



**THE CHRIST MASS  
CHRISTMAS DAY**

**SAINT JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2018**

# WE WELCOME YOU!

We are thankful that you are joining in worship with the people of God. Ushers at the door are glad to assist you at any time.

- Please check that cell phones are silenced.
- Restrooms are located down either hallway to the right.
- A nursery is available to parents as needed, down the bell tower hallway to the left.
- Please tell us a bit about yourself on the Welcome card and place it in the offering plate as you leave today. Thank you!

## **About the Offering**

An offering is gathered at the entrance table in the foyer. Here the people of God bring their tithes and sacrificial offerings as an expression of their discipleship and for the continuation of Christ's mission work, both in this community and to the ends of the earth. Guests are not expected to bring financial gifts, but are welcome to join the congregation in offering their prayers and praises.

## **About Holy Communion**

On Christmas Eve the Church on earth celebrates Holy Communion. This is most appropriate as the Nativity of Our Lord is the primary festival of God's incarnation – his taking on human flesh – as recorded in the Gospels of Matthew, Luke, and John. In Holy Communion, we remember that the divine is united with the created as one.

This altar is the Lord's table. Here all are welcome who acknowledge their need for a Savior, and look to Jesus. We believe what he simply says about the bread – "This is my body, given for you." – and about the wine – "This is my blood, shed for you." In this we discover the divine mystery in the midst of his ordinary creation. From the many seeds of wheat come one loaf. From the many grapes are pressed one cup.

Young children are welcome to this altar to receive a blessing, as are those who have not been instructed in the Christian faith. Please indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest or by simply asking for a blessing.

The individual communion cups in the center of the tray have white grape juice for those who desire it. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.

**May God fill you with his presence this Holy Night!**

## + GATHERING +

### **The Invocation and Gloria Tibi, Domine — *Please stand.***

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

**C Amen.**

**L** Jesus, Son of the living God, splendor of the Father, light eternal, king of glory, sun of justice, born of the Virgin Mary:

**C Glory to you, O Lord!**

**L** Jesus, wonderful counselor, strong Lord, eternal God, prince of peace:

**C Glory to you, O Lord!**

**L** Jesus, most powerful, patient, obedient, gentle and humble of heart, loving all who are pure in heart:

**C Glory to you, O Lord!**

**L** Jesus, God of peace, source of life, pattern of holiness, friend of all, our God and our refuge:

**C Glory to you, O Lord!**

**L** Jesus, brother of the poor, treasure of the faithful, good shepherd, true light, inexhaustible wisdom, boundless love, our way and our life:

**C Glory to you, O Lord!**

**L** Jesus, joy of the angels, king of the patriarchs, master of the apostles, teacher of the evangelists, strength of the martyrs, light of every witness to the truth, crown of all the saints:

**C Glory to you, O Lord!**

### **Salutation and Collect Prayer**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray

**C Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### **Gloria in Excelsis – Angels We Have Heard on High**

*LSB 368*

1 Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

*Refrain*  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

*Please be seated.*

# + WORD +

## Christmas Prophecy

Isaiah 52:7-10

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." <sup>8</sup>The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. <sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup>The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.


## Go Tell It on the Mountain

LSB 388

*Refrain*




Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

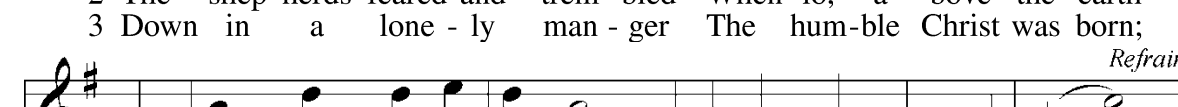


Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled When lo, a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum-ble Christ was born;



*Refrain*



Be - hold, through - out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.  
Rang out the an - gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

## Christmas Letter

Hebrews 1:1-6

<sup>1</sup>Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. <sup>3</sup>He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>5</sup>For to which of the angels did God ever say,  
"You are my Son, today I have begotten you"?

Or again,  
"I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"?

<sup>6</sup>And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world,  
he says,  
"Let all God's angels worship him."



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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Incarnation Gospel — *Please stand.*

*John 1:1-14*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

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

<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 in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines 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 a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens 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 know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

### Love Came Down at Christmas

LW 46



1 Love came down at Christ - mas,      Love all love - ly,      Love di - vine;  
2 Wor - ship we the God - head,      Love in - car - nate,      Love di - vine;  
3 Love shall be our to - ken.      Love be yours and love be mine,



Love was born at Christ - mas,      Star and an - gels gave the sign.  
Wor - ship we our Je - sus;      But where - with for sa - cred sign?  
Love to God and all men,      Love for plea and gift and sign

## The Message – God is Back

## The Prayers of the Church

### + MEAL +

*This is Christ's table. Our Savior invites those who trust in him to share the feast which he has prepared. In this meal we truly receive the body and blood of our risen Savior, Jesus Christ. This is a great and divine mystery! Here we are joined with God and all the saints, and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation. Young children and those who would prefer to receive a blessing are welcome to come forward.*

*Alcohol Removed Communion Wine — The individual communion cups in the center of the tray contain denatured wine, which contains less than ½% alcohol. Gluten-free wafers are available at distribution upon request.*

### The Preface, Proper Preface and Sanctus — 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 salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

LSB 178

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

### The Our Father

- C** 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.

### Words of Institution

### Agnus Dei

LSB 180

**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of  
God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Please be seated.*

### Distribution

## + SENDING +

### Benediction

- P** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.  
**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.

# Joy to the World

LSB 387

1 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.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
 Let men their songs employ,  
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills,  
 and plains  
 Repeat the sounding joy,  
 Repeat the sounding joy,  
 Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 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.

4 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.



<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>In Honor of</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>In Honor of</b>
Damian, Pat, and Ethan Potesta Shelia Curry	The Glory of God Armed forces.	Wayland and Jane Johnson Donna Blair	Katie Johnson The Glory of God.

<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>In Memory of</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>In Memory of</b>
Nancy Kaul Aubrey Canfield Lori Coleman Joceyln Cupps Kathy Mount Mark Keyl Kathy Mount Pat Davenport The Karle Family Fred & June Songy The Lovdahl Family Alicia Liverett	Art Kaul Doris Canfield Dewayne Powe Doris Canfield Jill Kingery Jack & Audrey Keyl Philip Mount Richard & Connie Werner Sean Graham Their Parents William & Marilyn Lovdahl Thomas C. LeFan IV	Teresa and Shawn Jerry & Debbie Frederick Nancy Kaul Wayland & Jane Johnson Jerry & Debbie Frederick Scott & Helen Hollingsworth Wayland & Jane Johnson Jerry & Debbie Frederick Warner & Darlene Boortz Dennis & Lillian Smith Jerry & Debbie Frederick Wayland & Jane Johnson	Carl Debbie's Parents Eddie McMillan Irene Amason Jerry's Parents Sammie Jo W.A. Amason Lisa Marie Frederick Their Parents Their Parents Stacy Mae Garland Wayland Johnson Sr.