



THE CHILD GREW AND
BECAME STRONG,
FILLED WITH
WISDOM;
AND THE FAVOR OF GOD
WAS UPON HIM.

Luke 2:40

December 26, 2021

9:00 a.m.

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

1310 Evergreen Heights Drive

Woodland Park, CO 80863-3304

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Pastor: Rev. Ronald Baker

How does God's kingdom come?

God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity. *Luther's Small Catechism*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

is a miracle in bread and wine! By the Word of Christ, His very body and very blood are truly present in this gift. Based on Scripture, we ask everyone to examine themselves prior to receiving the Lord's Supper:

1. Do I acknowledge that I am a sinner and deserve God's wrath and eternal punishment?
2. Am I truly sorry for my sins?
3. Do I believe that Jesus Christ died for me and shed His blood on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins?
4. Do I desire, with God's help, to conform my life to God's Word?
5. Do I believe that the true body and blood of Christ are miraculously present in the bread and wine in this meal?

If you join us, young children are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing but are generally not served communion until they have gone through instruction, typically during 6th-8th grade. Guests who desire to commune but have questions about our understanding of this Sacrament are encouraged to speak with the pastor or an elder before the service.

The individual cups in the outer rings of the tray are filled with wine. If you prefer non-alcoholic wine, please choose an individual cup in the center of the tray. You may choose to receive a gluten free wafer from the center of the table.

During communion distribution, ushers will show you forward. Fill in the rails from the outside toward the center. After you are finished receiving, each group will be given the Blessing. You may then return to your seat.

Record of Fellowship

The Elders will distribute the Record of Fellowship pads during the offering. Please sign each person's name on a separate line (adults and children on separate lines) and indicate in the boxes if you are communing today, are a visitor, and wish to be contacted. If you have a change of address or other information please include that information or call the church office with the details. Pass the pad toward the center aisle of the church. Thank you and welcome!

As We Gather

Are you prepared for heaven? Admittedly, this is an odd question when we are celebrating Jesus' birth. Yet, Jesus was born to die to save His people from their sins. As Simeon held the Christ Child, he couldn't help but say, "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word," while also telling Mary, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed." That opposition eventually brought about His death on a cross. Yet, Jesus was born to die and rise to life again so that all who believe in Him might live! That is the best Christmas gift ever.

Prelude

Of the Father's Love Begotten LSB 384

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Hymn of Praise



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament **Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15**

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²“Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”

³Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .

¹¹“When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, ¹²you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD’s. ¹³Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. ¹⁵For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm **Psalm 111; antiphon: v. 9a, b**

¹Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,*
in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

²Great are the works | of the LORD,*
studied by all who de- | light in them.

³Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,*
and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

⁴He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;*
the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

⁵He provides food for those who | fear him;*
he remembers his covenant for- | ever.

⁶He has shown his people the power | of his works,*
in giving them the inheritance of the | nations.

⁷The works of his hands are faith- | ful and just;*

all his precepts are | trustworthy;
⁸they are established forever and | ever,*
 to be performed with faithfulness and up- | rightness.
⁹He sent redemption to his people;
 he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.*
 Holy and awesome | is his name!
¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
 all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.*
 His praise endures for- | ever!

Epistle *Colossians 3:12–17*

¹²Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Holy Gospel *Luke 2:22-40*

P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.*

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] 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.”

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

³⁶And 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, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day.

³⁸And 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.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Let All Together Praise Our God *LSB 389*

Sermon

“Glimpses of the Incarnate”

Luke 2:40

Stand

Apostles’ Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

After each portion of the prayers:

P Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Offering

Offertory

What shall I render to the Lord
for all His benefits to me?

Create In Me

Music by David Fellingham
Words adapted from Ps 51:7,10

A C#m D A D

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O — God, and re - new a right

6 E A E A C#m D

spir - it in me. — Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O —

12 A D E A A7 D

God, and re - new a right spir - it in me. — Wash me,

18 A E A D A B7

cleanse me, pur - i - fy me, make my heart as white as

24 E A C#m D

snow. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O —

28 A D E A

God, and re - new a right spir - it in me. —

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for our Prince of Peace who prepares us for heaven through His perfect life, death, and resurrection. We praise and thank You for the revelation You gave Simeon as he held the Christ Child in his arms and for Anna, who shared the news of His birth that has reached our ears as well. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near.

With thankful hearts we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C **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.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

(We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.)

Agnus Dei

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Music

The First Noel

Joy to the World LSB 387

Nunc Dimittis *Song of Simeon*

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We thank You, our newborn King, for You have given us the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation. Let Your Word and this Meal dwell within us richly, empowering us to live lives as Your chosen ones—lives lived with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience as we bear with one another in love and forgive others as You forgive us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

A Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P 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.**

Let Our Gladness Have No End *LSB 381*

Postlude

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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