

INVOCATION

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

C **Amen**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.

C **Amen.**

INTROIT

Ps. 98:1– 4; antiphon: Is. 9:6

P For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

C **and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

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.

C **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.

THANKSGIVING

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C **and His mercy endureth forever.**

P Let us pray.....who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ne God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Bless we the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

C **Amen, amen, amen**

CLOSING HYMN

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n
and nature sing

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills,
and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

POSTLUDE

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

J. Innes

LORD'S PRAYER

P 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.

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LSB 197

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing **LSB 380**

O Little Town of Bethlehem **LSB 361**

Away in a Manger **LSB 364**

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear **LSB 366**

Angels We Have Heard on High **LSB 368**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

C Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

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.

P For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

C and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

KYRIE

LSB 186

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS Glory to God in the Highest

LSB 187-189

SALUTATION

P *The Lord be with you.*

C And with thy spirit.

COLLECT FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

P Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 62:10-12

¹⁰Go through, go through the gates; prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway; clear it of stones; lift up a signal over the peoples.

¹¹Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to the daughter of Zion, "Behold, your salvation comes; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." ¹²And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD; and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

GRADUAL

P To us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder. And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

Special Music-by Katelyn Lohr

EPISTLE

Titus 3:4-7

⁴But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

L This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God!**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:15–20

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

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.

SERMON HYMN

A Great and Mighty Wonder

LSB 383

SERMON **“Outward Celebration-Inward Contemplation”** *Luke 2:15-20*

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen

OFFERING

Still, Still, Still

Ladies Ensemble

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each Petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy

-OR-

P Let us pray to the Lord

C **Hear our prayer**

C **Lord, have mercy**

After the final Petition:

P...who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the LORD, our God.

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

P *It is truly meet, right, and salutary... evermore praising You and singing:*

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.