



CONCORDIA

Lutheran Church
Preschool & University Ministry

1015 NE Orchard Dr. Pullman, WA 99163
(509) 332-2830, www.concordiapullman.org

Matt Gulseth,
Pastor
matt.gulseth@concordiapullman.org

Ann Summerson,
Campus Ministry
ann.summerson@concordiapullman.org

Elizabeth O'Loughlin,
Church Life
Coordinator
ElizabethOloughlin@concordiapullman.org

Amber King,
Preschool Director
preschool@concordiapullman.org

Jodie Stahlecker,
Administrative
Assistant
jodie.stahlecker@concordiapullman.org

Here is the link to the live stream: <https://youtu.be/EX3fOiBmlIc>

SEEING OUR SALVATION

AS WE GATHER

The Epistle for the First Sunday after Christmas brings a one-sentence summary of the Christmas message as Paul writes it to the Christians of Galatia. "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son" (Galatians 4:4). God knew the exact right time for His beloved Son to come to earth, this sin-filled world. God had a plan for salvation that was carried out faithfully and completely by Jesus. In the days after Christmas, we have the opportunity to reflect on the importance of the Christmas message. We have received the greatest of all gifts. Through Jesus Christ, we are heirs of God and have an eternal inheritance!

+ PREPARATION +

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Luke 2:30, 32; Psalm 71:19, 23

P Alleluia! My eyes have seen Your salvation,

C a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel. Alleluia!

P Your righteousness, O God, reaches the high heavens.

C You who have done great things, O God, who is like You?

P My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to You;

C my soul also, which You have redeemed.

352 LET THE EARTH NOW PRAISE THE LORD

sts. 1-5



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has truly
2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,
4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of
5 Bruise for me the ser - pent's head That, set free from



kept His word And at last to us did send
heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me
doubt and dread, I may cling to You in faith,



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.
Safe - ly kept through life and death.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** People redeemed by the Lord, let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.
- C** **Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We repent of having sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have left undone those things we ought to have done; we have done those things we ought not to have done. We have not lived our lives fully in the freedom won for us by our Lord. We have not always shared the bounty You have given us as stewards of Your creation. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus, our Savior. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us to change what is sinful in our lives that each day we grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.**
- P** God has promised pardon, life, and salvation because of the atoning sacrifice of His beloved Son, who has replaced slavery to sin with a priceless inheritance of freedom and joy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.
- C** **Amen.**

+ WORD +

INTROIT

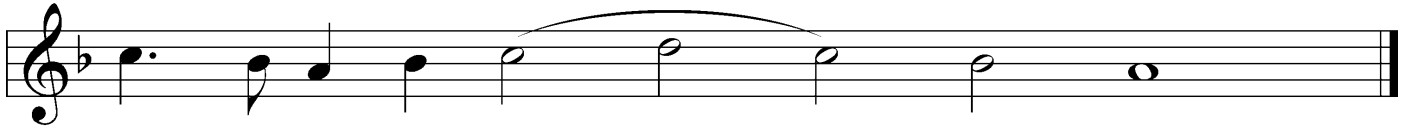
Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:10

- C** **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.**
- P** *Oh 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.*
- L** *The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.*
- P** *He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*
- L** *Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!*
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

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.



1 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
 2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.
 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
 Chris - te e - lei - son.
 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

Text and tune: Public domain

SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.
- C** **O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CELEBRATION OF THE DAY

- L** The days immediately following the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus on Christmas Day have been utilized by the Church as a time for special commemorations. December 26 is the Festival of St. Stephen, the first martyr, and December 27 is the Festival of St. John, one of the best known of the disciples. Known as “the disciple whom Jesus loved,” John plays a prominent part in the years of Jesus’ earthly ministry and is one of the most active of the apostles in the time after our Lord’s ascension, when the Christian Church had its beginnings. He is honored for his contributions to the New Testament, including the Gospel according to St. John, three Epistles, and the Book of Revelation, the last book of the Bible. John is commemorated in artwork, in literature, and in song. The 8th stanza of “By all Your saints in Warfare” is dedicated to John.

517 BY ALL YOUR SAINTS IN WARFARE

st. 8

2 For Your be - lov'd dis - ci - ple Ex -
 iled to Pat - mos' shore, And for his faith - ful
 rec - ord, We praise You ev - er - more. Praise
 for the mys - tic vi - sion Through him to us re -
 vealed; May we, in pa - tience wait - ing,
 With Your e - lect be sealed.

Tune: © 1993 Harlyn J. Kuschel; © 2006 Gregory J. Wismar. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005419
 Text and tune: Public domain

- Ⓛ The son of a successful fishing businessman and a caring mother, John was in the inner circle of the disciples of Jesus. From the cross, Jesus entrusted His mother, Mary, to the care of John because He knew she would be cared for in a kindly way. Tradition suggests that Mary lived with John for some fifteen years after the time of Jesus' ascension. Through the words of John's writing, we hear Jesus confidently affirm who He was and is, and why He had come to earth. "I am the bread of life; I am the resurrection and the life," He says (John 6:35; 11:25). Those words, recorded and shared by John, have inspired all generations of Christian people.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 61:10—62:3

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
 my soul shall exult in my God,
 for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
 he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
 as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
 and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
 and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
 so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
 to sprout up before all the nations.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
and her salvation as a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 111

C Praise the LORD!

P *I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.*

C Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

L *Full of splendor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever.*

C He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

P *He provides food for those who fear Him; He remembers His covenant forever.*

C He has shown His people the power of His works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

L *The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy; they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.*

C He sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever. Holy and awesome is His name! The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

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

EPISTLE

Galatians 4:4–7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,
⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because
you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are
no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GRADUAL

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

C To us a child is born, to us a son is given;

P *and the government shall be upon His shoulder.*

L *And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

C Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22–40

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

387 JOY TO THE WORLD



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Gathered as God's people and as heirs of an eternal inheritance, let us pray for the whole Church and for all who bear the name of Jesus Christ, who is our Light and our Salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P As we remember St. John, Apostle and Evangelist, we pray for the Church, asking that through her the joyous news of salvation be proclaimed as the Holy Spirit directs. Give us faith to acknowledge and rejoice in the fellowship that we share in Christ with people here and in every place, that we may see in each sister and brother in Christ a reflection of Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord of all, watch over our nation and grant Your divine favor to all who bear office in our land, especially the president and Congress of the United States, the governor and legislature of this state, and to all those who make, administer, and judge our laws. Help them to serve all those in their care according to Your holy will, that we may live in peace and safety.

Save us from pestilence and plague, for unseasonable weather, and the dangers that are ever-present in our lives. Grant us Your blessing as one calendar year closes and another begins. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give a special measure of blessing to those with special needs. Especially we remember the sick, the shut-in, those dealing with depression, those who sorrow, and others known to us who at this time are in need of prayer. Help us to be people who bless, encourage, and strengthen all those in our circles of relationship and beyond. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Sovereign Lord, we remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You, who now rest from their labors, [*especially* . . .]. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring

us at last to the joys of heaven. Bless the communion we share on earth as we await the Supper of the Lamb in His kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION

P Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold to what is good, return no person evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor all of God's people, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The almighty God—the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless you and keep you and give you peace.

C Amen.

ALL GLORY BE TO CHRIST

To the tune of Auld Lang Syne

- 1 Should nothing of our efforts stand
No legacy survive
Unless the Lord does raise the house
In vain its builders strive
- 2 To you who boast tomorrow's gain
Tell me what is your life
A mist that vanishes at dawn
All glory be to Christ!
- 3 His will be done
His kingdom come
On earth, as is above
Who is Himself our daily bread
Praise Him the Lord of love

Ref. All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!

His rule and reign we'll ever sing,
All glory be to Christ!

- 4 Let living water satisfy
The thirsty without price
We'll take a cup of kindness yet
All glory be to Christ!

Ref. All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign we'll ever sing,
All glory be to Christ!

- 5 When on the day the great I Am
The faithful and the true
The Lamb who was for sinners slain
Is making all things new.

- 6 Behold our God shall live with us
And be our steadfast light
And we shall ere his people be
All glory be to Christ!

Ref. All glory be to Christ our king!
All glory be to Christ!
His rule and reign will ever sing,
All glory be to Christ!

Text: © 2012 Dead Bird Theology, admin. Music Services (ASCAP). Used by permission: CCLI no. 11135304

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.

Prayers

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Prayers of thanks for **Barb Olson** who is celebrating her birthday this week.

Thanksgiving for **Eric & Trish Bechtel, Michelle & Daniel Walker, and Bryce & Nancy Stephenson** as they celebrate their wedding anniversaries this week.

Prayers of Comfort and Healing

For all who suffer from **anxiety and depression.**

For the Family and Friends of **Rebecca** who passed away recently.

For **Maddie** and her health issues.

For **Charles**, Jeff Tietjen's cousin's husband, and all who suffer from Covid 19

Prayers for comfort and understanding for **all those who are battling cancer.**

Healing for **Nancy Larson-Powers** as she recovers from her blood clot and operation

Comfort for Tim Olson's family as they mourn the death of his mom **Jean.**

Comfort for the family of Arney who passed away recently.

Other Prayers

Safety for **all who are traveling.**

All who serve in our **armed forces** and their **families.**

*Can we pray for you? Share your prayer requests by email at office@concordiapullman.org
or fill out one of the white cards in the pews and place it in the offering plate.*