



Second Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, January 2, 2022

First Lutheran Church – Sandpoint, ID

Introduction to the day

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

PRELUDE/GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 211)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

** The assembly stands. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

***GATHERING SONG** *What Child Is This* (ELW 296) Verses 1 and 3

***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.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

PSALM: Psalm 147:12-20

Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion. (*Ps. 147:12*)

¹²Worship the LORD, | O Jerusalem;
praise your | God, O Zion,

¹³**who has strengthened the bars | of your gates
and has blessed your chil- | dren within you.**

¹⁴God has established peace | on your borders
and satisfies you with the | finest wheat.

¹⁵**God sends out a command | to the earth,
a word that runs | very swiftly. R**

¹⁶God gives | snow like wool,
scattering | frost like ashes.

¹⁷**God scatters | hail like bread crumbs.**

Who can stand a- | gainst God's cold?

¹⁸The LORD sends forth the | word and melts them;
the wind blows, and the | waters flow.

¹⁹**God declares the | word to Jacob,
statutes and judg- | ments to Israel.**

²⁰The LORD has not done so to any | other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. | Hallelujah! **R**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* (ELW 270) Verse 3**

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth.

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

GOSPEL: John 1:[1-9] 10-18

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *In the Bleak Midwinter* (ELW 294)

*CREED (ELW p. 217)

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**

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

You make yourself known in the gift of language in diverse forms. Draw our attention to those who communicate through sign, braille, and technology. Make your church a place where all methods of communication are celebrated. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Creating God, the sun greets us anew each morning. Thank you for waking us up today to witness and share your abundance. Awaken us always to your wisdom and deepen our care for your natural world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Emmanuel, in your name we are assured that you are with us. Train nations and peoples to honor and respect one another, especially those whose names and identities have been mistreated, neglected, or oppressed. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You adopt us as your beloved ones. Accompany parents and children navigating the adoption process, especially those in the foster system. Sustain those struggling with infertility or pregnancy loss. Tenderly embrace all in need (*especially*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You journey with us through change. Guide those assuming new roles in this congregation or making transitions in their families, workplaces, or communities (*especially*). As the seasons and the calendar change, equip us for unexpected challenges. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We give you thanks for all who modeled lives of loving service (*especially Wilhelm Loebe, whom we commemorate today*). Lead us in your grace until, with all your saints, we enter the fullness of your glory. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, while remaining in your pew.
The assembly is seated.*

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING SONG – (Reflective Music for Time of Gratitude)

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

Take this time to reflect upon what you are grateful for as you live in the reign of God.

Offerings may be placed in the plates as you go out from this worship to live in service to God, bearing the Light of Christ throughout the week.

Or you can give online <https://firstlutheransandpoint.breezechms.com/give/online>.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach 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.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING SONG *Cold December Flies Away* (ELW 299)

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

MISSION

Praise God, Nurture Faith, Serve All

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP NOTES:

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Scripture text from the NRSV (New Revised Standard Version, sundaysandseasons.com)

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Worship Team:

Piano: Colleen Culwell

Pastors – Amber Remillard and Steve Neuder

AV/Tech - Scott Youngren and Don Farnham

Office Contact Information: T & Th 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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Prayers – Barb Wilson, Roy Gilbreath, Brett Peterson, Milt Jacobs, Jack and Darlene Dickman, Kathy Bradetich, Don Harms, Steve Harms, Debbie Haberlock, Mary Laker, David Hollyer, Frances Cavagnaro, Carrie Cummings, Alyssa Grant, Betty Mitchell, George Marker, Chris Ingham; Charles Shobe Sr., Nicky Schripsema, Kara Schripsema, Trey Haberlock, Tom Taylo, Hunter Taylor; Mike Shobe; Marguerite Suttmeier, Janet Merrill, and those on your hearts and minds today.

The Family and Friends of Kathryn Braatz • Luther Park residents, their families, and staff.
All healthcare workers and facilities trying to offer care during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Save the Date:

Congregation Budget Meeting:

January 23rd after Services.

Annual Congregation Meeting and Elections:

February 6th after Services.

- **The Meetings will be available in person in the Fellowship Hall and also via Zoom.**