

Sundays of Christmas

December 26, 2021 · January 2, 2022



This liturgy comes from three different sources. The “Dialogue,” “Sanctus,” “Nunc Dimittis,” and “Benediction” were set to familiar Christmas carols by Rev. Timothy Smith. The “Gospel Acclamation” and “Agnus Dei” were set to (perhaps less-familiar) southern Appalachian Christmas carols by David Anderson. The Words of Institution are by Rev. Jeffrey Ingold of St. Luke’s Lutheran, Charlotte.

Welcome and Worship Announcements

Prelude

Invocation

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who sends the word with angels,
who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth.
Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess our sin before you.
We replace compassion with competition.
We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek.
We are quick to anger but slow to forgive.
We have not put on love in harmony with you.
Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word.
Swaddle our hearts with your peace,
that all we do, in word or deed,
may reflect your love born among us.
Amen.

I bring you good news of great joy for all people:
God has come among us
in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord.
† In Christ your sins are forgiven
and you are clothed in peace.
Amen.

Gathering Hymn

12/26: “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice,” ELW #288
1/2: “Angels from the Realms of Glory,” ELW #275

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

...one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

12/26: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

1/2: Jeremiah 31:7-14

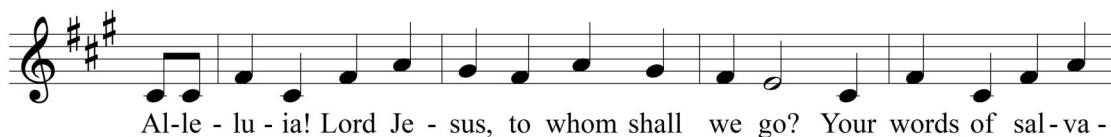
Second Reading

12/26: Colossians 3:12-17

1/2: Ephesians 1: 3-14

Gospel Acclamation

to the tune of "I Wonder as I Wander"



Al-le - lu - ia! Lord Je - sus, to whom shall we go? Your words of sal - va -



tion we've come here to know. Our hearts burn with-in us; your love through



us show. Al-le - lu - ia! Lord Je - sus, to whom shall we go?

Gospel

12/26: Luke 2:41-52

1/2: John 1: 1-18

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

at the conclusion of the reading:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Silence for reflection follows the sermon

Hymn of the Day

12/26: "Jesus, What a Wonderful Child," ELW 297
1/2: "Word of God, Come Down," ELW 510

Apostles' Creed

**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 into hell.
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 Intercession

Hear us, O God
your mercy is great.

Peace

Offering

see MARKings

Offertory Response

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

1 In the bleak mid-winter, frost-y wind made moan,
3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?

earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;

snow had fallen. snow on snow. snow on my snow;
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;

in the bleak mid-winter, long ago.
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Offering Prayer

Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth.
As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth
you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation,
in Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

Dialogue

to the tune of "O Come All Ye Faithful"

Presider *Congregation*

The Lord be with you. And with you, his ser - vant.

Presider

O come, let us lift our hearts un - to the Lord.

Congregation

With hearts up - lift - ed thanks to him we ren - der:

With joy we come be - fore him, in grate - ful - ness im - plore him.

With thank - ful hearts a - dore him e - ver - more!

Proper Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

to the tune of "Hark! The Herald Angels"



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord! God of hosts, by all a-dored! Heav'n and earth can-



not con-tain all the glo - ry of your name! Hail! Ho-san-na! God most high!



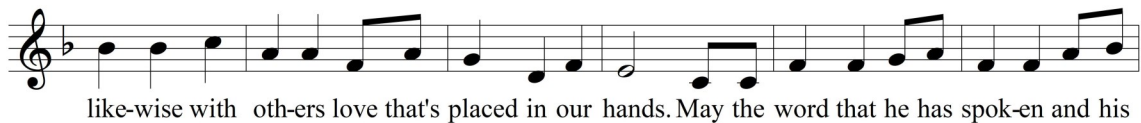
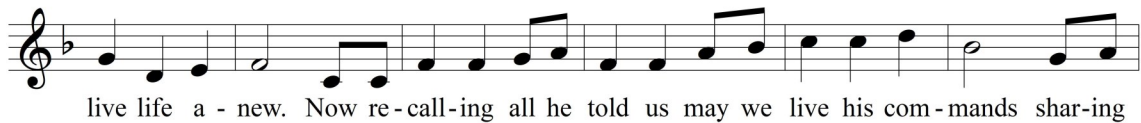
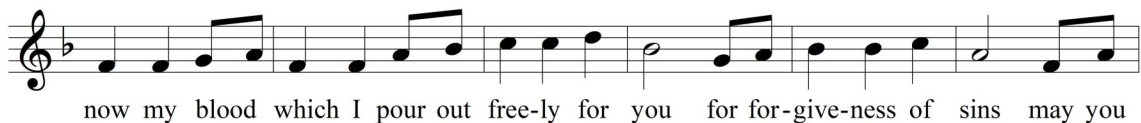
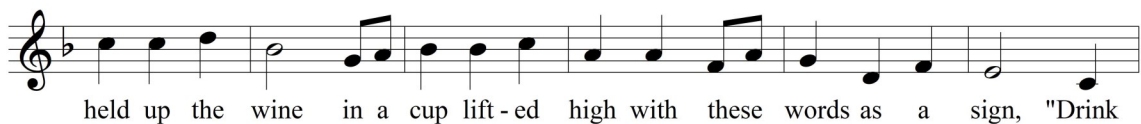
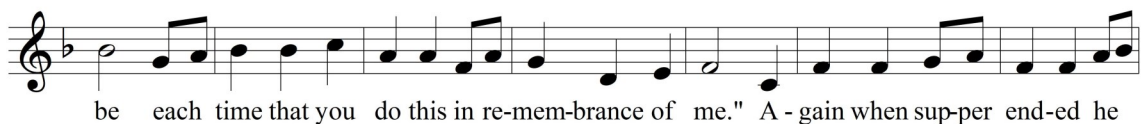
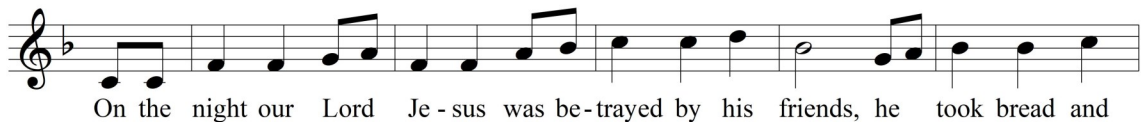
Bless'd is he who now draws nigh, in the name of God the King! Al-le - lu - ias



glad we sing: Hail! Ho-san-na! Prais-es due, be for - ev - er, Lord, to you!

Words of Institution

to the tune of "Away in a Manger"



Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

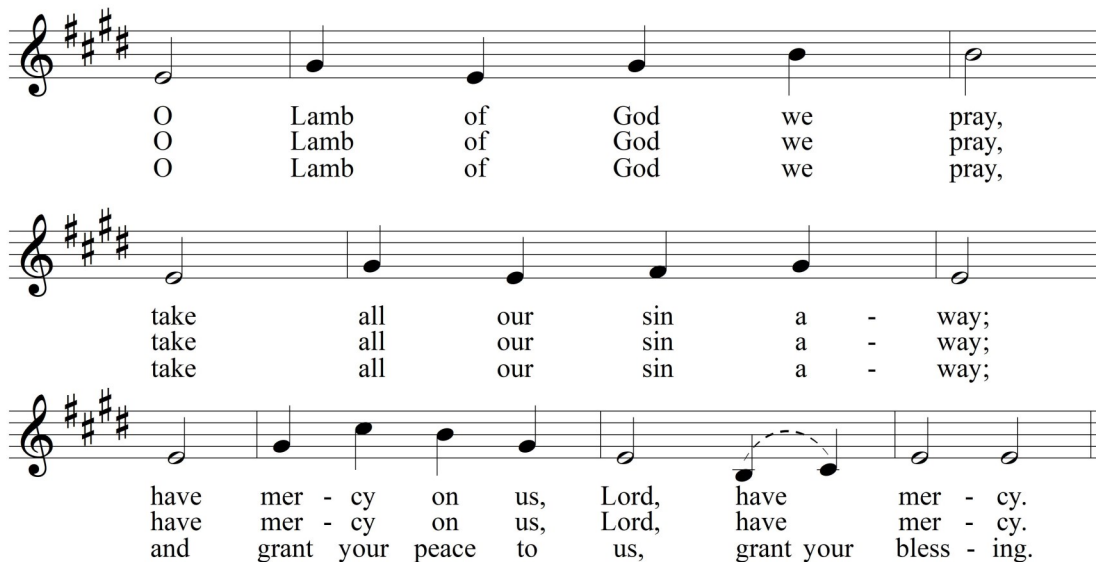
Invitation to Communion

In Christ's manger, at Christ's table,
come, see what God makes known for you.

Thanks be to God.

Agnus Dei

to the tune of "Judah's Land"



O Lamb of God we pray,
O Lamb of God we pray,
O Lamb of God we pray,
take all our sin away;
take all our sin away;
take all our sin away;
have mer - cy on us, Lord, have mer - cy.
have mer - cy on us, Lord, have mer - cy.
and grant your peace to us, grant your bless - ing.

Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
 strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

to the tune of "God Rest Ye Merry"



Oh, thank the Lord and sing his praise, what he has done pro -
 Lord let your ser - vant go in peace, your word has been ful -
 Oh praise to God the Fa - ther, and praise to God the



claim! Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his
 filled, My eyes have seen the sav - ing work which for the world you
 Son. And praise to God the Spi - rit, most bless - ed Three in



name, Who leads his thank - ful peo - ple forth, his prom - is - es to
 willed: for Gent - iles and for Is - ra - el, a light for all re -
 One, As 'twas, is now, and e'er shall be, while end - less a - ges



claim, Oh ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and
 vealed, Oh ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and
 run! Oh ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and



joy, oh ti - dings of com - fort and joy.
 joy, oh ti - dings of com - fort and joy.
 joy, oh ti - dings of com - fort and joy.

Prayer after Communion

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus,
God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine.
As we have shared this feast of love,
strengthen us to share your love with all the world.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

Benediction

to the tune of "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Presider



May the good Lord bless and keep, cause his face on you to shine,

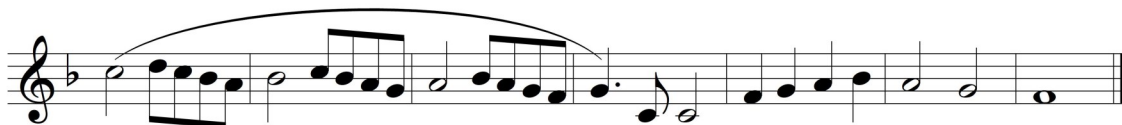


look on you with fa - vor deep, grant-ing you his peace di-vine.

Congregation



Glo - - - - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o;



glo - - - - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o.

Announcements and Dismissal

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

See MARKings

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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(828) 253-0043 · www.stmarkslutheran.net

We wish to acknowledge and honor the Anigiduwagi, more commonly known as the Cherokee peoples, upon whose ancestral homelands we gather for worship this evening, as well as our Indigenous siblings who have cared for and continue to care for this place - this land - and call it their home.

Ministers

The People of God at St. Mark's

Staff

Pastor: The Reverend Matthew Smith
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Director of Discipleship and Faith Formation: Deacon Katie Rivers
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Pastor of Caring Ministries: The Reverend Linda McHenry
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Facilities Manager: Steve Henry
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Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Friday: 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

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