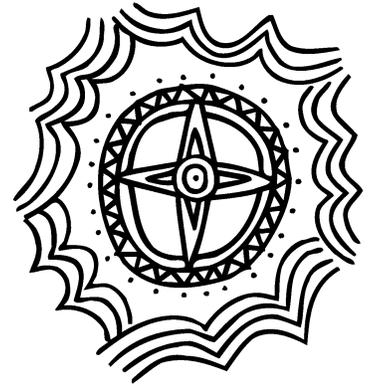


Second Sunday of Christmas

January 3, 2021



Prelude

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

Call to Worship

Holy One,

A New Year begins so we gather this day to greet the New Year,
to remember your promises fulfilled,
and to give thanks for all that the future brings,
that we may live and worship you.

Song

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Red ELW 270

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.**

**Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain***

**Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. *Refrain***

Greeting

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.**

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.**

First Reading

Simeon and Anna

Luke 2:21-38

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. ²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated 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; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." ³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too." ³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Song

"By Candlelight"

- Schram

Second Reading

A Boy in the Temple

Luke 2:41-52

⁴¹Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Message

Song

"A Cradle Carol"

Prayers of the People

We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Even as a child Jesus was a pure channel for the Spirit of truth. Teach us to recognize the wisdom of children and their innocent connection with their creator and their world.

Nurturing God, **Hear our prayer.**

At the beginning of this new year, renew our spirits and cleanse us of all we wish to leave behind. Keep us looking and moving forward in faith.

Nurturing God, **Hear our prayer.**

You love all creation as your own offspring: the works of your hands given life by the breath of your spirit. May we likewise come to love this created world.

Nurturing God, **Hear our prayer.**

Comfort all parents who have lost children, through abduction, estrangement or death, and assure them that you have never abandoned them or their loved ones. Tend to the sick in body, mind and spirit, especially those whom we name before YOU...

Nurturing God, **Hear our prayer.**

You hold in your arms all who have passed into the next life and sought your eternal reward. Bless them and all whom they have left behind on earth, that we might be assured of our eventual reunion with you in your heavenly home.

Nurturing God, **Hear our prayer.**

Other petitions may be offered.

Our eyes await the fulfillment of your promises, the answer to our prayers: your Son, our Lord, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Blessing

We have worshipped together.
We have sung God's praises.
We have shared the hope of a new year begun.
Now may God's blessing of love be with us,
this day,
this week,
this New Year.

Love has come—a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
what is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers;
Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas;
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Sending

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Good King Wenceslas”



Participants

- Pastors: Courtney Steitz & Michael TeKrony
- Assisting Minister: Paul Thomas
- Prelude: Jordan Ortman
- Liturgy Leaders: Lisa Grimm, Kathy Irwin, David Irwin
- Opening Song: Praise Team
 - Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues, Dave & Brenda Gleason,
Larry Lagerberg, Megan Powelson, Karen Novess
- Closing Song: Diane & Kevin Klinkerfues
- Special Music:
 - “Candlelight”:
 - Dave & Brenda Gleason, Lynne & Larry Monson,
Erica Hoaglund
 - “Cradle Carol”: Jordan & Kirsten Ortman
- Postlude:
 - “Good King Wenceslas” Handbells
 - Linda TeKrony, Dan Mohrbacher, Dave Gleason,
Susie DiPaolo, Diane Klinkerfues, Lisa Grimm,
Brenda Gleason, Paul Thomas, Shirley Bradsby,
Larry Bradsby, Mike Madsen
- Photographs: Winston Herbert, Michael TeKrony, Amy Evancheck