

# Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church

The Nativity of Our Lord

December 24, 2023



The Birth of Jesus Christ

Luke 2:1-14

### 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;  
 Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to Thee be glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels:  
 Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God In the high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

*Refrain*



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-80, alt.  
 Text and tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711-1786  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

*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  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
  
- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
  
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter**

sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

Stand

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 24:1, 3–5; antiphon: Psalm 2:7*

I will tell of | the decree:\*

The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have be- | gotten you.”

The earth is the LORD’s and the full- | ness thereof,\*

the world and those who | dwell therein.

Who shall ascend the hill | of the LORD?\*

And who shall stand in his | holy place?

He who has clean hands and a | pure heart,\*

who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear de- | ceitfully.

He will receive blessing | from the LORD\*

and righteousness from the God of his sal- | vation.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

I will tell of | the decree:\*

The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have be- | gotten you.”

### Kyrie

*LSB 186*

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### Gloria in Excelsis

*LSB 187*

**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward

men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor-ship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al-mighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

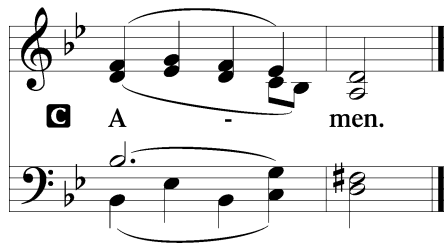
**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir-it.

**P** Let us pray.

**P** O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

### Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 7:10–14

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.”  
<sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” <sup>13</sup>And he said, “Hear then, O house of David!  
 Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign.  
 Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

To us a child is born, to us a son is | given,\*  
 and the government shall be upon his | shoulder.  
 And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God,\*  
 Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.  
 Sing to the Lord a | new song,\*  
 for he has done | marvelous things!

### Epistle

1 John 4:7–16

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.  
<sup>8</sup>Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. <sup>9</sup>In this the love of God was made manifest  
 among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we  
 have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us,  
 we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is  
 perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and  
 testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God,  
 God abides in him, and he in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love,  
 and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

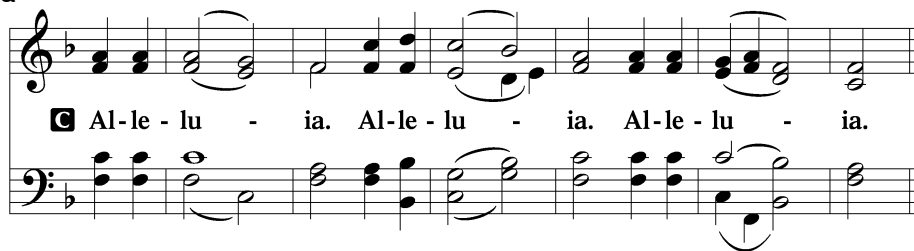
**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

### Alleluia

LSB 190



### Holy Gospel

Luke 2:1–14

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

**G** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup>And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup>For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

### Nicene Creed

**G** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
 who spoke by the prophets.  
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
 and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

384 Of the Father's Love Begotten



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 O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore Him; An - gel hosts, His  
 Δ 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 and 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 - end - ing 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.

Text: Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 348-c. 413; (sts. 1-4): tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt.; (st. 5): tr. Henry W. Baker, 1821-77  
 Tune: Plainsong, 13th cent., mode V  
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

*Stand*



Offertory



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

*Sit*

Offering

*"Peace, Peace/Silent Night"*  
Adult and Youth Choirs

*Stand*

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

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

**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

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

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

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

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,

bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

**P** 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.

**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the

glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

### The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

**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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  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

LSB 197

The musical score for 'Pax Domini' consists of two systems. The first system features a single treble clef staff with a melodic line in G major, starting on G4 and moving stepwise to G5. Below the staff is the instruction 'P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.' The second system consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff has a melodic line starting on G4, moving to A4, then G4, and ending on a whole note G4. Below it is the instruction 'A - men.' The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

The musical score for 'Agnus Dei' is a multi-measure setting with five systems of vocal and piano parts. Each system includes a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is G major. The lyrics are: 'O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.' The piano accompaniment features a steady rhythmic pattern of chords, often in a 4/4 or 3/4 time signature, providing a harmonic foundation for the vocal line.

## Distribution

### 370 What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
2 Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are  
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shp - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shp - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-98  
Tune: English, 16th cent.  
Text and tune: Public domain

### 366 It Came upon the Midnight Clear



1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo - rious song of old,  
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come With peace-ful wings un - furled,  
3 All you, be-neath your heav - y load, By care and guilt bent low,  
4 For lo, the days have come to pass By proph-ets seen of old,



From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
And still their heav'n-ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world.  
Who toil a - long a drea - ry way With pain - ful steps and slow:  
When down in - to the cir - cling years Came Christ as was fore - told.



"Peace on the earth, good-will to all, From heav'n's all - gra - cious king."  
A - bove its sad and low-ly plains They bend on hov - 'ring wing,  
Look up, for gold - en is the hour, Come swift - ly on the wing,  
His word of peace shall to the earth God's an - cient prom - ise bring,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.  
 And ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.  
 The Prince was born to bring you peace; Of Him the an - gels sing.  
 And all who take this gift will hear The song the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-76, alt.  
 Tune: Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900  
 Text and tune: Public domain

### 377 On Christmas Night All Christians Sing



1 On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing To hear the news the  
 2 Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since our Re - deem - er  
 3 When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then life and health come  
 4 All out of dark - ness we have light, Which made the an - gels



an - gels bring, On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing To  
 made us glad, Then why should men on earth be so sad, Since  
 in its place, When sin de - parts be - fore His grace, Then  
 sing this night, All out of dark - ness we have light, Which



hear the news the an - gels bring, News of great joy, news of great  
 our Re - deem - er made us glad, When from our sin He set us  
 life and health come in its place; An - gels and men with joy may  
 made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry to God and peace to



mirth, News of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.  
 free, All for to gain our lib - er - ty?  
 sing, All for to see the new - born King.  
 men Now and for - ev - er - more. A - men."

Text and tune: English  
 Text and tune: Public domain

### 386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
 2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to Thee.  
 3 Now through His Son doth shine The Fa - ther's grace di - vine.  
 4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth Poor in a man - ger lies;  
 Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O pure and ho - ly Child;  
 Death was reign - ing o'er us Through sin and van - i - ty  
 Where the an - gels sing - ing With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.  
 Through Thy grace and mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,  
 Till He o - pened for us A bright e - ter - ni - ty.  
 Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art!                      Thou my Sav - ior art!  
 Draw me un - to Thee!                      Draw me un - to Thee!  
 May we praise Him there!                      May we praise Him there!  
 Oh, that we were there!                      Oh, that we were there!

Text: Latin and German, 14th cent.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.  
 Tune: German, 14th cent.  
 Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis**

*LSB 199*

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -

cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,

which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A - men.

### Thanksgiving

LSB 200

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.



## Benedicamus

LSB 202

Musical notation for the Benedicamus section, featuring a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and consists of a few notes. Below the staff, the lyrics are: **A** Bless we the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction


LSB 202

Musical notation for the Benediction section, featuring a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody is simple and consists of a few notes. Below the staff, the lyrics are: **P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace. **C** A - men, a - men, a - men.

## 363 Silent Night, Holy Night

sts. 1-3

Musical notation for the Silent Night, Holy Night section, featuring a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (Bb, Eb). The melody is simple and consists of a few notes. Below the staff, the lyrics are: 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, all is bright Round yon vir - gin moth - er and child. at the sight; Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, love's pure light Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav - en - ly Heav'n - ly hosts sing, Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy



peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!  
birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Text: Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848; tr. John F. Young, 1820-85  
Tune: Franz Xaver Gruber, 1787-1863  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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