



LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you and praise your name,

for in perfect faithfulness
you have done wonderful things,

things planned long ago.

Isaiah 25:1 (NIV)

WORSHIP AND THE WORD

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
December 26th, 2021

Call to worship

P: We were people walking in darkness.

C: But we have seen a great light.

P: For to us a child is born.

C: To us a son is given.

P: And the government will be upon his shoulders.

C: And of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end.

P: And what shall we call this son?

C: He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

P: Behold, a son has been born to us. Let us worship him with joy and thanksgiving!

C: Praise be to God! Amen!

Carol - #55 "Good Christian Friends Rejoice"

Welcome and announcements

***Confessions and forgiveness**

P: Romans chapter 3 verse 23 tells us that "*all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*". No one is immune. No one is perfect. But everyone is loved by God. So let's take some time to lift up our sins to God and trust in his abundant mercy.

<Take a few moments for silent confession and reflection>

P: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned by my own fault in thought, word and deed. I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

C: Almighty and merciful God grant you healing, pardon, and forgiveness of all your sins.

P: Amen!

C: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned by my own fault in thought, word and deed. I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.

P: Almighty and merciful God grant you healing, pardon, and forgiveness of all your sins.

C: Amen!

P: Rejoice and celebrate the newness of life that we have in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

C: Praise be to God. Alleluia!

****Hymn #50 "Angels From The Realms Of Glory"***

Old Testament Prophecies of Jesus

Scripture: Isaiah 9:2-7

Scripture: Isaiah 52:7-10

Hymn—"Let There Be Peace On Earth"

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father
Brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me,
Let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take
Let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment and live
Each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.

Old Testament Prophecies of Jesus

Scripture: Isaiah 35:5-10

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10

The Word

Preaching text: Matthew 2:1-12

Devotion from Pastor Eric

Response to the Word

*Apostles' Creed- pg. 65

*Prayers

Offering

*Offertory

The Sending

*The Christmas Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

*Benediction

****Sending Carol #70 "Go Tell It On The Mountain"***

*Dismissal

Looking ahead.....

Dec 25-Jan 2 Pastor Eric on Vacation
Dec 26 Worship and Word Service
Dec 31-Jan 6 Jen on Vacation
Jan 2 Communion Sunday
Jan 4 Ladies Bible Study with Pastor Eric @ 2pm (Psalm 23)
Jan 5 Confirmation resumes
Jan 9 Communion Sunday/Sunday School resumes
Jan 11 Quilting@ 9am
Jan 16 Annual Meeting@ 10:45am

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday January 16th, 2022, following the church service. We will have one-3 year position and two-1 year positions to be filled. If this is something you would consider doing, please talk with Cassie. We ask that all of you prayerfully consider how you can continue to serve your church family, as we have many roles and jobs to do. Thank you.

“We have some minor changes to the by-laws/constitution at the annual meeting. Prior to the annual meeting we need to have a 1st reading. This will happen after church on 1/9/2021. The changes are printed out and found in the back of the sanctuary:

- Annually meeting is to be held in January
- Added a Pastoral Care Committee
- Definition of membership



TODAY'S PRAYER

Heavenly Father, Thank You for Your goodness and faithfulness in my life. Thank You for refreshing and renewing my heart. Fill me with Your peace; fill me with Your strength. Help me to do good and stand firm until I see my harvest of blessing in Jesus' name. Amen

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