



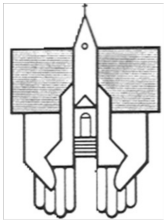
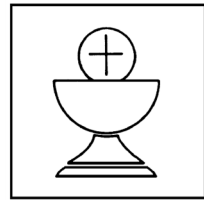
OUR REDEEMER
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod
Worship Bulletin

For 25 December 2022
THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Tod R. Rappe (910)488-6010 (W) 488-3046 (H)
Organist: Barbara Sexton
Web site: www.faylcms.org



Our practice of closed communion is the historic practice of the church. It is prompted by love, both for God's Word and for God's people. It does not deny that members of other denominations are Christians. Rather, it bows the knee to the Bible's deep concern for doctrinal truth (Rom. 16:17) and the Bible's witness that doctrinal unity is central to the common reception of this sacrament. **For this reason, guests who desire to commune are asked to speak with the pastor before the service.**



WELCOME! We invite all visitors to sign the guest register in the narthex and worship with us again. If you are not a first time visitor and are not communing, please complete the card located with communion cards in front of the pews. If you have questions about how to join our church or study the Scriptures with us, please speak with one of our Elders or the Pastor.

Each Saturday evening from 6-8PM Pastor Rappe avails himself for private confession and absolution, that which the historical Lutheran Church refers to as the third Sacrament. This is made available to those whose consciences are burdened and whose hearts are troubled. No one is forced to make private confession, as no one is forced to Baptism or the Holy Supper. Rather, this is the means of God's gospel to those who seek Him and the forgiveness of sins in Jesus.



OLD TESTAMENT

How beautiful upon the mountains
Are the feet of him who brings good news,
Who proclaims peace,
Who brings glad tidings of good things,
Who proclaims salvation,
Who says to Zion,
"Your God reigns!"
Your watchmen shall lift up their voices,
With their voices they shall sing together;
For they shall see eye to eye
When the LORD brings back Zion.
Break forth into joy, sing together,
You waste places of Jerusalem!
For the LORD has comforted His people,
He has redeemed Jerusalem.
The LORD has made bare His holy arm
In the eyes of all the nations;
And all the ends of the earth shall see
The salvation of our God.

EPISTLE

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

For to which of the angels did He ever say:

"You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You"?

And again:

"I will be to Him a Father,
And He shall be to Me a Son"?

But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says:

"Let all the angels of God worship Him."

And of the angels He says:

"Who makes His angels spirits
And His ministers a flame of fire."

But to the Son He says:

ISAIAH 52:7-10

DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Two

Hymn of Invocation.....#386
Confession & Absolution..... p.167

SERVICE OF THE WORD

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Gradual.....Psalm 8:1-2

Epistle
Collect for the Epistle

Alleluia Verse p.173

Holy Gospel
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SERMON

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Prayer..... p.183
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Closing Hymn.....#517 v. (1,7-9,3)

Announcements

Epistle continued reverse side

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever;
A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.
You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness;
Therefore God, Your God, has anointed You
With the oil of gladness more than Your companions.”

And:

“You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth,
And the heavens are the work of Your hands.
They will perish, but You remain;
And they will all grow old like a garment;
Like a cloak You will fold them up,
And they will be changed.
But You are the same,
And Your years will not fail.”

HOLY GOSPEL

JOHN 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

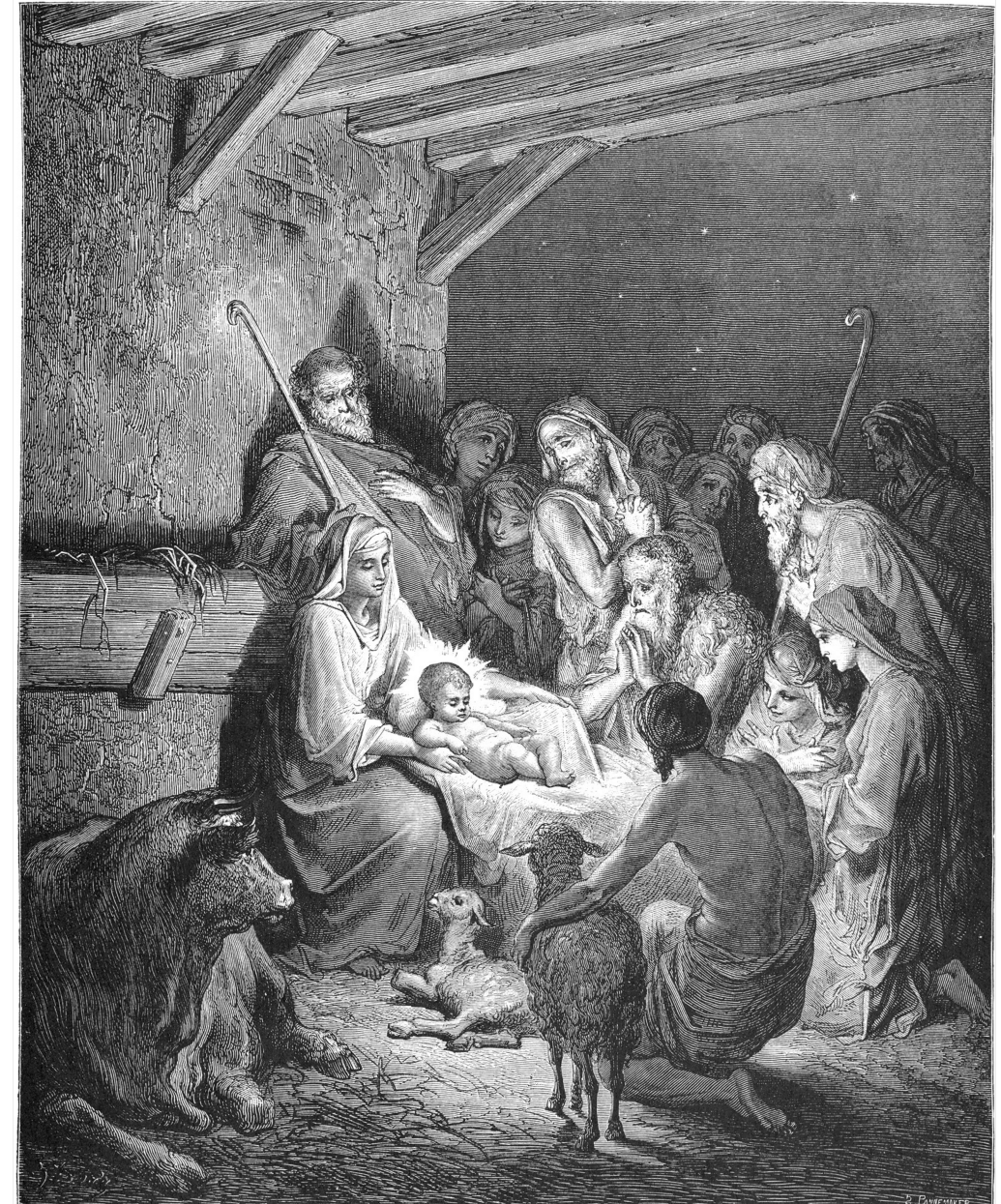
There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.’”

And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.



Worship Bulletin
For
December 25, 2022
The Nativity of Our Lord

WEEKLY EVENTS

Today (25 December)

10:30AM Nativity of Our Lord/Divine Service
11:45AM Coffee Hour

Sat. (31 December)

6-8PM Office of the Keys/Confession

Sun. (01 January)

9:00AM Adult Bible Class
10:30AM Divine Service
11:45AM Youth Confirmation
11:45AM Coffee Hour

Serving Today

Altar Guild: Kim Steffen

Acolyte: Matthew Oldenburg

Torch Bearers: Grace Heron & Rowan Price

Serving Next Sunday

Altar Guild: Chucki Davis

Acolyte: Liam Willard

Torch Bearers: Jenna Byrd & Naomi Oldenburg

While the psalmist urges us to "make a joyful noise to the Lord", he did NOT mean cell phone ringtones, children's noisy toys or other modern electronic marvels. Rather, these should be SILENT while we lift our voices and hearts in worship through song and prayer to our Lord. Please see that all cell phones, toys and anything else that might disrupt our worship are turned off. fill out one per family.

PLEASE COMPLETE A COMMUNION CARD.

Fill in the names of only those who are communing and hand it to the usher as you proceed to the altar. You can fill out one per family.

NURSERY ROOM is available for children under 5 years of age who are having difficulty the service. There is also a rocking chair in the room. The room also has speakers in it to hear the service.

FROM THE BOARD OF FINANCE

Attendance December 14.....45
Attendance December 18.....96
General Fund Income.....\$6042.00
Altar Guild.....\$70.00
General Fund weekly difference from Budget\$1583.00
The annual budget adopted by the Voters' assembly requires weekly giving of \$4459.00 to sustain it.
Thank you for your Contributions.

DAILY LECTIONARY

25 Dec. - Psalm 24 & Isaiah 49-51
26 Dec. - Psalm 25 & Isaiah 52-54
27 Dec. - Psalm 26 & Isaiah 55-57
28 Dec. - Psalm 27 & Isaiah 58-60
29 Dec. - Psalm 28 & Isaiah 61-63
30 Dec. - Psalm 29 & Isaiah 64-66
31 Dec. - Luke 1:46-55 & Isaiah 43-45



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Sonny & Cheryl Snook in celebration of their wedding anniversary.



Birthdays This Week

John Hill 12/26



Wedding Anniversaries This Week

Sonny & Cheryl Snook 12/31

If we have missed anybody's birthday or anniversary, please let us know.

NO MATINS THIS TUESDAY



Mark Your Calendars For Voters Assembly Meeting will be Sunday January 22nd right after worship service. We will be voting on the new church budget for the coming year and also we will be voting on the church officers that will be serving for the year 2023. If you would like to serve on the church council, please contact our Council Chairman, Wesley Price. All voting members are urged to attend. We must have a quorum.

Church Council Meeting Minutes From The December 11th Meeting posted on the bulletin in the hallway next to the church office for the congregation's review.

From Pastor & Darline Rappe: A Merry Christ-filled Christmas to the congregation of Our Redeemer, and the God of peace grant you all good things as are determined by the Atonement.

Offering Envelopes For 2023 Are Ready: They are located on the table in the church narthex.

Sunday School and Confirmation Classes Will Start Back Up Again On January 8th

ST. STEPHEN DEACON AND MARTYR-DECEMBER 26

Stephen, the "protomartyr," was one of the seven deacons ordained by the apostles, and he was the first to die for his faith. In his death he closely imitated the death of Christ, praying for his executioners and commending his soul to the hands of God. The celebration of this feast was established very early in the church's life, and it is possible that the commemoration occurs on the actual day of Stephen's martyrdom.

JOHN APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST - DECEMBER 27

John the Divine the theologian, with his brother James and with Peter, formed the inner circle of the apostles. From a school of John, if not from the apostle himself, came the Fourth Gospel, the three epistles that bear his name, and Revelation. John is assumed to be the "beloved disciple" of the Fourth Gospel to whose care Jesus at the crucifixion entrusted his mother. Tradition says that John lived at Ephesus and there, in advanced age, died a natural death, the only one of the apostles not to die a martyr's death, John is usually symbolized by an eagle.

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs December 28

The innocents were the children of Bethlehem, two years one and under, killed by King Herod in his attempt to destroy the infant Jesus. Since they were killed for the sake of Christ, the church very early honored these Jewish babies as "the buds of the martyrs," killed by the frost of hate as soon as they appeared.