

**Welcome to Pilgrim Lutheran Church**

**Pastor Don Short**

**Second Sunday of Christmas**

**January 3, 2021**

**GATHERING AND WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God,  
Who was in the beginning,  
Who makes a dwelling among us,  
Who covers us with justice and mercy.  
**Amen.**

*(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)*

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God of goodness and lovingkindness,  
**We confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors.**  
**We have turned away from your invitation to new life.**  
**We have turned away from the lowly and the downtrodden.**  
**In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins,**  
**Those we know and those known only to you,**  
**For the sake of the one who came to live among us,**  
**Jesus Christ, our Savior.**  
**Amen.**

Hear the good news of peace and salvation!  
God forgives us all our sins, not through our own work, but through Jesus Christ, made known to all people.  
With all who come to the manger,  
Rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.  
**Amen**

## **Gathering Hymn~~Angels, From The Realms Of Glory~~ELW #275**

Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing  
your flight o'er all the earth;  
Once you sang creation's story, Now  
proclaim Messiah's birth: Come and  
worship, come and worship, Worship  
Christ, the newborn King. Shepherds, in  
the fields abiding, Watching o'er your  
flocks by night, God on earth is now  
residing; Yonder shines the infant  
light: Come and worship, come and  
worship, Worship Christ, the newborn  
King.

Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter  
visions beam afar; Seek the great Desire of  
Nations, You have seen his natal  
star: Come and worship, come and  
worship, Worship Christ, the newborn  
King. All creation, join in praising God,  
the Father, Spirit, Son, Evermore your  
voices raising, To the eternal  
Three-in-One: Come and worship, come  
and worship, Worship Christ, the  
newborn King.

Text: James Montgomery; Music: Henry T. Smart,  
Public domain

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **THE GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## **KYRIE~~Your Dear little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We~~ELW #286**

Your Little Ones, Dear Lord, are we  
And come your lowly bed to see;  
Enlighten ev'ry soul and mind,  
That we the way to you may find.  
Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord,

and to us all your grace accord;  
True faith and love to us impart,  
That we may hold you in our heart.

### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

Hark! The he-rald an-gels sing,  
"Glo-ry to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sin-ners rec-on-ciled."  
Joy-ful, all you na-tions, rise;  
Join the tri-umph of the skies,  
With an-gel-ic hosts pro-claim,  
"Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!"  
Hark! The her-ald an-gels sing,  
"Glo-ry to the new-born king!"

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## READINGS

### **First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:7-14**

<sup>7</sup>For thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." <sup>8</sup>See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. <sup>9</sup>With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. <sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." <sup>11</sup>For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. <sup>12</sup>They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. <sup>13</sup>Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. <sup>14</sup>I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Let us read Psalm 147**

<sup>12</sup>Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

<sup>13</sup>**For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you.**

<sup>14</sup>He grants peace within your borders; he fills you with the finest of wheat.

<sup>15</sup>**He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.**

<sup>16</sup>He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes.

<sup>17</sup>**He hurls down hail like crumbs— who can stand before his cold?**

<sup>18</sup>He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow, and the waters flow.

<sup>19</sup>**He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and ordinances to Israel.**

<sup>20</sup>He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances. Praise the LORD!

**A reading from Ephesians 1:3-14**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

**The Gospel Acclamation~~O Come all Ye Faithful~~ELW #242**

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

*The Holy Gospel according to John 1:1-18*  
***Glory to you O Lord***

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

<sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. <sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

<sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’”) <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

*This is the Gospel of our Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

### **Hymn of the Day~~Twas In The Moon of Wintertime~~ELW #284**

'Twas in the moon of wintertime, When all  
the birds had fled, That God the Lord of all  
the earth Sent angel choirs instead; Before  
their light the stars grew dim, And wand'ring  
hunters heard the hymn: Jesus your king is  
born; Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

The earliest moon of wintertime Is not so  
round and fair As was the ring of glory  
'round The helpless infant there. The chiefs  
from far before him knelt With gifts of fox  
and beaver pelt. Jesus your king is born;

Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

Oh, children of the forest free, The angel  
song is true; The holy child of earth and sky  
Is born this day for you; Come kneel before  
the radiant boy, Who brings you beauty,  
peace, and joy. Jesus your king is born,  
Jesus is born; in excelsis gloria. Text: Jean de  
Brebeuf, 1593-1649; trans. by Jesse E. Middleton,  
1872-1960, © 1927, Frederick Harris Music Co., Ltd.

## **APOSTLE’S 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 to the dead.  
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 THE CHURCH**

Hear us O God...

**Your mercy is great**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

### **OFFERATORY HYMN~~In The Bleak Midwinter~~ELW #294, V3 only**

What...can I give him, poor...as I am?

If I were a shep-herd I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise...man I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him—give my heart.

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**Gracious God, you came to us as one unknown, bringing joy and salvation to the earth. Nourish us at your banquet table, that with all who welcome your birth we may proclaim your peace, revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING~~ELW pg 144**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

. . . We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Hymn of Thanksgiving~~Angels We Have Heard On High~~ELW~~289, V3 only**

Come to Beth-le-hem and see  
Him whose birth the an-gels sing;  
Come, a-dore on bend-ed knee  
Christ the Lord, the new-born king.  
Glo-ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De-o;  
Glo-ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De-o.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE 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**

***DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION***

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**We give you thanks, Gracious God,**  
**That you have once again fed us from your very self with the body and blood of Christ.**  
**Through this mystery, send us forth to proclaim your promise to a world in need, through**  
**the same Jesus Christ, our Savior.**  
**Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION HYMN~~Good Christian Friends, Rejoice ELW~~#288 V1 only**

Good Chris-tian friends, re-joice  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say;  
Je-sus Christ is born to-day.  
Ox and ass be-fore him bow,  
And he is in the man-ger now.  
Christ is born to-day! Christ is born to-day!

**BENEDICTION**

May the Lord Bless you and keep you  
May the Lord make his face to shine upon you  
May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.  
In the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

**SENDING HYMN~~Let All Together Praise Our God~~ELW #287 (v. 1, 2, 4 & 5 only)**

**Let all together praise our God before the  
highest throne;  
today God opens heav'n again  
and sends the only Son,  
and sends the only Son.**

**Your mother feeds you tenderly,  
sings you a lullaby, while angels, hailing  
David's heir,  
your glory magnify,  
your glory magnify.**

**From God's right hand the Son descends,  
is born an infant small; and lies in  
poverty,  
his bed a manger in a stall,  
a manger in a stall.**

**A wonderful exchange you make;  
you take our flesh and blood,  
and in return give us to share  
the shining realm of God,  
the shining realm of God.**

Text: Nickolas Herman, 1480-1561,  
Music Nickolas Herman Text @ 2006 Augsburg Fortress



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Confirmation will meet January 6 at 4 pm.**

**Thank you everyone for following the governor's directive wearing masks, maintaining social distance, and refraining from singing. You are invited to hum along with the hymns. We appreciate your cooperation in curbing the spread of Covid-19.**

## **THE DISMISSAL**

**Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus**

**Thanks be to God!**