Jesus we see the first of the many signs where Jesus is revealed as true God and true Man, and the Savior. There is no better revelation than the one God the Father himself provided with the words—“You are my Son, whom I love and with you I am well pleased.”

- Christian Education will follow the service. We will consider the familiar prophecy from Isaiah, “Here is my servant.” With this prophecy 600 years before Jesus was born, the Lord set in motion everything needed to reveal Jesus at his Baptism as the Son of God and the only Savior.

Thank You

To Jim Brown, our Hymnsoft operator; to Jim Everson and Josh Schueler for monitoring the audio and video of the live stream; to those who helped decorate the church for our Christmas season of worship; and to those who provided refreshments following the worship service—Pam Schueler and Marrison Schueler

Congregational Meeting

The annual meeting will be **January 15th** following the worship service. Everyone is encouraged to attend to recount the blessings the Lord gave us through 2022, and to plan our ministry for 2023 with the Lord’s guidance.



OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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