



Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church

Growing Together in Faith

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Pastor Nathan Wong

Welcome!

December 28, 2025 – First Sunday after Christmas

Thank you for joining us today for worship. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful word. We pray your time with us is edifying and enjoyable. May God bless our worship together this day!

For your assistance:

- **Restrooms** are located down the hallway opposite the entrance to classroom 1, on the right.
- **Ushers** are here to help. Please don't hesitate to ask them if you have any questions.
- We ask guests to sign the **worship register** on the pedestal by the front door so that we might have record of who joined us and invite you to upcoming events. Thank you!
- If you have a young one who gets restless during worship, a **Family Room** is available for parents in the church office. A live feed of the service is available in the room.
- Pastor Wong is available and willing to meet with you anytime. Please give him a call at church, 410-231-2075 or on his cell phone, 507-995-5978. He can also be reached via email, lusbypastor@gmail.com. He would be happy to answer any questions or concerns you might have.

Hymn: 353 Joy to the World

CW 353



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her King; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Opening Dialogue

Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears?
If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

Restore us again, O God our Savior, and put away your displeasure toward us.
Show us your unfailing love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

Confession & Absolution

Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who suffered and died for us.
Cleanse me from my sins.
Release me from my guilt.
Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people.
My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.
The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord.
Glory to God in the highest!

Gloria: *Joy Has Dawned*

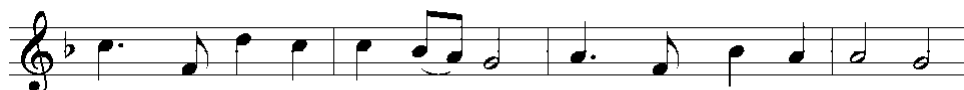
CW 352 sts. 1, 3–4



1 Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom - ised from cre - a - tion—
 3 Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry.
 4 Son of Ad - am, Son of heav'n, giv - en as a ran - som;



God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.
 Gifts of men from dis - tant lands proph - e - sy the sto - ry:
 rec - on - cil - ing God and man, Christ, our might - y cham - pion!



Not with fan-fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,
 gold— a king is born to - day; in - cense—God is with us;
 What a Sav - ior! What a friend! What a glo - rious mys - t'ry!



but a hum - ble gift of love— Je - sus born of Mar - y.
 myrrh— his death will make a way, and by his blood he'll win us.
 Once a babe in Beth - le - hem, — now the Lord of his - t'ry.

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Stuart Townend, b. 1963

Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Stuart Townend, b. 1963

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THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, the martyred innocents of Bethlehem showed forth your praise not by speaking but by dying. Put to death in us all that is in conflict with your will that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 63:7–9

⁷I will tell of the kindnesses of the LORD,
the deeds for which he is to be praised,
according to all the LORD has done for us—
yes, the many good things
he has done for Israel,
according to his compassion and many kindnesses.

⁸He said, “Surely they are my people,
children who will be true to me”;
and so he became their Savior.

⁹In all their distress he too was distressed,
and the angel of his presence saved them.
In his love and mercy he redeemed them;
he lifted them up and carried them
all the days of old.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 2D

Refrain



Why do the nations / conspire
and the peoples / plot in vain?

The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together a- / gainst the LORD
and against his A- / noointed. *Refrain*

The One enthroned in / heaven laughs;
the Lord / scoffs at them.

He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, / saying,
“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy / mountain.”

I will proclaim the / LORD’s decree:

He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have become your / Father.”

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. *Refrain*

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

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Second Reading

Galatians 4:4–7

⁴But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. ⁶Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. Sing to the LORD a new song; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 2:13–23

¹³When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

¹⁴So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

¹⁶When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. ¹⁷Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

¹⁸“A voice is heard in Ramah,
weeping and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children
and refusing to be comforted,
because they are no more.”

¹⁹After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt ²⁰and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.”

²¹So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, ²³and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day: 339 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

CW 339

1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing

stall; ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the
new saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, ti - dings

child is Lord of all. Swift - ly wing - ing an - gels
of a gos - pel true. Thus re - joic - ing, free from

sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, ti - dings bring - ing: Christ the
sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row: Christ the

child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt.

Tune: Polish

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Thank Offering

The members of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry. If you prefer to give electronically, open your camera app and use the QR code.



Prayer for Change of Duty

Almighty and merciful God, we commend to your care William Grah, who is entering the military service of our country. Send your holy angels to protect him, and through your Word, strengthen his faith for every trial. Bless his training, give him the skills needed to be effective in his service, and instill in him faithfulness to his duties. Make him an example of Christian conduct and a source of encouragement for his fellow service members. Keep him from discouragement and temptation. Help him know the gratitude of this congregation and his country for his service to us.

Prayer of the Church

Eternal and gracious Lord, in this holy season, we rejoice with hearts and voices because you sent your one and only Son from his majestic glory to save us from the slavery of sin and the agonies of death. He took on our human flesh that he might reveal your divine glory.

He became our brother that we might become your children forever.

Give us quiet time during these busy days to reflect on your love and ponder the miracle of our Savior's incarnation. Help us look beyond our gift-giving and gift-receiving, and discover the greatest gift: the forgiveness of sins and life with you.

Put the joys of Christmas into the perspective of our eternal celebration, and let music and art lift our hearts to Christ who is truly the center of the season.

Keep in your loving care all whose Christmas joys are diminished by sickness and sadness, by unhappy recollections and uncertain hopes. Comfort those who sense this Christmas may be their last, and raise their eyes to the brilliant lights of heaven.

Soothe consciences that are troubled by guilt and regret, and show them the forgiving love of Christ. [Especially bless . . . *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*]

We commend to your care all who proclaim the message of Christ during these holy days; all who care for people in hospitals, nursing homes, and prisons; and all who put themselves out to bring joy to others, especially children.

Let the light of your grace shine through all ministries of mercy.

Send us your Holy Spirit, gracious Lord, that the proclamation of the Christmas gospel may lighten the load of guilt and fear and lift our hearts to confident faith and holy living. By the power of your Word, bring your light to hearts struggling to understand you and searching to find you that they may know the joys of this season as we do.

Empower us to lead them to your love in our words and deeds.

All this we ask in the name of the newborn King, born in Bethlehem and now living and reigning forever in heaven.

Amen.

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.

Blessing

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 T give you peace.
Amen.

Hymn: 337 Silent Night, Holy Night

CW 337 sts. 1–3

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love’s pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Text: tr. John F. Young, 1820–1885; Franz Joseph Mohr, 1792–1848
Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship
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Sunday Hosts

	Today	Next Week
Councilman:	Dan Severson	Terry Johnson
Greeter:	Karnitz	Travis Grah
Usher:	-	Grant Williams
Acolyte:	Haley Grah	Neal Passey
Altar:	Karen Engelhaupt	Maria Krauss
A/V:	Brian Hoerning	-
Flowers:	-	-
Counters:	Karen, Lynn	Karen, Jolene
Snack:		

Upcoming Events

Bible Study & Sunday School	<i>Sunday, January 4 at 9:30am</i>
Worship	<i>Sunday, January 4 at 10:30am</i>
Men's Breakfast	<i>Saturday, January 3 at 8:30am</i>
LAF	<i>Saturday, January 10 at 1:00pm</i>

News for You

THANK YOU

Thank you very much to those who worked overtime on our Christmas Eve and Day worship services. We can't do it without you!

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS

We are excited to offer another Bible Information Class! This class is for anyone who wishes to become a member, who wants to know what the Lutheran church teaches, or who simply wants to review the foundational truths of God's Word. Please speak with Pastor Wong if you are interested in joining this class. We aim to begin in the middle of January.

CATECHISM REMINDER

There will be no catechism class this week Tuesday. Enjoy celebrating the extra time with family and friends. We will pick up where we left off on January 6th. Thank you for your dedication to growing in your faith and knowledge of God these past few months!

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

It's that time of year! Have you resolved to stop a bad habit? Exercise more? Be more generous? Especially after the Holidays, many of us focus on our physical and emotional health. How about your spiritual health? Could you resolve to pray more? Could your New Year's Resolution be to read from the Bible for 10 minutes every day? Those would be excellent resolutions. Perhaps you could go the extra mile and resolve to volunteer more at church! Please speak with Pastor if you could dedicate more time to serve the Lord and our congregation this year. Our congregation depends on faithful and cheerful servants like you!