



**December 29, 2024**  
First Sunday after Christmas

## ***St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church***

*403 West Bridge Street, Brownstown, IN*

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### **The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**

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## **St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**WELCOME to Worship today!** What a joy to be together in Christ! Please fill out the "Member" or "Guest" side of our Communication Card located in the pew racks. Please place them in the offering plate or hand to an elder during the singing of the first hymn. Prayer request cards are also available. Again, welcome!

### **AS WE GATHER**

Did you already forget Christmas? The department stores have begun selling the leftovers for a discount because "Christmas is over." For the same reason, formerly decorated Christmas trees already line the streets as refuse for disposal. Even though Christmas songs speak joyously of "the twelve days of Christmas," many, if not most, people seem to think of them as a countdown rather than an extended celebration. Remember? Today, December 29, is but the fifth day of the twelve! We are not done yet. Or did you forget?

To "forget" is the opposite of the biblical word we hear today: "remember." But in Scripture, to remember means much more than merely recalling a past event as something that has no real, lasting effect on today; rather, the opposite is true. For instance, God remembers His promises by acting to fulfill them in each believer. For us, to remember means to bring a past promise or act to take effect in the present. Today we hear how the newborn Jesus, as the firstborn of Mary, was presented in the temple according to God's law, a command to remember the Lord's deliverance of His people from slavery in Egypt. Every firstborn was to be a reminder that the Lord still delivers His people from the slavery of sin and death. So, to remember that it is still Christmas is to believe that the Christ Child who came to free us comes now to each believer. Remember, that is, believe that Christ was born for you to save you. Remember, that is, believe that the forgiveness He won for us on the cross is actually given to us in the Sacrament of the Altar when, as He commanded, we do in remembrance of Him.

**Prelude**

**Welcome/Announcements**

**Ringling of the Bell**

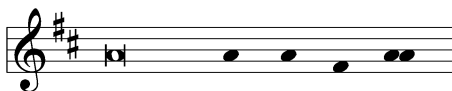
### **Opening Hymn: 374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child**

- 1 Gentle Mary laid her child, Lowly in a manger;  
There He lay, the Undeiled, To the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Savior?  
Ask the saved of all the race, Who have found His favor.

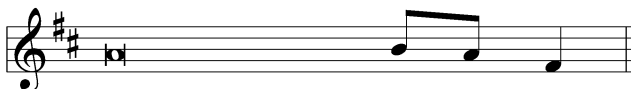
- 2 Angels sang about His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;  
Heaven's star shone brightly forth, Glory all around Him.  
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, Heard the angels singing;  
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ringing.
- 3 Gentle Mary laid her child, Lowly in a manger;  
He is still the Undefined, But no more a stranger.  
Son of God of humble birth, Beautiful the story;  
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glory!

Text: Joseph Simpson Cook, 1859-1933 Text: Public domain

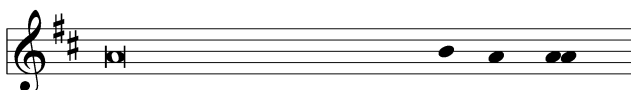
*Stand*



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Psalmody



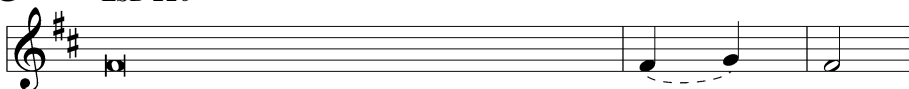
**L** Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.



**C** O come, let us wor-ship Him.

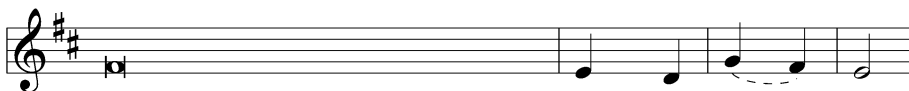
## Venite

*LSB 220*



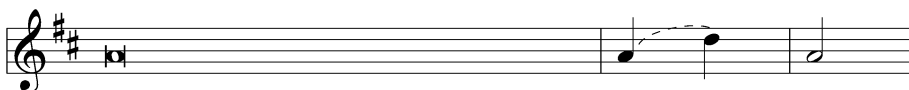
**C** 1 O come, let us sing . . . . . to the Lord,  
2 For the Lord is a . . . . . great God  
3 The sea is His, for He . . . . . made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and . . . . . to the Son

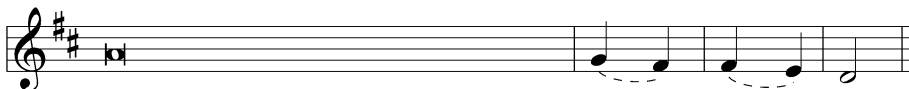


1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal-va-tion.  
2 and a great . . . . . king a-bove all gods.  
3 and His hand . . . . . formed the dry land.

5 and to the . . . . . Ho-ly Spir-it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks-giv-ing,  
2 The deep places of the earth are . . . . . in His hand;  
3 O come, let us worship and . . . . . bow down,  
4 For He . . . . . is our God,  
5 as it was in the be-gin-nig,



1 let us make a joyful noise to . . . . . Him with songs of praise.  
2 the strength of the hills is . . . . . His al-so.  
3 let us kneel before the . . . . . Lord, our mak-er.  
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.  
5 is now, and will be for ev-er. A-men.

## Psalmody



**L** Blessed be God, the Fa-ther, the Son, and the Ho-ly Spir-it.



**C** O come, let us wor-ship Him.

## Introit for Christmas 1

**C** The Lord has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

**P** Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marv'ulous things!  
His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.  
The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness  
in the sight of the nations. He has remembered His steadfast love and  
faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the  
salvation of our God. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.  
The Lord has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

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*Sit*

## Reading *Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15*

**P** A reading from Exodus, chapter 13.

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>"Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine." <sup>3</sup>Then Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . <sup>11</sup>"When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, <sup>12</sup>you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD's. <sup>13</sup>Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. <sup>14</sup>And when in time to come your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' you shall say to him, 'By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. <sup>15</sup>For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD

killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore, I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.”

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Reading** *Colossians 3:12–17*

**P** A reading from Colossians, chapter 3.

<sup>12</sup>Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup>bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## **Reading** *Luke 2:22–40*

**P** A reading from Luke, chapter 2.

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup>And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup>And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>33</sup>And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup>And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup>(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed." <sup>36</sup>And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup>and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem. <sup>39</sup>And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

## Responsory

The musical notation for the Verse and Refrain of "The Rose Tree" is shown on a single staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The Verse consists of four measures: the first measure has a quarter note on G4, the second measure has a quarter note on A4, the third measure has a quarter note on B4, and the fourth measure has a quarter note on C5. The Refrain consists of four measures: the first measure has a quarter note on G4, the second measure has a quarter note on A4, the third measure has a quarter note on B4, and the fourth measure has a quarter note on C5. The Refrain is marked with a repeat sign at the end.

Refrain



The Refrain is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It begins with a whole note chord of F#4 and C#5. This is followed by a half note G#4, then a quarter note F#4. The next measure contains a half note G#4 and a quarter note F#4. The final measure consists of a half note G#4 and a quarter note F#4. The piece ends with a double bar line.

*Sit*

## Hymn of the Day: 389 Let All Together Praise Our God

- 1 Let all together praise our God  
Before His glorious throne;  
Today He opens heav'n again  
To give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
- 2 He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne,  
Is born an infant small,  
And in a manger, poor and lone,  
Lies in a humble stall, Lies in a humble stall.
- 3 Within an earthborn form He hides  
His all-creating light;  
To serve us all He humbly cloaks  
The splendor of His might, The splendor of His might.
- 4 He undertakes a great exchange,  
Puts on our human frame,  
And in return gives us His realm,  
His glory, and His name, His glory, and His name.
- 5 He is a servant, I a lord:  
How great a mystery!  
How strong the tender Christ Child's love!  
No truer friend than He, No truer friend than He.
- 6 He is the key and He the door  
To blessed paradise;  
The angel bars the way no more.  
To God our praises rise, To God our praises rise.
- ▲7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,  
Lord Jesus, we adore  
And praise to God the Father yield  
And Spirit evermore; We praise You evermore.

Text: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561; (sts. 1, 3–7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 2): tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
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## Sermon



## **Canticle: 941 We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God**

- 1 We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord,  
The Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.  
    To You all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing,  
    The cherubim and seraphim their praises to You bring:  
    "O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
    Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!"
- 2 The band of the apostles in glory sing Your praise;  
The fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise.  
    The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and noble throng,  
    Sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:  
    "O all-majestic Father, Your true and only Son,  
    And Holy Spirit, Comforter—forever Three in One!"
- 3 You, Christ, are King of glory, the everlasting Son,  
Yet You, with boundless love, sought to rescue ev'ryone:  
    You laid aside Your glory, were born of virgin's womb,  
    Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb;  
Then by Your resurrection You won for us reprieve—  
You opened heaven's kingdom to all who would believe.
- 4 You sit in splendid glory, enthroned at God's right hand,  
Upholding earth and heaven by forces You command.  
    We know that You will come as our Judge that final day,  
    So help Your servants You have redeemed by blood, we pray;  
May we with saints be numbered where praises never end,  
In glory everlasting. Amen, O Lord, amen!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

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## **The Gathering of our Tithes and Offerings**

*Stand*

## **Prayers of the Church**

## Kyrie *LSB 227*



**C** Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

**Lord's Prayer:** *(see back cover of the hymnal)*

## Collects



**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



**C** And let my cry come to You.

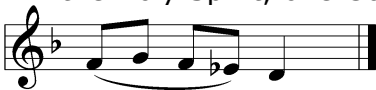
## Collect of the Day

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

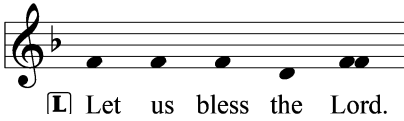
## Collect for Grace

**P** O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

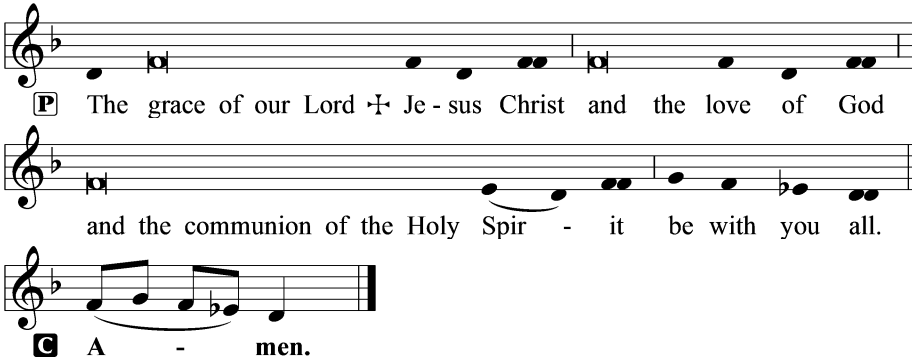


**C** A - men.

## Benedicamus *LSB 228*



## Benediction *LSB 228*



*Sit*

## Closing Hymn: 367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

- 1 Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth. **Refrain**

**refrain** Come and worship, come and worship;  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

- 2 Shepherds in the field abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
Yonder shines the Infant Light. **Refrain**

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,  
Brighter visions beam afar;  
Seek the great Desire of nations,  
Ye have seen His natal star. **Refrain**

4 Saints before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In His temple shall appear. **Refrain**

▲5 All creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising  
To the eternal Three in One. **Refrain**

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2–4): James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.; (st. 5): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, Salisbury, alt.  
Text: Public domain

Silent Prayer

Postlude

**Acknowledgments**

Matins from Lutheran Service Book

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