

# 2nd Sunday of Christmas

Saturday, January 3rd 5:00 PM

Sunday, January 4th 9:00 AM



## OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

809 S Commercial St. Neenah, WI 54956

[our-saviors.org](http://our-saviors.org)

(920) 725-3956



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

We are glad you are joining us for worship at  
**OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Please fill out the **Pew Pads** for registering your attendance and communion participation. If you would like a pastoral call or want to join OSLC, please check those boxes and include contact information.

During the **Offering**, the ushers will pass the traditional offering plates. In addition to placing gifts in the plates, this QR code can be used if you would like to give electronically through **Tithe.ly**. **Please Note:** If you give cash in an envelope, please write your name on the envelope if you want credit for it on your giving statement.



We have an open table for **Holy Communion** with two options to receive communion:

- 1) Come forward, at the direction of the ushers, to receive communion by **Intinction**. You will receive a wafer (gluten free available) and then dip it either in the wine (red) or grape juice (white).  
  
Children and others not wishing to receive communion may come forward with their hands folded to receive a blessing. Otherwise, come forward with you palms open to receive a wafer.
- 2) Stay in your pew and use the **self-contained communion cups** (wafer on the top and grape juice on the bottom). These are located in the rear of the sanctuary as you walk in.

There are portions of the worship service when the **assembly is invited to stand**. Feel free to sit anytime during worship.

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# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Prelude, Welcome, Announcements & Call to Worship

### GATHERING

#### Gathering Song: "When a Star Is Shining"

*please stand as you are able*



1 When a star is shin-ing o - ver east - ern hills,  
2 Where the world is wait-ing for an un - known day,  
3 Lead us on, O Day-star, in the qui - et night;



when the air is si - lent, and the clam - or stills,  
where a voice for - got - ten cries, "Pre - pare the way!"  
guide us through the shad - ow with your gen - tle light;



when the night is wait-ing, and the old hopes rise,  
Where an earth - ly pow - er makes the heart turn cold,  
show us in a man - ger our re - demp - tion's sign;



then the time has rip - ened and the heart grows wise.  
there the gifts are of - fered— in - cense, myrrh, and gold.  
bring us to a morn-ing where the prom - ise shines.



Lead us on, lead us on, to a morn-ing where the



prom-ise shines. Lead us on, lead us on,



to a morn - ing where the prom - ise shines.

## Confession and Forgiveness

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

**C Amen.**

L Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L Reconciling God,

**C 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.**

L 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!

**C Amen.**

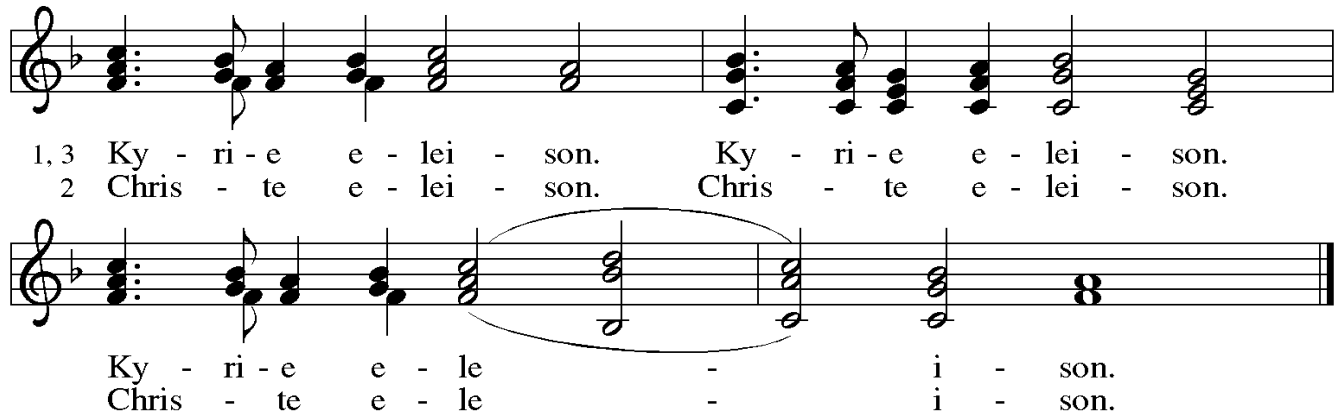
## Greeting

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

**C And also with you.**

# Kyrie

ELW 155

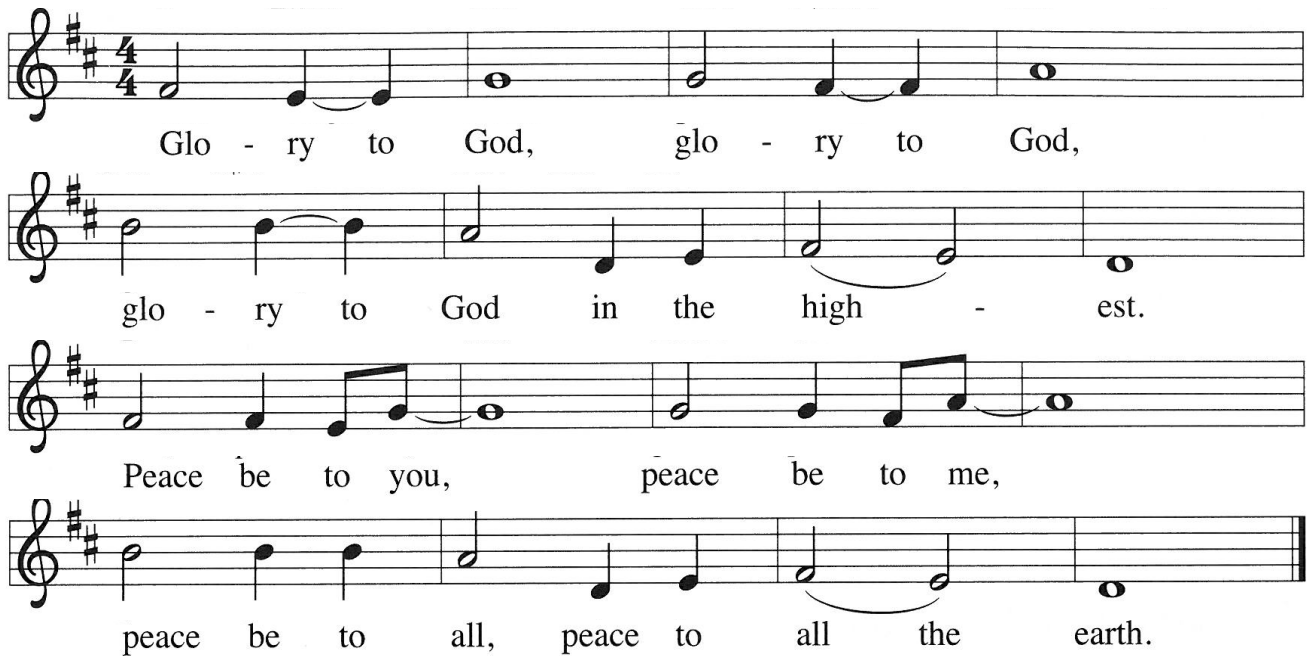


1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
 2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
 Chris - te e - lei - son.

# Canticle of Praise: "Glory to God"

ACS 911



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God,  
 glo - ry to God in the high - est.  
 Peace be to you, peace be to me,  
 peace be to all, peace to all the earth.

Text: Marcus Veenstra; tr. composite  
 Music: GLORIA A DIOS, Marcus Veenstra; arr. Greg Scheer, b. 1966  
 Text and music © Marcus Veenstra, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## Prayer of the Day

**C 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.  
**Amen.**

*you may be seated*

**Special Music:** “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Choir (Sunday)

*African American Spiritual*  
Arranged by Gary Lanier

## WORD

### Psalm 147:12-20

*Congregation reads the bold verses*

- <sup>12</sup> Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem;  
praise your God, O Zion,  
<sup>13</sup> **who has strengthened the bars of your gates  
and has blessed your children within you.**  
<sup>14</sup> God has established peace on your borders  
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.  
<sup>15</sup> **God sends out a command to the earth,  
a word that runs very swiftly.**  
<sup>16</sup> God gives snow like wool,  
scattering frost like ashes.  
<sup>17</sup> **God scatters hail like bread crumbs.  
Who can stand against God’s cold?**  
<sup>18</sup> The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the waters flow.  
<sup>19</sup> **God declares the word to Jacob,  
statutes and judgments to Israel.**  
<sup>20</sup> The LORD has not done so to any other nation;  
they do not know God’s judgments. Hallelujah!

## Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup> He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup> In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

R Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Acclamation

ELW 174

*please stand as you are able*



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker  
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## **Gospel: John 1:1-18**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to John the 1st Chapter.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup> (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") <sup>16</sup> From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*you may be seated*

## **Children's Sermon**

**Sermon**

Rev. Jon Strasman

## Hymn of the Day: “In a Far-Off Place, Jesus Comes”

ACS 908

*please stand as you are able*

1 In a far - off place, Je - sus comes to earth.  
2 For the poor in heart, Je - sus comes to earth.  
3 In our deep - est night, Je - sus comes to earth:

Sheep and cat - tle grace the site. As the  
Hum - ble shep - herds start the news. For each  
ra - diant star to light our way. Sum - mer's

an - gel songs be - gin, like the whis - per of the wind,  
home-less in - fant born, for the meek and those who mourn,  
heat or win - ter's chill, with a warm and lov - ing will,

na - ture's hope a - wakes a - gain; Je - sus comes.  
for the wear - y and the worn, Je - sus comes.  
to a world that needs him still, Je - sus comes.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TENTH NIGHT, Sally Ann Morris, b. 1952

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## **Apostles' Creed**

**C 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.**

## **Prayers of the People**

**L Hear us, O God.**

**C Your mercy is great.**

**L With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God,  
trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.**

**C Amen.**

## **Peace**

**L The peace of Christ be with you always.**

**C And also with you.**

*you may be seated*

## MEAL

### The Offering

*This QR code can be used  
to give electronically through **Tithe.ly***



### Offering Song: “What Child Is This”

ELW 296



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

## Offering Prayer

*please stand as you are able*

**C** God of glory,  
great are your wonders among us  
and many are the blessings you bestow.  
Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world,  
that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace,  
through Christ our Savior.  
Amen.

## 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.

## The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C 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 God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

## Communion

*you may be seated*

### Communion Song: "Be Known to Us"

ACS Setting 12



# Communion Song: "The First Noel"

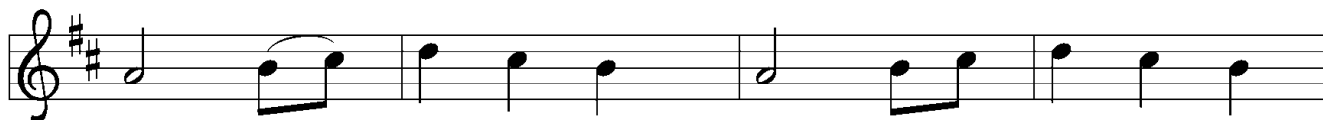
ELW 300



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing  
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .  
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .  
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the  
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it  
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -  
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the  
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

## Refrain



night that was so deep.  
 tin-ued both day and night.  
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
 place where Je - sus lay.  
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

## **Table Blessing**

*please stand as you are able*

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you always in God's grace.

**C** Amen

## **Prayer after Communion**

**C** 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.  
Amen.

## **SENDING**

## **Blessing**

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

**C** Amen.

## Sending Song: “The Bells of Christmas”

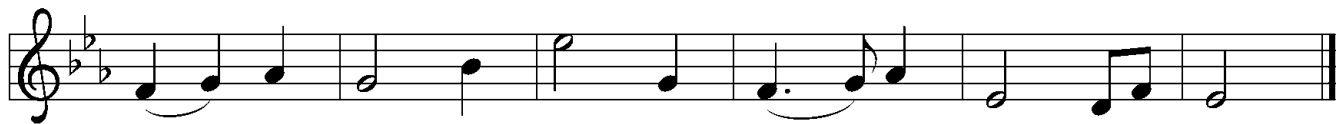
ELW 298



*Det ki - mer nu til ju - le - fest, det ki - mer*  
1 The bells of Christ - mas chime once more; the heav'n - ly  
2 This world, though wide and far out - spread, could scarce - ly  
3 Now let us go with qui - et mind, the swad - dled  
4 Oh, join with me, in glad - ness sing, to keep our



*for den høj - e gæst, som steg til la - ve*  
guest is at the door. He comes to earth - ly  
find for you a bed. Your cra - dle was a  
babe with shep - herds find, to gaze on him who  
Christ - mas with our king, un - til our song, from



*hyt - ter ned med nyt - års - ga - ver: fryd og fred.*  
dwell - ings still with new year gifts of peace, good will.  
man - ger stall, no pearl nor silk nor king - ly hall.  
glad - dens them, the love - liest flow'r of Jes - se's stem.  
lov - ing souls, like rush - ing might - y wa - ter rolls!

5 O patriarchs' Joy, O prophets' Song,  
O Dayspring bright, awaited long,  
O Son of Man, incarnate Word,  
great David's Son, great David's Lord:

6 Come, Jesus, glorious heav'nly guest,  
and keep your Christmas in our breast;  
then David's harpstrings, hushed so long,  
shall swell our jubilee of song.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Charles Porterfield Krauth, 1823–1883, alt.  
Music: DET KIMER NU TIL JULEFEST, Carl C. N. Balle, 1806–1855

## Dismissal

L Glory to God in the highest!

C And peace to God's people on earth!

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

C Thanks be to God.