



## St. Peter Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod  
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Welcome to earth, Thou noble Guest,  
 Through Whom the sinful world is blest!  
 Thou com'st to share my misery;  
 What thanks shall I return to Thee?

### THE INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.  
 C: Amen. (Sung) (Matthew 28:19-20)

### CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

L: 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. (Heb. 10:22)

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord.  
 C: **Who made heaven and earth.** (Sung) (Psalm 124:8)

L: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.  
 C: **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** (Sung) (Psalm 32:5)

L: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

L: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all. (Mark 16:16, John 1:12)

C: **Amen.**

### To Our Guests and Visitors

We *WELCOME* all our friends in Christ who have come to worship with us. If you are a guest, please feel at home with us, sign our guest register, and worship with us whenever you are able. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to consider becoming a part of our church family.

## FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF SONG DECEMBER 30, 2012

*Worshippers who have difficulty rising and standing during our services may remain seated with our complete understanding.*

*Upon entering the Sanctuary, please turn off cell phones, pagers, etc. and use the time as a quiet time for personal reflection and meditation in preparation for worship. This is a time for anyone to join in praying for the service, and for the church in general.*

*Verse for meditation: Alleluia. My eyes have seen your salvation; a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel. Alleluia. (Luke 2:30, 32)*

### WE COME BEFORE GOD WITH PRAISE AND CONFESSION

OPENING HYMN *From Heaven Above to Earth I Come*

From heaven above to earth I come  
 To bear good news to every home;  
 Glad tidings of great joy I bring,  
 Whereof I now will say and sing:

To you this night is born a child  
 Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;  
 This little child, of lowly birth,  
 Shall be the joy of all the earth.

## HYMNS

*Away in a Manger*

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with thee there.

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing over the plains,  
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see, Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn king.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT (2 Timothy 4:22)

L: The Lord be with you.  
C: **And with thy spirit. (Sung)**

L: Let us pray:  
(Prayer)  
C: **Amen. (Sung)**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

*After the reading:*

L: This is the Word of the Lord.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Worship Insert

## THE GOSPEL READING Luke 2:22-40 (See bulletin insert)

L: The Holy Gospel is written in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter of St. Luke,  
beginning at the twenty-second verse.

C: **Glory be to Thee, O Lord! (Sung)**

*The Holy Gospel is read*

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to Thee, O Christ! (Sung)**

## APOSTLES' CREED

(Inside back cover of hymnal)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## HYMNS

*A Great and Mighty Wonder*

A great and mighty wonder. A full and holy cure:  
The Virgin bears the Infant With virgin honor pure  
Repeat the hymn again: "To God on high be glory  
And peace on earth to men!"

The Word becomes incarnate And yet remains on high,  
And cherubim sing anthems To shepherds from the sky.  
Repeat the hymn again: "To God on high be glory  
And peace on earth to men!"

*Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord*

Let the earth now praise the Lord. Who hath truly kept His word  
And the sinners' Help and Friend, Now at last to us doth send.

Abrams promised great Reward, Zion's Helper, Jacob's Lord, --  
Him of twofold race behold, -- Truly came, as long foretold.

And when Thou dost come again As a glorious King to reign,  
I with joy may see Thy face, Freely ransomed by Thy grace.

## SERMON

OFFERING HYMN     *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

In the Cross of Christ I glory, Towering o'er the wrecks of time.  
All the light of sacred story, Gathers round its head sublime.

Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, By the Cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure, Joys that through all time abide.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN                     *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;  
Holy holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

BENEDICTION

TRIPLE AMEN

CLOSING HYMN     *Brothers and Sisters in Christ*

Sing Alleluia! Amen!

Let your prayers and your praises ascend.

Lift up your voices and sing, to our Lord God, our Savior, our King!  
Here brought together by grace, we are gathered as friends in this place.

*Chorus:*

*And assembled as one, in the name of the Son,  
lifting hearts, lifting hands, celebrating as friends,  
and proclaiming the Lord, all our praises afford.*

*We are brothers and sisters in Christ.*

Man walked alone and in need,  
without faith, hope or promise or creed;  
wandering aimlessly lost, unaware of the staggering cost;  
that God in His mercy would save  
all His people from death and the grave.

*Chorus*

Lord, teach us how to proclaim  
all your goodness, Your love and Your name!  
Lord, teach us how to forgive, and in love, teach us Lord, how to live.  
Raising our voices in song, help us tell all the world we belong.

*Chorus*

*Soli Deo Gloria*

*Let  
Heaven  
&  
Nature  
Sing!*

***Please note: The start of pre-service music is the sign that our worship has begun and prayerful quiet is observed inside the church area. Please respect other people's time of quiet prayer and preparation for worship, as in our worship we come first and foremost to meet with God.***