



## *Merry Christmas*

We welcome you to God's Service in worship at St. John's, and extend a special welcome to all guests and visitors with us.

- Visitors are not expected to bring an offering. Our members do so in free response to the Gospel and to finance the extension of God's Kingdom.
- **All worshipers are requested to complete an attendance card. They will be collected by the acolyte after the sermon. Thank you!**
- Share prayer requests using the yellow cards in the pews.

### CHRISTMAS DAY HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

Prelude

Call To Worship

Welcome

Hymn #379

"Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful"

P In the name of the One true God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**C O sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him. The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. [Psalm 98:1-4 ESV]**

Hymn #390

vs1-3 "Let Us All with Gladsome Voice"

P Beloved in the LORD. Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, in the words of Psalm 51, imploring Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C **Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, You delight in truth in the inward being, and You teach me wisdom in the secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will return to You. Deliver me from blood guiltiness, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of Your righteousness, O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise.** *Psalm 51:1-15 ESV*

P God's Word clearly declares, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. [1 John 1:9]; therefore, upon this Your confession I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

### Apostle's Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering Our Gifts of Love to God

Hymn #364

"Away in A Manger" (Sung during Offerings)

## Christmas Prayer & Lord's Prayer

### Words of Institution

### Communion Hymns

Hymn #361

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hymn #370

What Child Is This

### Prayer Of Thanks

#### The Gospel of John Christmas Story

*Pastor Fortkamp*

*John 1:14*

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us."

Hymn #374

"Gentle Mary, Laid Her Child"

#### Who Is This Child Born of The Virgin Mary?

*John 1:1-3 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 were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.*

#### What Does God's Word in The Gospel of John Tell Us About This Baby Born In Bethlehem?

*John 1:4-5, 10-13 In him was life and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.... The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*

#### What Was John the Baptist's Mission and What Is Our Mission?

*John 1:6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light; but came to bear witness about the light.*

Hymn #392

"God Loves Me Dearly"

## About The True Light the Angels Said to The Shepherds

*Luke 2:10-14* “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, A Savior, who is Christ the LORD. And this will be a sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger”. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to GOD in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!

**Hymn #368**

**Angels We Have Heard on High**

### What Did the Shepherd Do After They Had Seen the Promised Christ Child?

*John 1:14b* We have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

*Luke 2:15-20* When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the LORD has made known to us.” And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning the child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.”

**Hymn #388**

**“Go Tell It on The Mountain”**

### Benediction:

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.

**C Amen**

**Hymn #387**

**“Joy to The World”**

### St. John’s Lutheran Church (LCMS)

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Alexa Westjohn ..... Acolyte  
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**Services:** Sat. 5:30pm – Sun. 8:00am & 10:30am