

# **St. John-St. James**

**Ev. Lutheran Church & School**



**First Sunday after Christmas**

**December 27, 2020**

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In the name of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me through this day also from sin and every evil that all my doings and life may please you. I commend my body and soul and all things into your hands. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the devil may have no power over me. Amen.  
*(Luther's Morning Prayer)*

WELCOME

*We Celebrate for the Lord is Here!*

**Opening Hymn:**

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Christian Worship, Hymn # 80

**Verse 1**  **Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Once you sang creation's story;  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Verse 2**  **Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night  
God with us is now residing—  
Yonder shines the infant light.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

*(Hymn response continues on the next page.)*

**C** Verse 4 **♪** **Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In his temple shall appear.**

**Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

## INVOCATION

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

**C** **Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**M** Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C** **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

**C** Verse 1 **♪** **Lord, have mercy on us.  
Christ, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy on us.**

**M** God our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**M** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**C** Verse 1  **O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!  
For sinners you became a child.  
You came from heaven to fulfill  
Your Father's just and holy will.  
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!**

**C** Verse 2  **O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!  
With God we now are reconciled.  
You have for all the ransom paid,  
Your Father's righteous anger stayed.  
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M** Almighty God, in your mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

## *Old Testament Lesson*

Isaiah 45:20-25

<sup>20</sup> “Gather together and come; assemble, you fugitives from the nations. Ignorant are those who carry about idols of wood, who pray to gods that cannot save. <sup>21</sup> Declare what is to be, present it—let them take counsel together. Who foretold this long ago, who declared it from the distant past? Was it not I, the LORD? And there is no God apart from me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me.

<sup>22</sup> “Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. <sup>23</sup> By myself I have sworn, my mouth has uttered in all integrity a word that will not be revoked: Before me every knee will bow; by me every tongue will swear. <sup>24</sup> They will say of me, ‘In the LORD alone are deliverance and strength.’” All who have raged against him will come to him and be put to shame. <sup>25</sup> But all the descendants of Israel will find deliverance in the LORD and will make their boast in him.

## *Epistle Lesson*

Colossians 3:12-17

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. <sup>15</sup> Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. <sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**☐ 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 fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

## CREATE IN ME

**© Verse 1**  **Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,  
And take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,  
And uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### LORD'S PRAYER

**© 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 SACRAMENT

**M** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**M** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**M** Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C** **It is good and right so to do.**

**M** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for in the wonder and mystery of his birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

**C** Verse 1  **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of heavenly hosts:  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he,  
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**M** Our Lord, Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

**C** Verse 1  **O Christ, Lamb of God,  
You take away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us.**  
**O Christ, Lamb of God,  
You take away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us.**  
**O Christ, Lamb of God,  
You take away the sin of the world;  
Grant us your peace. A-men.**

### **A PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION**

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are a friend of the sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior. Amen.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*(After all those communing have received Lord's Supper, we conclude our celebration: )*

**M** Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto life everlasting.

**C** Amen.

### **SONG OF SIMEON**

**C** Verse 1  **Lord, now you let your servant  
Depart in peace according to your word.  
For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
Which you have prepared before  
The face of all people,  
A light to lighten the Gentiles  
And the glory of your people Israel.**

**M** O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**C** And his mercy endures forever.

**M** O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## BLESSING

**M** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## *Closing Hymn:*

O Light of Gentile Nations

Christian Worship, Hymn # 78

**C** Verse 1

♪ **O Light of Gentile nations,  
O Savior from above,  
Drawn by your Spirit's leading,  
We come with joy and love  
Into your holy temple  
And wait with rev'rent mind  
As Simeon once had waited  
His God and Lord to find.**

*(Hymn continues on the next page.)*

**C** Verse 3

♪ **Lord, when life's troubles touch us,  
You seem to hide your face,  
And through our tears we often  
Can scarcely sense your grace.  
Then be our joy and brightness,  
Our cheer in pain and loss,  
Our sun in darkest terror,  
The glory round our cross.**

**C** Verse 4

♪ **Let us, O Lord, be faithful  
Like Simeon to the end  
So that by prayer exultant  
May from our hearts ascend:  
"O Lord, now let your servant  
Depart in peace, I pray,  
Since I have seen my Savior  
And here beheld his day."**