

CIRCUMCISION AND NAME OF JESUS

December 31, 2023

10AM Combined Service

PRELUDE

In Dulci Juilo/Von Himmel Hoch

H. Schroeder

WELCOME

Pastor Patton

OPENING HYMN

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

LSB 386

- 1 Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!
- 2 Come from on high to me; I cannot rise to Thee.
Cheer my wearied spirit, O pure and holy Child;
Through Thy grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
Draw me unto Thee! Draw me unto Thee!
- 3 Now through His Son doth shine The Father's grace divine.
Death was reigning o'er us Through sin and vanity
Till He opened for us A bright eternity.
May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!
- 4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing With all His saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light.
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

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OPENING

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever;

People: with my mouth I will make known Your faithfulness to all generations.

Pastor: Your righteousness, O God, reaches the high heavens.

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

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

People: my soul also, which You have redeemed.

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD forever!

People: Amen and Amen.

CONFESSION AND GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: People redeemed by the Lord, let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

(A Time for Silent reflection on God's Word and self-examination)

Pastor: Merciful God,

People: we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We repent of having sinned in thought, in word, and in deed. So often we have left undone those things which we ought to have done and have done those things which we ought not to have done. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask for the grace and forgiveness that we know to be ours in Jesus, our Savior. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us, heavenly Father, to change what is sinful in our lives so that each day we grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.

Pastor: 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 of your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Gracious God of endings and beginnings, we commit to Your grace and forgiveness the year now being completed, and commend to Your kindness and love the year about to begin. Throughout the coming weeks and months make the presence of Your Holy Spirit known in our lives, guarding us from old habits, and drawing us ever closer to Jesus. As we continue in our baptismal grace, teach us to grow in bonds of love and care for those in our lives, awaiting the joy of eternal life in Your glorious presence. This we ask for the sake of Jesus, our Savior.

People: Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD

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. **62** For 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.

Galatians 4:4–7

⁴But when 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH (Preparation to Lift us up to hear the Gospel)

A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."
(*Isaiah 40:3*)

† ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

LSB 205

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 2nd chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Luke 2:21–40

²¹And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. ²²And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him 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.”

³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴ And 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.”

³⁶ And 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, ³⁷ and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸ And 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. ³⁹ And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

A CHRISTMAS CREED *(from Colossians 1:15-20)*

[We believe that Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Alyssa Breuer

GOD'S MESSAGE FOR YOU

At the 'Rite' Time

Pastor Penny

THE OFFERING OF GIFTS AND SIGNING OF FRIENDSHIP PADS

Everyone, please sign the friendship pad, then pass the pad from the outside aisle to the inside aisle.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Sweet Little Jesus

James Harr, tenor

R. MacGimsey

PRAISES AND PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CHRIST COMES TO US IN HOLY COMMUNION

Pastor Penny

† THE PREFACE (We Begin the Order of the Sacrament)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: **(do not print or project)** It is truly good, right, and proper that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, merciful and everlasting God, whom we are privileged to call upon as our Father. Mercifully grant that we

may live in thankfulness for the assurance of our salvation, through Christ, the long-awaited Messiah. As we celebrate this last day of the year at Your Table of grace, reveal to us Your glorious presence, now and always. With angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, forevermore praising You and singing:

THE SANCTUS (Our God is Holy)

LSB 208

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PAX DOMINI (We extend the Lord's Peace to one another)

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you. Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI (The Lamb of God takes away our sin)

LSB 210

- 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
- 2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION Holy Communion is offered in individual cup format. *The lighter colored individual cups are a non-alcoholic wine. All who believe in the special meaning of Holy Communion are invited.*

From Heaven above to Earth I Come

LSB 358 (vv. 1-3, 13-15)

- 1 "From heav'n above to earth I come To bear good news to ev'ry home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring, Whereof I now will say and sing:
- 2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
This little child of lowly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
- 3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will Himself your Savior be From all your sins to set you free."
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart For You to dwell within my heart.
- 14 My heart for very joy must leap; My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue That sweetest ancient cradlesong:
- 15 Glory to God in highest heav'n, Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth A glad new year to all the earth.

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***Gratitude
We Three Kings of Orient Are***

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

***We Have A Savior
Promise***

Morgan, Glover

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: (Do not print or project) We give thanks to You, heavenly Father, that You have assured us of sins forgiven, so that with joy we may share in Your love each day, until Your Son returns to usher us into Your eternal presence; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION (God's Blessing)

CLOSING SONG

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Mercy Me

POSTLUDE

This Little Light of Mine

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