



“Growing in Wisdom”

*Saturday, January 2, 2021 at 5:00 pm*  
*Sunday, January 3, 2021 at 8:00 am & 11:00 am*

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

### **AS WE GATHER**

“Let our gladness have no end, alleluia!” (LSB 381:1). “Let our gladness banish sadness All throughout creation!” (LSB 371:1). These two songs of the Christmas season remind us that we are in glad times as we celebrate the birth of our Lord. This year, because of the way the days of the week fall immediately after Christmas Day, we are blessed by having not one but two Sundays after Christmas! Through the Holy Gospel today, we hear about our Lord Jesus when He was a young man—one who increased in wisdom and stature. Jesus was glad to be in God’s house when He was in Jerusalem. Our gladness in these special days is heightened by our being here for worship as we grow in wisdom and in stature by God’s endless grace!

*Please stand for portions of service marked with asterisk (\*).*

### **THE PRELUDE**

Laura Moes, Accompanist

### **RINGING OF THE BELL**

### **THE WELCOME**

Pastor Chris Matthis

**\*OPENING HYMN**

*“Joy to the World”*

LSB 387



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  
poy, 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

**+ PREPARATION +**

**\*INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and ✠ of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

**\*OPENING SENTENCES** *Hebrews 8:10–12; Psalm 122:1*

Pastor: “For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord:

People: I will put My laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

Pastor: And they shall not teach, each one his neighbor and each one his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest.

People: **For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more."**

Pastor: I was glad when they said to me,

People: **"Let us go to the house of the LORD!"**

### **\*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our gracious and heavenly Father.

People: **Eternal God, we confess that by nature we are sinful people. We have transgressed Your Law in many ways, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not always been wise in our thinking and our speaking and our actions. Our motives and thoughts have not always been pure. We deserve Your punishment now and for eternity. O God, in Your mercy forgive our sin and restore us to a full and joyful relationship with You, through the merits of Jesus, our Lord. Direct all that we do by Your Holy Spirit that in the year now beginning we joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your Commandments as Your redeemed people.**

Pastor: In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Be at peace.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### **\*KYRIE**

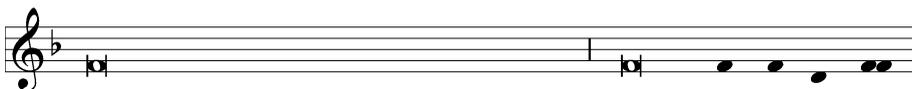
*LSB pg. 152*



Pastor: **A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



People: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



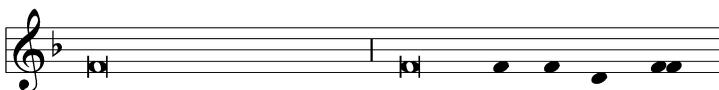
Pastor: **A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



People: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



Pastor: **A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



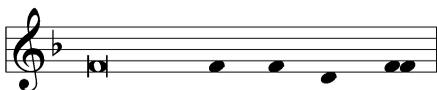
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



People: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



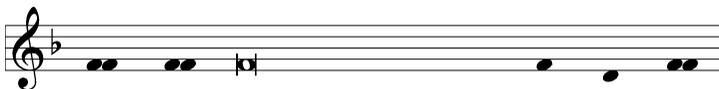
Pastor: **A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



People: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



Pastor: **A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



People: **C** A - men.



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



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



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## **\*SALUTATION**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

## **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Pastor:** Let us pray. Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

## **+ WORD +**

### **OLD TESTAMENT**

*1 Kings 3:4-15*

*(Solomon prays for wisdom.)*

The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM**

*Psalm 119:97-104*

Pastor: Oh how I love Your law!

**People: It is my meditation all the day.**

Pastor: Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,

**People: for it is ever with me.**

Pastor: I have more understanding than all my teachers,

**People: for Your testimonies are my meditation.**

Pastor: I understand more than the aged,

**People: for I keep Your precepts.**

Pastor: I hold back my feet from every evil way,

**People: in order to keep Your word.**

Pastor: I do not turn aside from Your just decrees,

**People: for You have taught me.**

Pastor: How sweet are Your words to my taste,

**People: sweeter than honey to my mouth!**

Pastor: Through Your precepts I get understanding;

**People: therefore I hate every false way**

△ **All: 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** *Ephesians 1:3-14*

*(Predestined for adoption as sons)*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of

his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**\*ALLELUIA**

LSB pg. 156

Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

**\*HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 2:40-52

*(The boy Jesus in the Temple)*

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

Glo-ry to You, O Lord.

The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were



**\*CONFESSION OF FAITH**

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And, 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.**

**OFFERING**

*“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7). We give our tithes and offerings to God as an act of worship in gratitude for the gifts He has first given us. If you wish to give electronically using a credit card or automated bank withdrawal, please scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit [www.epiphanylc.org](http://www.epiphanylc.org) and click on GIVE. As good stewards, please use credit wisely.*



*If you wish to mail your gift, send your check to Epiphany Lutheran Church, 550 E. Wolfensberger Rd., Castle Rock, CO 80109.*

**[CLICK HERE TO GIVE ELECTRONICALLY](#)**

**\*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*After each petition is read Pastor says, “Lord in Your mercy,” and Congregation responds with, “hear our prayer.”*

**\*LORD'S PRAYER** (Matthew 6:9-13)

**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

Pastor: 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.

*Numbers 6:24-26*

People: Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*CLOSING HYMN

*"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"*

LSB 366



1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo-rious song of old,  
2 Still through the clo-ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un-furled,  
3 All you, be-neath your heav-y load, By care and guilt bent low,  
4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,



From an-gels bend-ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
And still their heav'n-ly mu-sic floats O'er all the wea-ry world.  
Who toil a-long a drea-ry way With pain-ful steps and slow:  
When down in-to the cir-cling years Came Christ as was fore-told.



"Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav'n's all-gra-cious king."  
A-bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov-'ring wing,  
Look up, for gold-en is the hour, Come swift-ly on the wing,  
His word of peace shall to the earth God's an-cient prom-ise bring,



The world in sol-emn still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.  
And ev-er o'er its ba-bel sounds The bless-ed an-gels sing.  
The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an-gels sing.  
And all who take this gift will hear The song the an-gels sing.

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Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

*"We help people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ"*