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**The audio for worship will be muted until
worship begins**

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

Rev. Lyndon Sayers, Pastor

December 28, 2025 – 10:00 AM

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

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Gathering Song
***Once in Royal David's City* – No. 269**

Vs. 1 Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.

Vs. 2 He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and meek and lowly,
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

Vs. 3 And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heav'n above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

Vs. 4 Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
there his children gather round,
bright like stars, with glory crowned.

Hymn of Praise

Angels We Have Heard on High – Pg. 289

Vs. 1 Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Vs. 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song?

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Vs. 3 Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Psalm 148

*Refrain - The splendour of the Lord is over earth and
heaven.* (Ps. 148:13)

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.

²**Praise the LORD, | all you angels;
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**

³Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.

**⁴Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.**

⁵Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,

**⁶who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not | pass away. R**

The splendour of the Lord is over earth and heaven.

⁷Praise the LORD | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;

⁸**fire and hail, | snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;**

⁹mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;

¹⁰**wild beasts | and all cattle,
creeping things and | flying birds;**

¹¹sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;

¹²**young | men and maidens,
old and | young together. R**

The splendour of the Lord is over earth and heaven.

¹³Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendour is
over | earth and heaven.

**¹⁴The LORD has raised up strength for the people
and praise for all | faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near
the LORD. | Hallelujah! R**

The splendour of the Lord is over earth and heaven.

Gospel Acclamation – No. 289

Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Hymn of the Day
***Joyful Is the Dark* – No. 1096**

Vs. 1 Joyful is the dark, holy, hidden God,
rolling cloud of night beyond all naming:
majesty in darkness, energy of love,
Word-in-flesh, the mystery proclaiming.

Vs. 2 Joyful is the dark, Spirit of the deep,
winging wildly o'er the world's creation,
silken sheen of midnight plumage black and bright,
swooping with the beauty of a raven.

Vs. 3 Joyful is the dark, shadowed stable floor;
angels flicker, God on earth confessing,
as with exultation, Mary, giving birth,
hails the infant cry of need and blessing.

Vs. 4 Joyful is the dark, coolness of the tomb,
waiting for the wonder of the morning;
never was that midnight touched by dread and gloom:
darkness was the cradle of the dawning.

Vs. 5 Joyful is the dark, depth of love divine,
roaring, looming thundercloud of glory,
holy, haunting beauty, living, loving God.
Hallelujah! Sing and tell the story!

Peace Sharing

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering Song
***A Stable Lamp Is Lighted* – No. 910**

Vs. 1 A stable lamp is lighted
whose glow shall wake the sky;
the stars shall bend their voices,
and every stone shall cry.
And every stone shall cry,
and straw like gold shall shine;
a barn shall harbour heaven, a stall become a shrine.

Vs. 2 This child through David's city
shall ride in triumph by;
the palm shall strew its branches,
and every stone shall cry.
And every stone shall cry,
though heavy, dull and dumb,
and lie within the roadway
to pave his kingdom come.

Vs. 3 Yet he shall be forsaken,
and yielded up to die;
the sky shall groan and darken,
and every stone shall cry.
And every stone shall cry
for gifts of love abused;
God's blood upon the spearhead,
God's blood again refused.

Vs. 4 But now, as at the ending,
the low is lifted high;
the stars shall bend their voices,
and every stone shall cry.
And every stone shall cry
in praises of the child
by whose descent among us
the worlds are reconciled.

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Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and God of might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Thanksgiving Prayer

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The 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.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Songs
What Feast of Love – No. 487

Vs. 1 What feast of love is offered here,
what banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life,
what gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
How sweet the manna given!

Vs. 2 What light of truth is offered here,
what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life,
what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing!
The Word of God is given!

Vs. 3 What wine of love is offered here,
what crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life,
what precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
The Son of God is given!

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing – No. 270

Vs. 1 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!"

Vs. 2 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: Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

Vs. 3 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: Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

***Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* – No. 276**

Vs. 1 Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing,
bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child is Lord of all!

Vs. 2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!

Sending Song
Cold December Flies Away – No. 299

Vs. 1 Cold December flies away
at the rose-red splendour.
April's crowning glory breaks
while the whole world wonders
at the holy unseen pow'r
of the tree which bears the flow'r.
On the blessed tree
blooms the reddest flow'r.
On the tree blooms the rose
here in love's own garden,
full and strong in glory.

Vs. 2 In the hopeless time of sin
shadows deep had fallen.
All the world lay under death.
Eyes were closed in sleeping.
But, when all seemed lost in night,
came the sun whose golden light
brings unending joy,
brings the endless joy
of our hope, highest hope,
of our hope's bright dawning,
Son belov'd of heaven.

Vs. 3 Now the bud has come to bloom,
and the world awakens.

In the lily's purest flow'r
dwells a wondrous fragrance.
And it spreads to all the earth
from the moment of its birth;
and its beauty lives.

In the flow'r it lives,
in the flow'r, and it spreads
in its heav'nly brightness
sweet perfume delightful.

Worship Leaders and Assistants

Presiding Minister: Rev. Peter Parker

Assisting Minister: Sabine Lehr

Kantor: Nathan McDonald

Musician: Karen Johnson-Lefsrud

Choral Scholar: DJ McGrath

Reader: Angela Chorney

Livestream: Tarynn McKenzie

Communion: Beverley Norman, Susanne Standeven

Ushers: Donna Delaney, Bob Kohlert

*You are invited to Holy Communion Worship, Sundays,
10 AM PT in-person and online.*

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*Blessed Christmas and New Year! And peace on earth and
goodwill to all.*



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