

came to us in Christ, represented by the white candle.

The true light came into the world when Christ was born. Christ is the light of the world, and from Him the light has spread out to the whole world. This light spread by the first apostles, then by those who received the light from them. It is our privilege to send the light which is Christ into men's hearts. As you are lighted, may it symbolize your faith in Jesus Christ and your sincere desire to be a light-bearer to those who do not know Him as their Savior.

(Ushers candles are lit and they pass the light to others.)

Pastor: Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

People: Even as the lighted candles glow in the darkness, may the light of Christ shine in our hearts and show itself in the world by the life we live and the witness we make.

The GOSPEL: LUKE 2:1-14

RESPONSE: **LSB 374 VS. 1, 2** *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

The GOSPEL: LUKE 2:15-20

RESPONSE: **LSB 388** *Go Tell It on The Mountain*

(RISE)

BENEDICTION

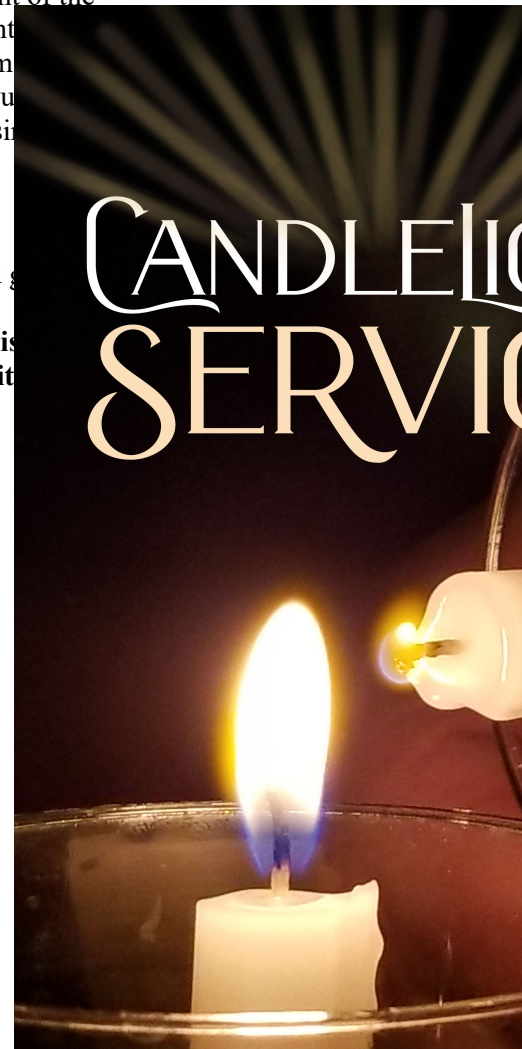
CLOSING HYMN: **LSB 363 (vs. 1-3)** *Silent Night, Holy Night*
(Organ will fade on vs. 3 – Keep singing!)

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

(Go in peace, go with God, and a Blessed Christmas to all!)

+ + + Soli Deo Gloria + + +



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Rev. Bruce Kischnick, Senior Pastor
Rev. Matthew Woods, Associate Pastor

The DISTRIBUTION:

+ + + **SERVICE OF PREPARATION**

HYMNS: (please use your hymnals)

LSB 366 vs. 1, 4 It Came upon the Mid

LSB 367 vs. 1, 2, 4 Angels from the Re

LSB 368 Angels We Have Heard on Hig

LSB 373 vs. 1, 3, 4 See amid the Wint

LSB 379 vs. 1, 2, 3 O Come, All Ye Fait

LSB 380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

GREETINGS and PRAYER

CHOIR ANTHEM: **Glory to God**

Words & Music by: Dennis & Nan Allen | ©2004 Allen House Productions/ASCAP

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THE COMMON DISMISSAL BLESSING

LITANY of PREPARATION:

Pastor: The Lord God said, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers;

People: He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel." (Gen.3:15)

Pastor: "I swear by myself, declares the Lord, I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore."

People: "...through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed." (Gen.22:16-18)

Pastor: "The LORD declares to you that the LORD himself will establish a house for (David)...I will establish his kingdom."

People: "Your house and your kingdom will endure before me; your throne will be established forever." (II Sam.7:11,16)

Pastor: He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your father."

People: Kiss the Son, lest He be angry...blessed are all who take refuge in Him. (Ps. 2:7, 12)

Pastor: "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign:

People: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him 'Immanuel'." (Is.7:14)

Pastor: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;

People: On those living in the land of the shadow of death a Light has dawned.

Pastor: For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given,

People: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Is.9:2, 6)

Pastor: A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;

People: From His roots a branch will bear fruit. (Is. 11:1)

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: **Special Mus**

Grace Luthera

Words & Music by: D

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THE COLLECT OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray...

People: Amen.

THE CANDLELIGHT SER

(Sit)

HYMN: LSB #112 vs. 1, 3, 4 The People That in Dar

[As the final verse of the hymn is sung, the lights will be dimmed before the altar with their candles to receive the light.]

[Instructions: The ushers will light their candles from those candles of those seated at the ends of the pews. Those in turn

Please DO NOT tip lit candles, but rather tip the unlit ones around you. Pull your candle down inside the guard to avoid

before you exit the sanctuary. Place your candle in the boxes you.

Pastor: Our lights are dimmed to symbolize the darkness of the world before the birth of Christ. The candles about the altar symbolize the

travel, watch over our loved ones far from home, for Mother, our mother and will come for me one who will be women, and be the solace of those who are lonely, homeless, or hurting. (Micah 1:2)

Make us the instruments of your mercy and grant us all your peace. Pastor: Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit and she will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins. (Luke 1:35)

People: O, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good and His mercy endures forever. Amen.

People: She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.

(Sit)

OFFERTORY: Special Music: A Place for a King – Grace Lutheran Choir

Pastor: And so, we make our beginning in the name of the Holy Spirit.

Words & Music by: Chris Lovejoy & Joe Shoemaker | © 2010 Big Blue Shoes Music/Big Blue Barry Music (ASCAP)
CCLI #1672462

People: Amen.

+ + + **THE LORD'S SUPPER** + + + **(Rise)**

(Rise)

A CAROL HYMN: Song of Grace 31 Good Christmas
(to the tune of LW 47)

The PREFACE:

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION:

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, in order to see real meaning in the birth of Jesus Christ, we must first fully understand the Law and confess that we have sinned. Let us together confess and implore our Heavenly Father to forgive us our sins. Christ.

The ADMONITION

Pastor: I exhort you in Christ that you give attention to the Testament of Christ in true faith, and above all take to heart the words with which Christ presents his body and blood to us for forgiveness; that you take note of and give thanks for the boundless love that he showed us when he saved us from the wrath of God, sin, death, and hell by his blood; and that you then receive the bread and wine, that is, his body and blood, as a guarantee and pledge. Let us then in his name, according to his command, and with his own words administer and receive the Testament.

People: O Almighty God, merciful Father, I am a poor sinner. I confess to you all my sins and imperfections and have offended you. I know that it was because of my sins that you came into the world to be the sacrifice and redemption for our sins. I am truly sorry for those sins, and I pray that you will be gracious and merciful to me, Jesus Christ, and his innocent sufferings and death. I have sinned. Make me whole in Jesus' name.

The LORD'S PRAYER

The WORDS of INSTITUTION

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Having heard your confession, I, as a called and ordained minister, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the name and command of Jesus himself, I forgive you all your sins, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen and Halleluia!

COLLECT:

[The congregation may be seated. The ushers will direct communicants to the front of the chancel to receive Communion in a continuous line on either side of the sanctuary. Be sure to prayerfully read and complete the Communion registration card before communing.]

Pastor: O God, because you once caused this holy light to shine upon the world, grant that we who have known your light may never be brought into darkness.

one God, now and forever. Amen.

+ + + **SERVICE OF THE WORD** +

(Sit)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Micah 5:2-5a [**“But you, Bethlehem...”**]

²“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, of old, from ancient times.” ³ Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join in the Israelite. ⁴ He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then the dominion will reach to the ends of the earth. ⁵ And he will be our peace when the Assyrians invade our land and march through our fortresses.

him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in him, to become children of God— ¹³ children born not of human decision or a husband’s will, but born of God who made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

(Sit)

SERMON HYMN: LSB 370 **What Child Is This?**

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE: Pastor Bruce Kischel

Theme: “Christ
Text: John 1:1-5

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

+ + + **OUR RESPONSE**

The EPISTLE LESSON: Galatians 4:4-7 [**At just the right time...**]

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

CHORAL RESPONSE: The Gift

Words & Music by: Katherine Davis, Henry Onorati, H
Arr. by Kris Crunk, Vocals Arr. David Wise | ©1958 (F
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Son into our hearts, the
(Rise)
slave, but God’s child;

The CHRISTMAS PRAYERS:

Pastor: Unto us a child is born!

People: Unto us a son is given! Halleluia!

Pastor: Gracious God, our Heavenly Father, all praise, forever and ever! The news we have received of Him we might have light and hope. He is our gift. O, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good! Dearest Jesus, our Savior and Redeemer, to you putting aside your glory to take on our flesh. In our hearts, you are our great joy!

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

(Rise)

The HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:1-5, 10-14 [**The WORD became flesh!**]

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not

People: O, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good! Holy Spirit, our true Comforter, we praise and thank you for the Good News. Keep us firmly in the true Faith and bring us to the confirmation of that Good News to others.