

St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church  
1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

10:00 a.m. Communion Service

*Christmas 2*

**Introduction for 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.

## Gathering

Prelude

*Angel Carols* arr. by Lloyd Larson

Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Sheila Rawn

*(Please stand as you are able)*

Confession and Forgiveness

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

**Amen.**

The True Light came into the world, but the world did not recognize him.

**The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the Word made flesh, the Lord and giver of life. Let us come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God's mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of peace,

**we confess that we are not at peace—with others or with ourselves. We bring to you all that tears us apart: discord in our families, violence in our world, our own conflicted hearts. In your mercy, mend us. Reconnect us to one another and to you. Let peace reign over all the earth, through the Prince of peace, our Savior Jesus Christ.**

In the Word who has come to dwell with us, God has given us grace upon grace:

forgiveness that is stronger than our sins, love that can heal every broken heart.

Hear this word of God's pardon and peace: in the name of Jesus our Savior, you are free from all your sins. Rise, shine, for your light has come.

**The glory of the Lord has shone upon us, in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*In anticipation of the Feast of Epiphany, celebrated on January 6<sup>th</sup> we sing our opening Carol.*

Gathering Carol

**We Three Kings of Orient Are**



1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far,
2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him a - gain,
3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a De - i - ty nigh;
4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom;
5. Glo - rious now be - hold Him a - rise; King and God and sac - ri - fice:



field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
 prayer and prais - ing, voic - es rais - ing, wor - ship Him, God on high.  
 sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, sounds through the earth and skies.



O \_\_\_\_\_ star of won - der, star of light, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light.

Text: John Henry Hopkins, Jr., 1857, based on Matthew 2:1-11. Music: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. 1857. Tune: Kings of Orient 88 86 with Refrain.

Litany for the Second Sunday of Christmas

The True Light came into the world, but the world did not recognize him.

**Enlighten the eyes of our hearts, so that we may see you and know you.**

This True Light came into the world to make us God's children.

**This True Light calls us to testify to the light.**

So that all people may come to know the gifts he gives.

**The gift of hope, the gift of wisdom, the gift of glory, and the gift of grace upon grace.**

Apostolic Greeting

Good news of great joy, light and grace and peace be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

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.**

## *In the Beginning Was the Word*

### Word

*(Please be seated)*

## First Reading

Jeremiah 31:7-14

*God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

Psalm 147

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

A reading from Psalm 147.

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

**who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.**

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

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

God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

**God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?**

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

**God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.**

The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments.

Hallelujah!

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## 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.*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## Gospel Acclamation

**Go Tell It on the Mountain****Refrain**

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;  
go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

**Verse**

Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born; and  
God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn. \_\_\_\_\_ *to Refrain*

Music: African American Spiritual. Tune: Go Tell It 78 76 76 76. Text: African American Spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr. 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.

## Gospel

John 1:1-18

*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, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Gospel of the Lord for you this day.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

Sermon

Pastor Sheila Rawn

*(Please stand as you are able)*

Hymn of the Day

**#295 Of the Father's Love Begotten***(Prayer Cards will be collected during the hymn of the day.)*

Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

**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.**

*(Please be seated)*

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.

...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.**

Sharing the Peace of Christ

At the birth of Christ the angels sang a song of peace and goodwill. May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*And the Word was Made Flesh*

*Meal*

*(Please be seated)*

Musical Offering

*I Wonder as I Wander*, an Appalachian Carol

arr. by John Jacob Niles; Jan Johnson, Soloist

*(Please stand as you are able)*

Offertory Carol

**#292 Love Has Come**

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution

## The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## Invitation to Communion

The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory.

**Make yourself known to us, O Christ, in the breaking of the bread and the sharing  
of the cup.**

Come with joy to the feast.

*(Please be seated)*

Communion Hymn

**#282 It Came upon the Midnight Clear**

*(Please stand as you are able)*

## Post-Communion Response

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which you have now just received,  
strengthen you and keep you in his love and grace.

**Amen.**

## Prayer after Communion

We give you thanks, O God, that in this bread and cup of Christ's very life, you give us  
food for our journey. As you led the magi by a star, as you brought the holy  
family home again, guide us on the way unfolding before us. Wherever we go,  
may our lives proclaim good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*And Dwelt Among Us.*

Sending

## New Year's Litany

As a new year begins, we ask ourselves, "Where are we headed? What's in store for our  
lives?"

**Lead us, O Lord, in the way we should go.**

Joseph listened to the angel of the Lord and took Mary and Jesus to Egypt.

**May we too be ready to listen and go where you guide.**

The shepherds on the hillside heard the words of the angel of God and ran to Bethlehem to see the Savior.

**May we too heed the call and go with haste to where you are.**

The disciples followed what you said, O Lord, and went into all the world proclaiming the good news.

**May we too be prepared to spread the Gospel message to people everywhere.**

With the Lord directing our ways, our journey through life will be blessed.

**We will go out in joy and be led back in peace.**

#### Blessing

God is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. May God grant you grace and peace at the dawn of this new year.

**Amen.**

The past, the present, and the future rest in God's hands. May God guard your coming in and your going forth, this new year and forevermore.

**Amen.**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

#### Dismissal

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### Postlude

*March of the Three Kings* arr. by Gilbert Martin

*And of His Reign There Will Be No End!*

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14**

For thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
proclaim, give praise, and say,  
"Save, O LORD, your people,  
the remnant of Israel."

<sup>8</sup>See, I am going to bring them from the land of  
the north,  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the  
earth,  
among them the blind and the lame,  
those with child and those in labor, together;  
a great company, they shall return here.

<sup>9</sup>With weeping they shall come,  
and with consolations I will lead them back,  
I will let them walk by brooks of water,  
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

<sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,  
and declare it in the coastlands far away;  
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,  
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

<sup>11</sup>For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,  
and has redeemed him from hands too strong  
for him.

<sup>12</sup>They shall come and sing aloud on the height  
of Zion,  
and they shall be radiant over the goodness  
of the LORD,  
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,  
and over the young of the flock and the herd;  
their life shall become like a watered garden,  
and they shall never languish again.

<sup>13</sup>Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
and the young men and the old shall be merry.  
I will turn their mourning into joy,  
I will comfort them, and give them gladness  
for sorrow.

<sup>14</sup>I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,  
says the LORD.

or Sirach 24:1-12 [not printed]

**Psalms 147:12-20**

or Wisdom 10:15-21

**SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14**  
[not printed]

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

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

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

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

<sup>14</sup>And 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. <sup>15</sup>(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.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.