



Christmas Day Service

DECEMBER 25, 2023

HOPE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as our Lord says, Christ gives not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those: who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us. Because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, and because it is possible to receive our Lord's body and blood unworthily unto spiritual harm, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from this Lutheran congregation are asked first to speak with the pastor or an usher before participating in the sacrament. (See Matthew 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.)

Any Christian is invited to come forward to receive a blessing during distribution.

Prelude: 'A Great and Mighty Wonder' -cornet

Opening Hymn: From Heaven to Earth I Come

LSB 358, sts. 1-4

Confession and Absolution

LSB 184

Service of the Word

LSB 186

Kyrie

LSB 186

Gloria In Excelsis

LSB 187

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7–10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of him who brings good news,
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,
who publishes salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

⁸The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;
together they sing for joy;
for eye to eye they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;

he has redeemed Jerusalem.
¹⁰The 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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 2

¹Why do the nations rage*

and the peoples plot in vain?

²The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers take counsel together,*

against the LORD and against his anointed, saying,

³“Let us burst their bonds apart*

and cast away their cords from us.”

⁴He who sits in the heavens laughs;*

the Lord holds them in derision.

⁵Then he will speak to them in his wrath,*

and terrify them in his fury, saying,

⁶“As for me, I have set my King*

on Zion, my holy hill.”

⁷I will tell of the decree:*

**The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have begotten you.**

⁸Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,*

and the ends of the earth your possession.

⁹You shall break them with a rod of iron*

and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

¹⁰Now therefore, O kings, be wise;*

be warned, O rulers of the earth.

¹¹Serve the LORD with fear,*
and rejoice with trembling.

¹²Kiss the Son,
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.*

Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.

**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.**

Epistle

Hebrews 1:1–6

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,
“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”?

Or again,

“I will be to him a father,
and he shall be to me a son”?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,
“Let all God’s angels worship him.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

Holy Gospel

John 1:1–14

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

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

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him.

⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn of the Day: Of the Father's Love

LSB 384

Sit

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

LSB 191

Offertory

LSB 192

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface *LSB 160*

Sanctus *LSB 195*

The Words of Our Lord *LSB 197*

Pax Domini *LSB 197*

Agnus Dei: Lamb of God *LSB 198*

Sit

Distribution Hymns:

O Come, All Ye Faithful *LSB 379*

Angels from the Realms of Glory *LSB 367*

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199*

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

Benedicamus & Benediction *LSB 202*

Closing Hymn: From Heaven to Earth I Come *LSB 358. Sts. 13-15*

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Five from Lutheran Service Book

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Prayer Requests

Margaret, Gail and her family, Jean, Bruce, Wilfred, Ruth, Lillian B, Robert, David, Laura, Judith, Lynn, Paul, Queen, Eve, Noah, Hannes, Gloria, Courtenay, Laura R., Wayne

Serving

Elder of the Month: Bert Weiss
Altar Guild: Deborah & Eleanor

Organist: Barbara Guidetti

Coming Up...

Sunday, December 31st: First Sunday after Christmas
10:30 am Worship

Sunday, December 31st: Lutheran Hour: "The Exit from Regret" (Luke 2:27-28)
When life becomes an endless roundabout of regret, Christ is your entrance to forgiveness and a new start. Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes. Hear this inspirational message on KAWZ, 88.3 FM at 7 a.m. Sunday. Streaming audio and podcasts at www.lutheranhour.ca

Out of Office: Pastor Chandler will be away January 1 – 5, 2024. If you have any emergency please contact one of the elders.

Christmas Day Potluck: Join us downstairs in the Church Hall for a potluck lunch.

REPOSE RECITAL: . On Saturday, January, 6th at 3:00 pm there will be a Celebration of Carols for the Ukraine! ALL WELCOME, COME AND SING!!! Free Will Offering to support missions for the Ukraine

Rehearsals: Belle Voci Choir will resume rehearsals on Thursday, January 11th at 3:00 pm. Chime Choir will break after Christmas and resume rehearsals on Saturday, January 13th.

Merry Christmas

