

January 3-4 2026
Second Sunday of Christmas

5p/9a Worship Service



First Lutheran
discover more : **together**

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies



- 1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly light,
- 2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pa - nied by thee;
- 3 Vis - it then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of righ-teous-ness, a - rise, tri-umph o'er the shades of night;
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer-cy's beams I see,
fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine, scat - ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: RATISBON, J. G. Werner, *Choralbuch*, 1815

Prelude 9am: Three Epiphany Preludes – Arr. Robert Hobby

Welcome

Stand

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

All: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin
(*brief silence*) Reconciling God,

All: we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace.

We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear.

**We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge;
our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones;
our reluctance to embody your good news.**

**Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation.
Amen.**

P: God's grace upon grace flows over you. Christ's presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

All: Amen.

Opening Hymn: *ELW* #553

"Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Hymn of Praise: "This is the Feast" ... pg. 101

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



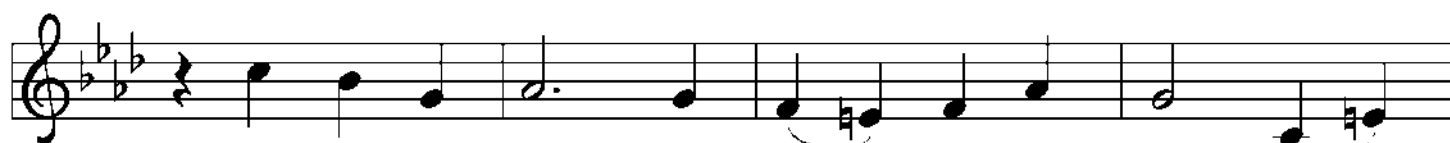
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Refrain

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us Pray.

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.

All: Amen.

(9a) Children's Message

Sit

Intro to the Reading:

L: Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. In our Gospel reading, God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king.

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6 *NRSVue*

L: ¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
² For darkness shall cover the earth
and thick darkness the peoples,
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
³ Nations shall come to your light
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together; they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.
⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you;
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

L: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation pg. 102

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P: The Gospel according St. Matthew, the second chapter...

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 *NRSVue*

P: ¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you O Christ.

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with
2 Come, pre - cious dia - mond, light di - vine, and deep with -
3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there
4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in your Son you loved us,



God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace and mer - cy!
in our hearts now shine; there light a flame un - dy - ing!
falls from God a - bove a ray of pur - est plea - sure.
when not yet be - gun was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's line, King Da - vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior,
In your one bod - y let us be as liv - ing branch - es
Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re - fresh our souls with
Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here



you have won our hearts to serve you on - ly! Low - ly,
of a tree, your life our lives sup - ply - ing. Now, though
heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure! Let your
and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -



ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, all vic - to - rious, rich
dai - ly earth's deep sad - ness may per - plex us and
mer - cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For
lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, to us giv - ing life



in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
dis - tress us, yet with heav'n - ly joy you bless us.
you teach us God's own love through you has reached us.
for - ev - er, keeps us yours and fails us nev - er!

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
our voices gaily blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way—
today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation!
Exultation!
Tell the story!
Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory!</p> | <p>6 What joy to know, when life is past,
the Lord we love is first and last,
the end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
transport us to that happy place
beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen!
Come, Lord Jesus!
Crown of gladness!
We are yearning
for the day of your returning.</p> |
|--|--|

Sermon ... Pr. Craig Brown

Stand

Hymn of the Day: *ELW* #308 (st. 1,2,3,5)

“O Morning Star”

Lector: Go to the Ambo for the Prayers

The Apostles' Creed...Page 105

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS →

L: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Passing of the Peace:

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you

P: Let us turn to one another, offering a sign of Christ's peace.

Offering of Gratitude:

(Sit) P: You may be seated.

We give God our thanks and praise in response to God's mercy and abundance.

We invite you to place your gratitude card along with any offering you have in the plate at this time or make an offering electronically.

Would the ushers please come forward.

Lector—Go to Ambo before Prayer; remain up front for communion.

(9a) Special Music: "The Work of Christmas" Forrest/Thurman;
Marita Wolgast, vocalist

(9) Offertory Hymn: *ELW* #302 "As with Gladness" (st. 3)

All: As they offered gifts most rare
at thy cradle, rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.

Offertory Prayer:

L: *(5p) Please Stand and*

(9a) Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving: ... page 107

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

Christmas Preface:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus: "Holy, Holy, Holy"...page 108

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**All: 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.**

P: You may be seated. Please follow the direction of the ushers to come forward. There is gluten free bread and juice available upon request. The table is set and all are welcome. (optional) Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Distribution of Holy Communion

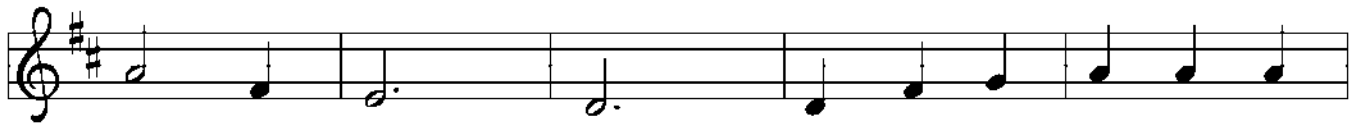
The Lamb of God ... page 112

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
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Communion Hymn: *ELW* #815 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

Lector—go to the ambo as Pastor covers communion elements.

Stand

The Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you,
and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

L: Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder
in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your
love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

All: Amen.

- Sending -

Benediction:

P: The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter,
bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

All: Amen.

Closing Hymn: *ELW* #314 → *on the back* →

"Arise, Your Light Has Come!"

Dismissal:

L: Glory to God in the highest!

All: And peace to God's people on earth!

L: Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Toccata on "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"

— Arr. Michael Burkhardt

Arise, Your Light Has Come!



- 1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
- 2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
- 3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
- 4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

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Preaching: Pr. Craig Brown
Presiding: Pr. Steve Knudson and Pr. Katie Lowe Lancaster
5p Pianist: Marita Wolgast
Organist: Brett Wolgast
& Special Guest Stephen Hamilton

Tech Team:

Communications Director: Will Mittelsteadt
CG & Stream Operator: Jacob Bartels
Technical Director: Megan Fleming
Audio Engineer: Avery Karkosh

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