

CHRISTMAS DAY ~ \* ~ DECEMBER 25, 2021



**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**P.O. Box 250 \* 205 West Jefferson Street**  
**Cole Camp, MO 65325**

**"Being Transformed By God's Grace To Love And Serve."**

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*If it is uncomfortable for you to stand where indicated, please feel free to remain seated. The congregation responds where it is bold print.*



## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

## Christmas Proclamation

Many ages from the time when God created the heavens and the earth and then formed man and woman in his own image; long after the great flood, when God made the rainbow shine forth as a sign of the covenant; twenty-one centuries from the time the promise was given to Abraham and Sarah; thirteen centuries after Moses led the people of Israel out of Egypt and Miriam danced in freedom; eleven hundred years from the time of Ruth and the judges; one thousand years from the anointing of David as king, in fulfillment of the times and years and months and days discerned by the prophets; in the one hundred and ninety-fourth Olympiad; the seven hundred and fifty-second year from the foundation of the city of Rome; the forty-second year of the reign of Octavian Augustus; while the whole world enjoyed a span of peace, Jesus Christ, eternal God and Son of the eternal Father, desiring to sanctify the world by his most merciful coming, being conceived by the Holy Spirit and nine months of growth in the womb of his mother — now in our own times is the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, God made flesh.

*please stand as you are able*

Opening Hymn

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

#270

## Greeting

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.**

## Lighting of Advent Candles on Christmas Day

We light the first Advent Candle: the candle of watching and waiting, for we have searched and waited for our Savior to come to us.

**We light the second Advent Candle: the candle of preparation, as we have prepared our hearts to receive the Savior.**

We light the third Advent Candle: the candle of beholding and believing, because we have seen the mighty power and love of God in our lives.

**We light the fourth Advent Candle: the candle of rejoicing, because we have been blessed with the good news of God's love for all God's people!**

Now the time is here! The One who will save us, brings God's light into our world. We light this Christ Candle in celebration of God's most precious gift to us – God's Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Halleluiah! Amen!**

Hymn of Praise

"Angels, From the Realms of Glory "

#275 (vs. 1- 2)

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.....**Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*please be seated*

First Reading

Isaiah 52:7 - 10

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." <sup>8</sup>Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. <sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing, you ruins 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 98

<sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

**<sup>4</sup>Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

<sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

**<sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

**<sup>8</sup>Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading

Hebrews 1:1 - 4

<sup>1</sup>Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,  
<sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*please stand as you are able*

Gospel Acclamation

"Love Has Come"

#292 vs. 1

Gospel

John 1:1 - 14

The Holy Gospel according to John the 1st chapter

**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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did 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 testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to 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 came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man,

but of God. <sup>14</sup>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.

The Gospel of the Lord.     **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*please be seated*

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Zeller

*please stand*

Hymn of the Day

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

#282

Nicene Creed

***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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Sharing The Peace

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*please be seated*

Offering

Offertory

"Love Has Come"

#292 (vs.2)

*Donated to ELCA*

*please stand as you are able*

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray.....Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Hear, O Lord, the prayer you taught us to pray.....**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.**

*please be seated*

HOLY COMMUNION

At the Altar

All who believe that Jesus is present in the Bread and the Wine  
and has the power to forgive are welcome to commune.

Red wine or white grape juice is available.

Our first table for Holy Communion this morning will be for those who do not wish to climb the stairs. Please watch for direction from the ushers.

### Communion Hymns

"Love Has Come"	#292 (vs.3)
"Go Tell It on the Mountain"	#290
"What Child Is This"	#296

*please stand as you are able*

### Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.....We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

### Blessing

May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas and always. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn	"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"	#288
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### Dismissal

Glory to God in the highest!

**Peace to God's people on earth!**

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

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# "WE ARE PEOPLE OF HOPE"



**Welcome:** Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice! Jesus Christ was born today long, long ago. We are pleased to have each person here to honor Christ the Lord. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1:5). With sincere joy we welcome everyone who has come to worship our Lord.

THE  
REASON  
WE  
*Celebrate*

