### **Prelude**

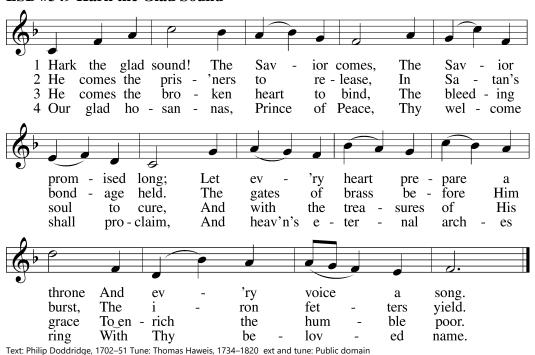
### **Announcements**

Stand

### **Opening Prayer**

### **Opening Hymn**

### LSB #349 Hark the Glad Sound



# + Confession and Absolution +

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

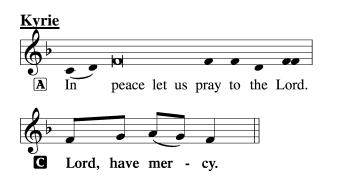
# + Service of the Word +

Stand

### **Introit**

- P Rejoice in the Lord always;
- again I will say, Rejoice.
- **P** Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
- C whose hope is in the LORD his God,
- **P** who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,
- C who keeps faith forever;

- **P** who executes justice for the oppressed,
- **C** who gives food to the hungry.
- **P** The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
- The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. 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.



LSB p.152



A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

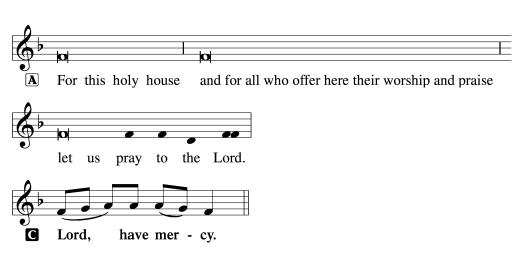


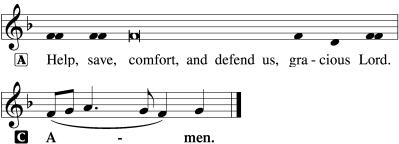


A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,









During Advent, the Hymn of Praise is omitted.

# **Salutation and Collect of the Day**



# **P** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

# **Old Testament Reading**

Zephaniah 3:14–20

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup>The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. <sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. <sup>17</sup>The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. <sup>18</sup>I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. <sup>19</sup>Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. <sup>20</sup>At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

# **Gradual**

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

From the house of the Lord we bless you.

**Epistle** Philippians 4:4–7

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

# Alleluia and Verse



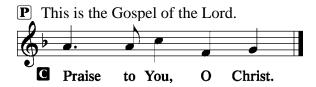
Holy Gospel Luke 7:18-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.



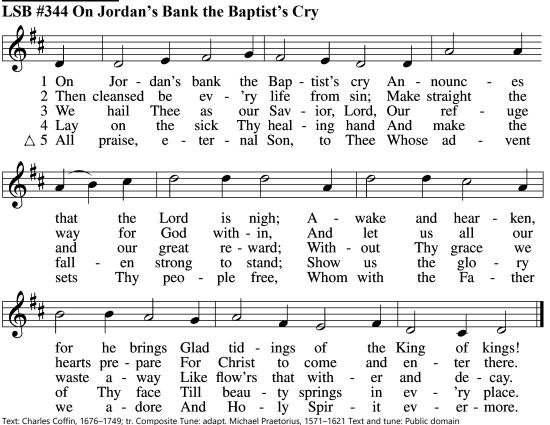
<sup>18</sup>The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, <sup>19</sup>calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" <sup>20</sup>And when the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, 'Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" <sup>21</sup>In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. <sup>22</sup>And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." <sup>24</sup>When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>25</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. <sup>26</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup>This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.' <sup>28</sup>I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

<sup>29</sup>When all the people heard this, and the tax collectors too, they declared God just, having been baptized with the baptism of John, <sup>30</sup>but the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him. <sup>31</sup>"To what then shall I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? <sup>32</sup>They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.' <sup>33</sup>For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.' <sup>34</sup>The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' <sup>35</sup>Yet wisdom is justified by all her children."



Sit

### Hymn of the Day



Sermon

Have It God's Way"

Rev. Dr. Jedidiah Maschke

### **Nicene Creed**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

Stand

# **Prayer of the Church**

- **P** Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayers:

- **P** ...one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

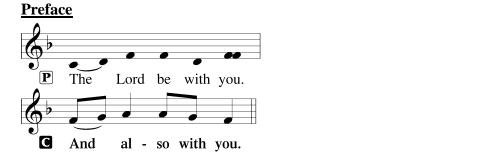
# **Offering**

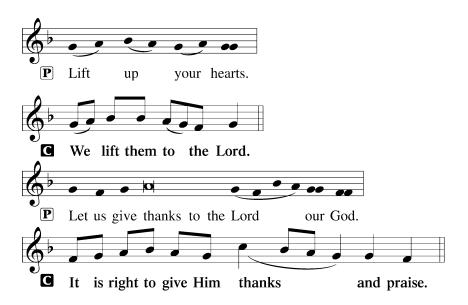




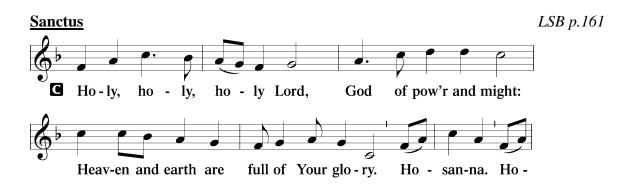
# + Service of the Sacrament +

LSB p.160





It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:





**Prayer of Thanksgiving** 

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

# **The Words of Our Lord**

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

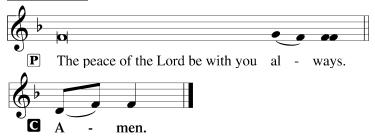
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion. Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

# Lord's Prayer

**©** 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.

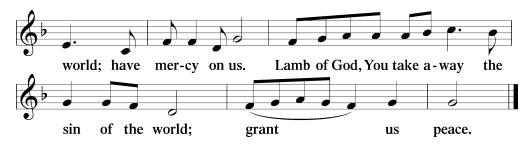
Pax Domini LSB p.163



# **Agnus Dei**



Lamb of God, You take a-way of the mer-cy on us. the sin

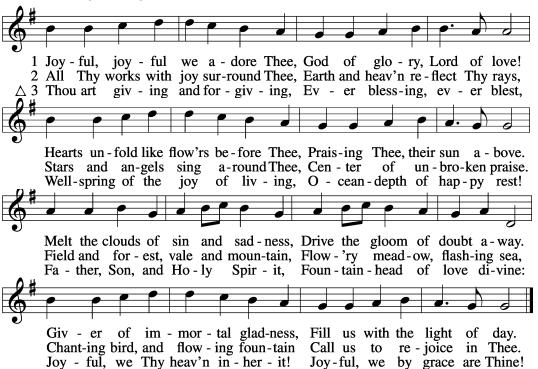


Sit

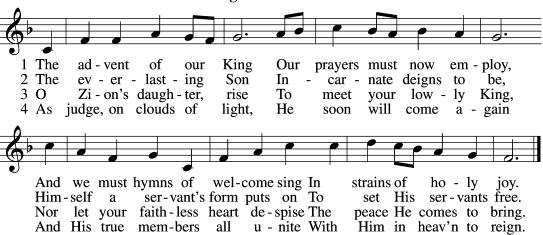
### **Distribution**

If you have not communed with us before, please see our statement of belief about communion on the inside front cover of the bulletin. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please ask the pastor for one. Also available in the center of the communion trays are two individual cups with water and a drop of wine.

# LSB #803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



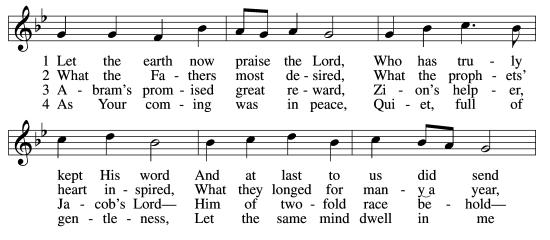
### LSB #331 The Advent of Our King



5 Before the dawning day Let sin's dark deeds be gone, The sinful self be put away, The new self now put on. △ 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806-76, alt. Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731-76 Text and tune: Public domain

### LSB #352 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord



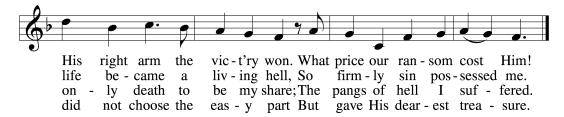


- 5 Bruise for me the serpent's head That, set free from doubt and dread, I may cling to You in faith, Safely kept through life and death.
- 6 Then when You will come again As the glorious king to reign, I with joy will see Your face, Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter Text and tune: Public domain

### LSB #556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice





- 5 God said to His belovèd Son: "It's time to have compassion. Then go, bright jewel of My crown, And bring to all salvation. From sin and sorrow set them free; Slay bitter death for them that they May live with You forever."
- 6 The Son obeyed His Father's will,
  Was born of virgin mother;
  And God's good pleasure to fulfill,
  He came to be my brother.
  His royal pow'r disguised He bore;
  A servant's form, like mine, He wore
  To lead the devil captive.
- 7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me, I am your rock and castle. Your ransom I Myself will be; For you I strive and wrestle. For I am yours, and you are Mine, And where I am you may remain; The foe shall not divide us.

- 8 "Though he will shed My precious blood, Me of My life bereaving, All this I suffer for your good; Be steadfast and believing.
  Life will from death the vict'ry win; My innocence shall bear your sin, And you are blest forever.
  - 9 "Now to My Father I depart,
    From earth to heav'n ascending,
    And, heav'nly wisdom to impart,
    The Holy Spirit sending;
    In trouble He will comfort you
    And teach you always to be true
    And into truth shall guide you.
- 10 "What I on earth have done and taught Guide all your life and teaching; So shall the kingdom's work be wrought And honored in your preaching.

  But watch lest foes with base alloy The heav'nly treasure should destroy; This final word I leave you."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg Text and tune: Public domain

### **The Dismissal**

- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.
- C Amen.

Stand **Post-Communion Hymn** LSB #936 Sing Praise to the God of Israel 1 Sing praise to the God of Is - ra - el! Sing praise for His 2 God spoke by the proph-ets long a - go, His prom - ise on 3 You, child, will go be - fore the Lord on As proph - et, His Sun, now shine on bright, ris - ing In need of us vis - i - ta Re - deem - ing His peo - ple from their tion! oath re - call ing-To A - bra-ham made in for - mer years: speak on way pre - par ing: To be - half of God Most High, Come scat - ter the shades of sin and death lu - mi - na tion: Ac - com - plish - ing their sal - va tion, Up - rais - ing Of van - quish - ing foes ap - pall That those He deing, coun - sel de - clar Rich truth mer - cv and of ing: And shat - ter their dom - i - na tion. Be guid - ing our might - y horn with - in The house of His ser - vant Da - vid! liv - ered from their fears Might glad - ly and tru - ly serve Him. grace for all where - by In - iq - ui - ty is for - giv - en. foot - steps on the path Of peace, in Your pres - ence dawn - ing!

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### **Post-Communion Collect**

**P** Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction LSB p.166



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

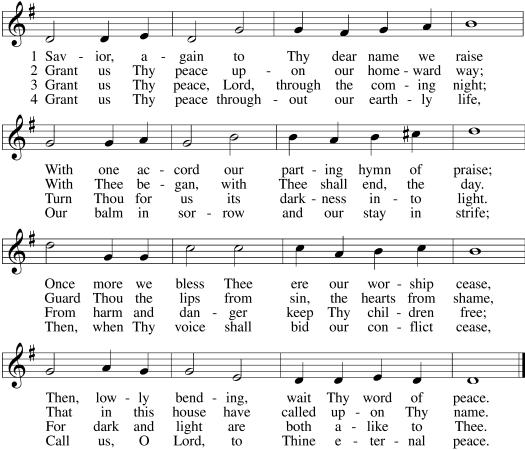
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.





# **Closing Hymn**

# LSB #917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise



Text: John Ellerton, 1826–93 Tune: Edward J. Hopkins, 1818–1901 Text and tune: Public domain

# **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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### Silent Prayer & Postlude



# **NOTE to All Members**: To connect your hearing aid to the **Listen Everywhere** feature you will need a smart phone. You can control the volume through your hearing aid volume buttons or the hearing aid app on your phone (if you have one



### installed.)

- 1. On your phone, connect to the "BLC Guest" network with password Bethlehem1837.
- 2. Go to the app store and search "Listen Everywhere" and download.
- 3. Open the app and touch "Allow" when asked.

# Serving Next Sunday December 22, 2024 (9:15am service)

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. Jedidiah Maschke

Elder: Bill Scott

Ushers: Warren Coles, Charles Kihm

Acolytes: Shane Barry

Accompanist: Beverly Baumgartner

Altar Guild: Kathy Jackson

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*Elders' Corner*: If you have something you would like to discuss with your Elder concerning the church and your life, please don't hesitate to contact him. If there is no answer, please leave a voicemail and/or message.

Members	Your Elder is:	
Abbott – Davey	Bill Scott	909-838-2129
Dodd - Jenkins	Bob Spiker	775-745-6316
Jones-Magrath	Jarvis Manning	775-461-3493
Manning - Smith	Jimmy Poncsak	760-792-9014
Soderstrom – Zuber	Josh Karges	775-230-6212

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# **Bethlehem Lutheran Church Giving Tree!!**

Thanks to all who have taken the Tags for this year's Giving Tree for the less fortunate in our community. Items requested are suggestions, anything would be appreciated. The tags on the tree are from the Carson City Senior Center and the Carson City School District. **Please return wrapped gifts with Tags attached no later than Today, Sunday, December 15**<sup>th</sup>. The sooner the better, so gifts can be distributed before Christmas.

Thank you for your donations.

Any questions, please contact Sharon Richison at 775-720-0992.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the children's Christmas program. The adults who were part of the program, those who supplied food for the brunch following the program, and those who set up and cleaned up the fellowship room. The biggest thank you goes to the children who worked hard on their parts and did a great job with reading even with the glitch of no microphone.

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December 29<sup>th</sup>, to celebrate the end of 2024, following the church service, there will be a potluck brunch. Everyone is asked to bring a food item to share. Plan to attend and share some time with your fellow members.

# The third Advent candle is lit today on our Advent Wreath.

This candle is for the shepherds and their joy at the appearance of the angels announcing Christ's birth:

'Now there were in the same country, shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord". (Luke 2:8-11 NKJV)

# Wednesday, Dec. 18: God's Angel Assures Joseph in a Dream

Joseph's doubts were calmed by an angel's message, affirming God's plan for Mary's child. We will reflect on Joseph's faithfulness and how God reassures us in moments of uncertainty, calling us to trust and obedience.

### Christmas Services

# Christmas Eve: The Angels' Christmas Carol

Candlelight Service at 5:00 p.m.

On Christmas Eve, we will join the angels in their celestial hymn of praise as we reflect on the angelic proclamation that brought joy to shepherds and the world forever.

# Christmas Day: The Wonderful Names Given to the Son of Mary by the Angel of Bethlehem

# Divine Service at 9:15 a.m. with Holy Communion

The angel's message to the shepherds revealed the identity of the newborn King: Savior, Christ, and Lord. These names encompass the fullness of who Jesus is and the profound hope He brings to the world.

Each angelic encounter throughout Advent and Christmas invites us into the mystery of God's saving work. Join us as we prepare our hearts for Christmas by dwelling on these heavenly messages, lifting our voices in prayer and song, and celebrating the birth of our Savior.

# Weekly Prayer Page

"And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us." (1 John 5:14)

Remember in Your Prayers – (New Additions noted in Bold print)

DeAnna McDaniel Blomberg and her daughter & granddaughter medical issues

Bruce — medical issues – friend of Stevens

Judi Bugg – health issues (Delbert Bugg's mother)

Joe Chambers – medical issues & prayers for

family and friends of Alice Page, Joe's

sister

Mark de la Torre – medical issues (School parent)

Grace Marie – medical issues

(Lynn Tappan's great niece)

Richard & Sandra Hartley

medical issues

Ernie Hernandez – *health issues* 

(Austin Stone's father-in-law)

 $Ken\ Hiley-{\it medical\ issues}$ 

– friend of Stevens

John Huss – brain tumor recovery (Maschke family's friend)

Robyn Izquierdo – medical issues (Jim Gansberg's daughter)

Gale Jackson - medical issues

Amanda Kilbourn – health issues

(Heather Bugg's friend)

Lisa Lariviere – (Rindi Fredlund's mother)

Laurel & Ed-medical issues

friends of Lora & Bob Spiker

Marie - friend of Pat Stevens

Darlene McClurg – medical issues

Dianne Medlock - medical issues

Norm Milz – medical issues

(retired pastor of Shepherd of the Sierra)

Mike Tappan – medical issues

(Lynn Tappan's husband)

Allyson Underwood – cancer

Karen Woodmansee

coping with medical issues

Deacon Mike Hudson – Pastoral Training (Bethany Lutheran Church, Hawthorne, NV)

### **Guidelines for the Weekly Prayer Page**

- 1) Anyone requesting prayers from the church must receive permission from the person before adding him/her.
- People will be added to the prayer list for two weeks, after which they will be removed, or by contacting the Church Secretary, be included for another two weeks.
- 3) Prayers will be offered for the friends and family of the deceased until three weeks after the memorial/funeral service or burial. If you have any questions or concerns about these guidelines, please speak to your Elder, Lora Spiker, the Church Secretary, or Pastor Maschke. Please submit your prayer request with pertinent information to the Church Office by Wednesday.

# Armed Forces:

Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Caleb Kern – Army (Colin & Kathleen Wigglesworth's nephew)
Justin Jorstad (Sally & Wayne Allen's grandson)
Jonathan Krenz – Navy – (David & Bonnie Krenz's son)
MSgt (E-7) Benjamin Welter – 192<sup>nd</sup> Airlift Squadron