

Peace Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod 737 Barracksview Road St. Louis, MO 63125-5409 (314) 892-5610

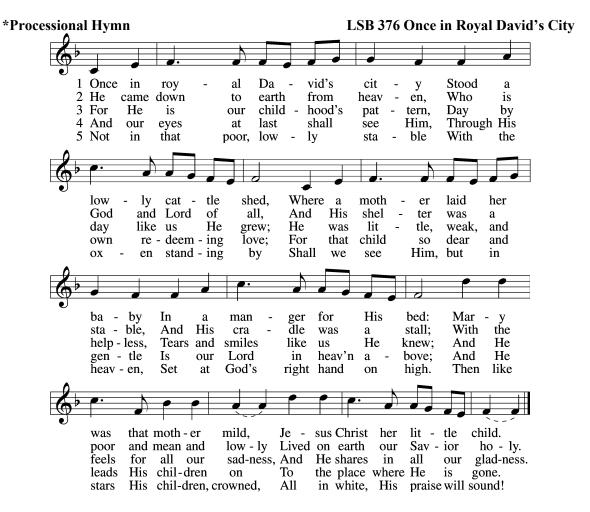
The Rev. Dr. Jon C. Furgeson, Senior Pastor, 314-601-1039 Rev. Robert M. Brown, Associate Pastor, 618-580-8817 The Rev. Dr. Dennis A. Kastens, Pastor Emeritus Burnell L. Hackman, Director of Music Ministry Christina Stackle, Director of Christian Education Sue Velten, Director of Early Childhood

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

DECEMBER 25, 2022

Opening Voluntaries

Carol of The Bells Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Mykda Leontovych/Charles Evans Mendelssohn/Jeff Cranfill



*Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

- **P** In the beginning was the Word,
- And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- **P** In Him was life,
- **C** And the life was the light of men.
- P The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
- The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.
- **P** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
- And the government shall be upon His shoulder,
- P And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
- **C** Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- P The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,
- **Q** And all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

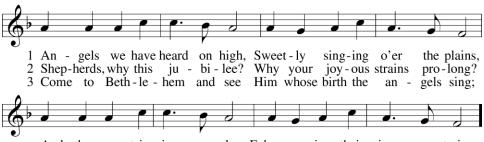
*Confession and Absolution

John 1:4-5; Isaiah 52:10

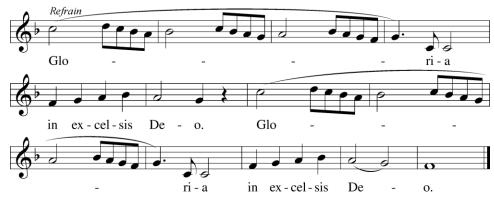
- P Jesus, Word made flesh, You came to dwell among us, but the darkness of our sin separates and we often fail to bask in the light of Your presence.
- We are sinful and unclean; we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.
- P John writes in our Gospel lesson, "In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." Heavenly Father, too frequently we live in the darkness of unbelief.
- **C** Forgive us, Lord, for those sins we know, and those sins we do not know.
- P 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.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to be born into this world and in our flesh for us, to live a perfect life we can never attain, and to give His life as a perfect sacrifice for you. For His sake, He forgives you all your sins. Christ was born to live for us, to die for us, that we by faith will rise with Him in victory. He was born as our Savior to forgive. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- **P** The LORD has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,
- **C** And all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

*Hymn of Praise

LSB 368 Angels We Have Heard on High



And the moun-tains in re-ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains. What the glad-some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song? Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.



*Salutation

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

*Collect of the Day

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7–10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The 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.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle Hebrews 1:1–12

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." ⁷Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire."

⁸But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. ⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

¹⁰And, "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; ¹¹they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, ¹²like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end."

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

*Verse John 1:14

P Alleluia. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. Alleluia.

*Holy Gospel John 1:1–18

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.
- 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 were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him,

who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me."") ¹⁶And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

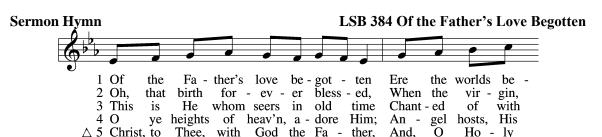
- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

*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

"Light Shining in the Darkness"

(John 1:1-18)

Sermon Notes:

Offering

Offertory Anthem

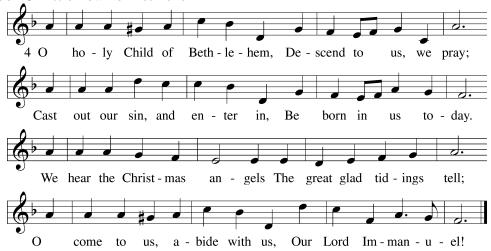
Silent Night

STILL NACHT/Jeff Cranfill

*Prayer of the Church

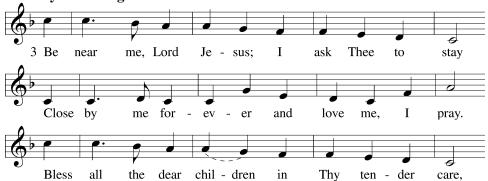
Let us pray in song and in words spoken for the Church of God and for all people according to their needs.

*LSB 361 O Little Town of Bethlehem



- P Father, on this day we recall how great is Your love for us, sending Your Son into our world as an infant, to be our Savior and to forgive our sins.
- C Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift.

*LSB 364 Away in a Manger





- P Jesus, on this day we recall how great is Your love for us; You came from heaven to live on earth as one of us, and one with us, to forgive our sin.
- **C** Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift.

*LSB 358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come



- P Holy Spirit, on this day we recall how great is Your love for us, gathering us together through the water of Baptism and nourishing our faith through the Word and the body and blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sin.
- Thank You, Lord, for this Christmas gift given, received, and kept unto life eternal.
- Gracious Lord, You have bared Your holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, that the ends of the earth shall see Your salvation. Even amid Christmas peace and joy, we experience the hurt and harm of this world. We lift up all those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, *[especially . . .]*. Reach out to them with Your holy arm and the light of our Savior that they may be comforted in their time of need, seeing the salvation You have prepared for all through faith.

Additional petitions may follow.

- P All these things we bring before You, through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.
- C Amen.

*LSB 389 Let All Together Praise Our God



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

*The Words of Our Lord

*Proclamation of Christ

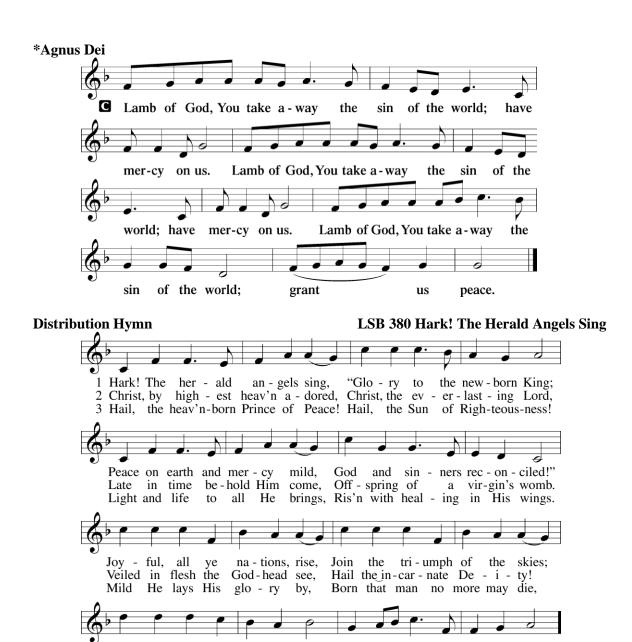
- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

*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.

*Pax Domini

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



With the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!" Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im-man-u - el! Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec-ond birth.



Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing, "Glo-ry to the new-born King!"

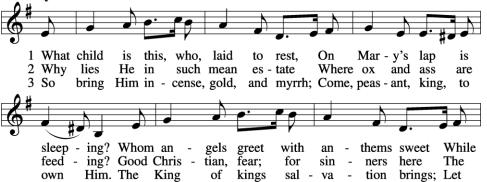


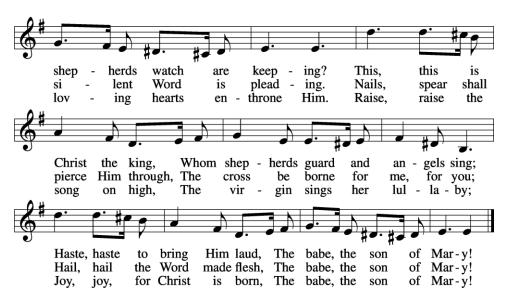
LSB 359 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

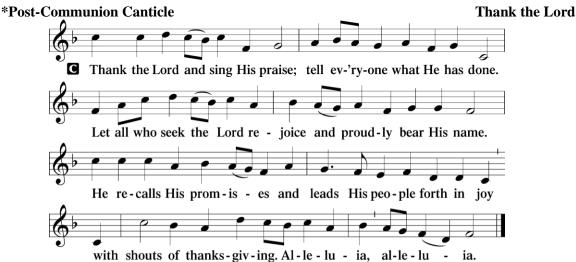




LSB 370 What Child Is This





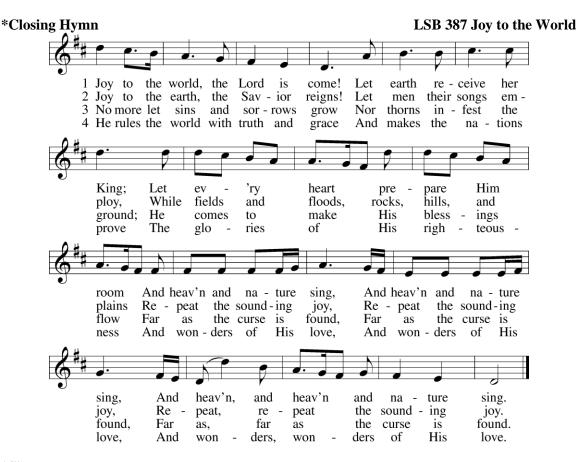


*Post-Communion Thanksgiving

*Benediction

- The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and

 → give you peace.
- C Amen.



*Silent Prayer

Closing Voluntary

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH/Jeff Cranfill

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP:

Preacher: Pastor Robert Brown
Liturgist: Pastor Jon Furgeson
Pastor July Laborator Day
Pastor July Laborator Day
Pastor Robert Brown
Pastor Robert

Organist: Burnell Hackman, DMM

Choir: Peace Brass

Choir Director: Burnell Hackman, DMM

KFUO AM 850 Announcer/Audio Engineer/Video Engineer: B. Uthoff/D. Gerfen/B. Hentchel Elders: 9:00: Art Hoeferlin, Alan Hopfer; 10:30: Erik Lunsford, Ken Werkmeister Ushers: 9:00: John Roesch, Joe Roesch, Bill Schlegel, Gerry Schramm, Ed Stackle;

10:30: Mike Murphy, Caleb Mirly, Lynn Oster, Roger Rakers, Matt Thiel, Bob

Uthoff, Rob Uthoff, Ken Werkmeister

Altar Comm: Bonna Mayer and Kelly Pfund

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2022

<u>CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS</u> now adorn our Sanctuary. A list of those who purchased poinsettias is displayed in the Commons. Please note, poinsettias may be picked up from the Commons the weekend of January 7 and 8.

<u>2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES</u> Just a reminder, please use your 2023 envelopes beginning the weekend of January 1, 2023.

<u>USHERS NEEDED</u> We are looking for men who are willing to serve on an usher team — one of the easiest ways to serve the congregation. You will typically serve only one Saturday/Sunday per month with the exception of months with special services (e.g., Lent, Advent, Christmas, etc.) A signup sheet is on the Commons counter with the usher needs by service time. For more information, please contact Barry Hammon at barry.hammon@wwt.com or 314-703-9960.

<u>NEW MEMBER CLASSES</u> begin on Sunday, January 8, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Sanctuary Hall and continue for six weeks. Sign up is available on our website and on the bulletin board in the commons. A light lunch will be provided each week. For more information, please contact the church office.

<u>NEW CLASS BEGINS JANUARY 8 DURING EDUCATION HOUR</u> If you've ever felt like you just can't get in control of your money, you're not alone. You'd be surprised how many people you know are struggling just like you. But it's time for your struggle to end and learn how you can pay off debt, save more money, and build wealth. Peace is hosting a 9-week, Financial Peace University Class, beginning Sunday, January 15, from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Kitchen Meeting Room. The class will be led by Pastor Brown and Grant Ellis. To register, please type fpu.com/1157305 into your web browser. Please contact the church office for more information.

<u>THANK YOU</u> from Social Ministry for the wonderful response to the Adopt-a-Family program this year. There were 31 families adopted this year totaling 100 people! Jesus said in Matthew 25:40, "Whatever you do for the least of these, you do it for me." Merry Christmas and God's Blessings to all of you in 2023.

2ND QUARTER DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS are on the Commons Counter if interested.

<u>NEW BAPTISM CLASS OFFERED IN JANUARY</u> If you are planning to have your baby/child baptized, we are offering a one-time class for parents and/or caregivers. This class will cover the basics of baptism, along with the logistics of baptisms at Peace. The first time the class will be offered is Sunday, January 8, from 9:15-10:15 a.m. in the Commons Conference Room. To register, go online to our Peace website, www.peacelutheranstl.org.

YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS POTLUCK is next Saturday, January 7, at 6:30 p.m. in Sanctuary Hall. Please bring a nice hors d'oeuvre or a dessert to share. Also bring a "white elephant" gift (\$10-\$15 value) for our gift exchange. Questions? See Sarah Baese.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 25, 2022

Monday, December 26: CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

6:00pm – Crossfire Volleyball

Tuesday, December 27: 9:00am – Quilters

Thursday, December 29: 6:00pm – Crossfire Volleyball

Friday, December 30: 12:00pm – Middle School Movie and Open Gym

<u>Saturday, December 31:</u> 5:00pm – Worship Service

Sunday, January 1: 8:00am – Worship Service

9:20am – Worship Service 10:30am – Worship Service