

# Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

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Ministers: All God's People

Pastor: Rob Moss

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## LOTV Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup> Second Sunday of Christmas

### Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world! He is the Light no darkness can overcome.

**C: On this day we gather to celebrate the light of our salvation.**

P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

P: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

**C: We have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

P: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

**C: In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

P: In Christ, God's Word is made flesh and lives among us.

**C: Let us live in the light and love of Christ.**

P: The Grace and Peace of Christ is with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray:

**C: Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with an - gel - ic hosts pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

*Refrain*

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

## Readings

### Jeremiah 31: 7-14

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.'

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 labour, together;  
a great company, they shall return here.

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.

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.'

For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,  
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.  
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.

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.  
I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,  
says the LORD.

### Ephesians 1: 3-14

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, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 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, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. 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; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

## Gospel Reading

### John 1: 1-18

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

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. (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." ' ) From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 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.

## Sermon

### Hymn of the Day "Of the Father's Love Begotten"



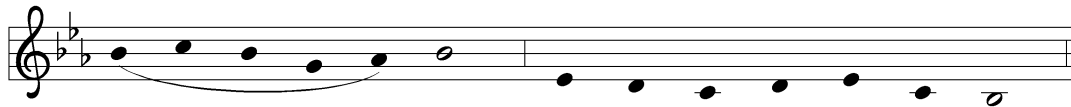
1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -  
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,  
 3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with  
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his  
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets  
 prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him  
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that  
 bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -  
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -  
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be  
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,  
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,  
 pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord  
 si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring  
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

### Affirmation of Faith

We place our hope in God,  
 the creator and giver of life,  
 who brought all creation to birth,  
 who mothers us and fathers us,  
 protecting, nurturing,  
 and cherishing us.

We place our hope in Jesus Christ:  
 God born among us as a fragile baby,  
 embodying both love and the need for love,  
 and calling us to rest in God  
 as trustingly as a tiny child.

We place our hope in the Holy Spirit,  
 breathed into us at our birth,  
 always drawing us on to be born anew,  
 encouraging, exhorting, comforting,  
 nourishing our growth  
 and inspiring our living.

We place our hope in the reconciliation  
 of the world to God, through Christ,  
 who entered our fearful darkness  
 so that we might enter his glorious light  
 and share the life of his resurrection.

**And we believe that each new child  
is a glimpse of the face of God,  
a sign of the life to come,  
and a call to live in peace  
and celebrate living together.  
Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth.  
Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People**

P: God of grace,  
**C: receive our prayer.**

### **Offering**

P: Let us pray, Merciful God,  
**C: Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.  
**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.  
**C: We lift them up to God.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P: It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you O God through Jesus Christ. You so loved the world that you sent your only Son, your word made flesh, to live among us and to open to us the way of your abundant life. And so with the Church on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

## Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Lord, Remember us in your love, and teach us to pray.

**C: 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

*We welcome all people who come in the faith to partake of Holy Communion. Smaller children are invited to come forward for a blessing. Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available, ask server as you approach.*

## After Communion Blessing and Prayer

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace now and in all of your days.

**C: Amen**

P: Life-giving God, in this meal you have bound us to yourself, from this table we have received the very presence of Jesus Christ. Send us now to be what we have received, that all creation might know your love and sing your praise now and always.

**C: Amen**

## Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace. In the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

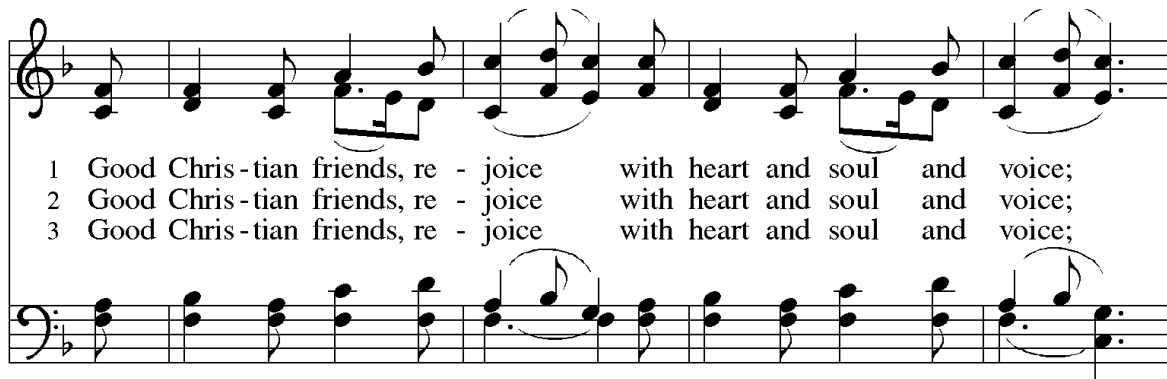
**C: Amen**

P: Go in peace and hope to serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God and we will!**

Closing Hymn

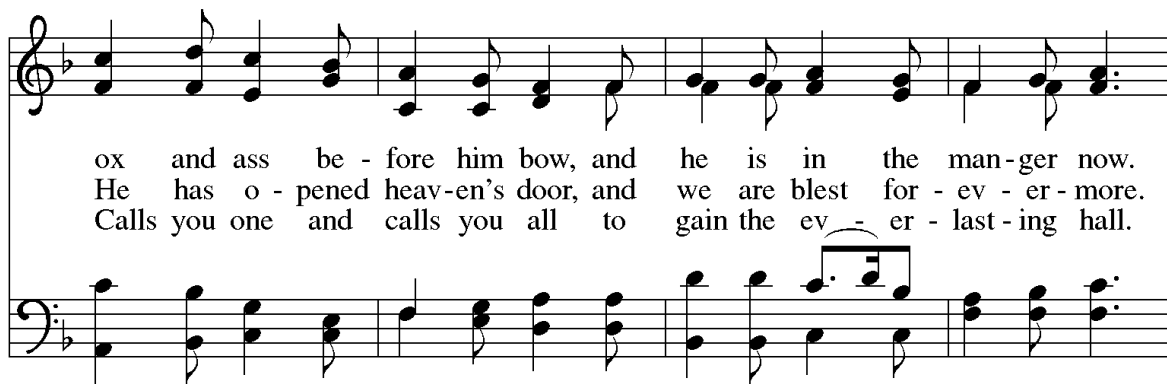
"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;  
2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;  
3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!