

## Second Sunday of Christmas

January 3, 2021

*Shared on Augsburg Lutheran Church YouTube Channel*

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.

*The mission of Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God  
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through  
worship, witness, education, service and fellowship.*

## **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Setting Four*

*The paraments are white, calling to mind the purity of the newborn Christ, and to our light and joy in him.*

## **✠ GATHERING ✠**

### **ACCLAMATION**

Timothy Olsen

Alleluia. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. Alleluia.

*(Psalm 98:3)*

### **PRELUDE** Good King Wenceslas

arr. Bruce W. Tippet

*Adult Handbell Choir*

*We stand.*

### **RINGING OF THE BELL**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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

**Amen.**

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you  
and worthily magnify your holy name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin  
and cannot free ourselves.**

**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.**

**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.**

In the mercy of almighty God,

Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.

As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,  
and by his authority,

I therefore declare to you  
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,  
in the name of the Father,  
and of the ✠ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*The assembly turns to face the cross as it enters the sanctuary, following the cross as we have followed Jesus into this holy place and time of corporate worship.*

# GATHERING HYMN 289 Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

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.

*Refrain*

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo - ri - a

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

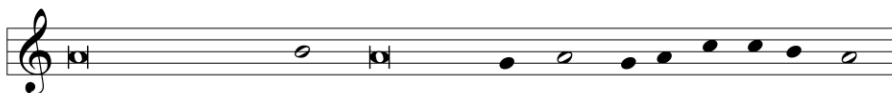
# KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



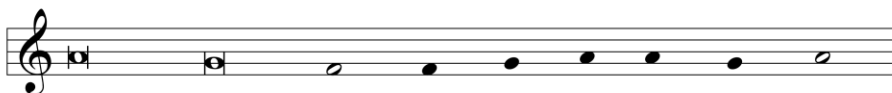
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



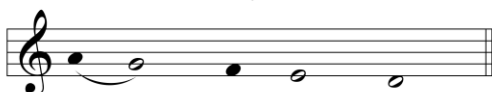
Lord, have mer - cy.



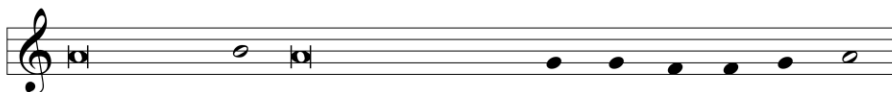
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

# HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, hea-ven-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord



God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have



mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer. For you a-lone are the



Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the



most high, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the



glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

*After the prayer the assembly responds:* **Amen.**

*We sit.*

## WELCOME

### ✠ WORD ✠

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

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." 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. 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. 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." For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. 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. 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. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 147:12-20

- <sup>12</sup>Worship the Lord, | O Jerusalem;  
praise your | God, O Zion,  
<sup>13</sup>who has strengthened the bars | of your gates  
and has blessed your chil- | dren within you.  
<sup>14</sup>God has established peace | on your borders  
and satisfies you with the | finest wheat.  
<sup>15</sup>God sends out a command | to the earth,  
a word that runs | very swiftly.  
<sup>16</sup>God gives | snow like wool,  
scattering | frost like ashes.  
<sup>17</sup>God scatters | hail like bread crumbs.  
Who can stand a- | gainst God's cold?  
<sup>18</sup>The Lord sends forth the | word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the | waters flow.  
<sup>19</sup>God declares the | word to Jacob,  
statutes and judg- | ments to Israel.  
<sup>20</sup>The Lord has not done so to any | other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. | Hallelujah!

**SECOND READING** Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**





1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -  
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the vir - gin,  
 3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with  
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his  
 5 Christ, to Thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly

gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets  
 prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him  
 Ghost, to Thee, hymn and chant with high thanks - giv - ing

he the source, the end - ing he, Of the things that are, that  
 bore the Sav - ior of our race, And the babe, the world's re -  
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -  
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be  
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -

have been, And that fu - ture years shall see,  
 deem - er, First re - vealed his sa - cred face,  
 pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord  
 si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring  
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry

ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
 A - men.

## 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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*Each portion of the prayers conclude:*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say Peace be with you or similar words.*

*We sit.*

## ✠ THANKSGIVING ✠

### OFFERING

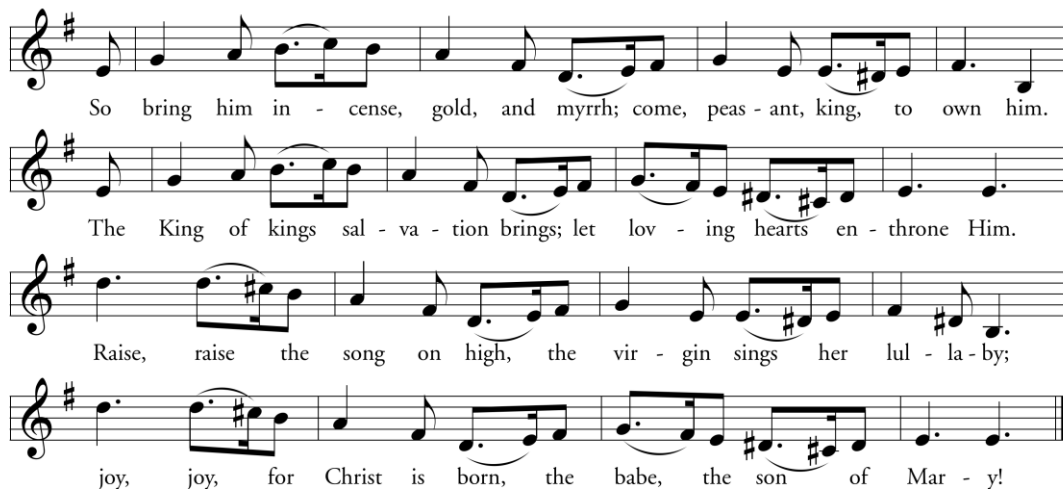
**OFFERTORY MUSIC** It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

arr. Daniel Kelley

*Susan Perkins & Jan Wahl, violin*

*We stand.*

### OFFERTORY HYMN



So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

### THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

## ✠ SENDING ✠

### BLESSING

The Lord bless you...and ✠ give you peace.



SENDING HYMN 290 Go Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

*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!

- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.  
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is born. Share the good news!

**Thanks be to God.**

**CLOSING VOLUNTARY** Go Tell It on the Mountain

Aaron David Miller

*Soli Deo Gloria*

## Announcements

**The altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God** and in thanksgiving for the Staff and Pastors of Augsburg Lutheran Church for their many gifts and ongoing commitment even during difficult times, by Jim and Kathy Walker.

**This week we keep in prayer Helen DeLooper**, 1841 Meadow Glen Lane, Winston-Salem, NC 27127-9095. Please send **Helen** a note.

**Since today's service was recorded**, we have added these names to our Prayers of Intercession: please join us in praying for Mary Zeller and the Richardson Family.

**Pastor Paul's next Bible Study starts this Tuesday**, January 5, and will be offered on Zoom at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. each week. This unit will focus on the Book of Ecclesiastes. If you've never tried Bible Study before, now is a great time to!

**Altar Flower Dedication.** Thank you to everyone who contributes to the beautiful altar flowers each week. If you are interested in dedicating flowers as a memorial or in honor of a loved one, please contact Betty Covington at [covingtonbet@gmail.com](mailto:covingtonbet@gmail.com). The cost is \$80.00.

**The Efirid L. and Maria F. Hine Fund committee will meet for its Winter Quarter** meeting on Monday, January 25, 2021 at 7:00 pm. All requests for financial grants should be directed to The Hine Fund and should be in the church office no later than 12 noon on Wednesday, January 13th. Agendas will be ready for members to pick up in the Work Room on Sunday, January 17th. Please call or email Kris Andrews if you are unable to attend the meeting.

**Please keep our Financial Secretary Joyce Holton** in your prayers as she recovers from a recent fall. Council has appointed Kris Andrews to serve as Acting Financial Secretary during Joyce's absence. There are many ways to make a tax deductible gift to support Augsburg's ministries before the end of 2020. Augsburg is able to accept gifts of securities, such as stocks, bonds and mutual funds. Please email [financialsecretary@alcws.org](mailto:financialsecretary@alcws.org) or call the church office for more information.

We keep you in prayer during our time apart. Our pastors continue to be available for your pastoral care needs. If you would like to reach a pastor, please call their cell phones, send them a text, or an email. Pastor Paul is 803-331-5970 or [seniorpastor@alcws.org](mailto:seniorpastor@alcws.org) and Pastor Lori is 336-414-2838 or [pastoralassociate@alcws.org](mailto:pastoralassociate@alcws.org)

**Readings for next week:** Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

**Worship attendance for services last week: 429 views on YouTube.**

## Providing Service Today

### *Bulletin Cover Artist*

Joanna Britt

### *Reader*

Don Eppert

### *Preaching*

Pastor Wollner

### *Quartet*

Karen Kooken, Daniele Olsen, Timothy Olsen, Bruce Tippetette

### *Greeters*

Art & Carol Kainz

### *Assisting Minister*

Pastor Carter

*The liturgical texts and music printed in today's bulletin are reprinted from the LBW, WOV and ELW, © 1978, 1995 and 2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #14658-LIT. Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-707232. All rights reserved.*

## AUGSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

845 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101

E-mail addresses available at [www.alcws.org](http://www.alcws.org)

(336) 722-8144

*A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod*

Rev. Paul A. Wollner, Senior Pastor

Rev. Lori H. Carter, Pastoral Associate for Congregational Care

Dr. Timothy Olsen, Cantor

Nancy Carbone, Parish Administrator

Kathy Barnes, Executive Assistant

Leigh Anna Voigt, Dir. of Faith Formation

Bruce Tippetette, Youth Music and Handbell Dir.

Robin Welch, Youth Coordinator

Paul Anders, WFU Divinity Student Intern

Hannah Norem, Communications Assistant

Reggie Jackson, Lead Sexton

Carl Davis and John Stepney, Sextons

*Augsburg Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation*