

The First Sunday of Christmas

Morning Prayer

Sunday, January 1st, 2023

10 a.m.

Celebrants: Mae Cox and Beth Morum

Guest Musician: Jean Kemp

Prelude “Air” from “Water Music”
Jean Kemp, pianist

G.F. Handel

Processional Hymn 321 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

Welcome

Gathering of the Community

Blessed are you, O Christ, Son of God, you were before time began and came into the world to save us. Blessed are you, Sun of righteousness; you shine with the Father’s love and illumine the whole universe. Blessed are you, Son of Mary; born a child, you shared our humanity.

Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

Blessed are you, Son of David; born to rule, you received gifts from the wise men. Blessed are you, Son of Man; baptized by John, you saved us from ourselves. Blessed are you, heavenly King; teaching and preaching, healing and comforting, you proclaimed the kingdom.

Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

With all the voices of heaven we celebrate the coming of our Saviour.

Let heaven and earth shout their praise.

With all the creatures on earth we sing and dance at his birth.

Praise and honour and glory to you, O Lord most high.

All **Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia!**

The Proclamation of the Word

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely"; and he became their saviour in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. ISAIAH 63:7-9

Hear What the Spirit is Saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

The Invitatory

To us a child is born: **O come, let us worship.**

Canticle 23 Song of the First-Born (Colossians 1.15–20) (pause on the asterick*)

Christ is the image of the unseen God, * the first-born of all creation, for in him were all things made, in heaven and on earth.

Through him and for him were all things made, before all he exists, holds all things in one. * The Church is his body, and he is its head.

He is the beginning, the first-born from the dead; * in all things he alone is supreme.

God made all his fullness to dwell in him, * to reconcile through him all creation to himself, everything on earth and everything in heaven, all gathered into peace by his death on the cross.

To us a child is born: **O come, let us worship.**

PSALM REFRAIN Alleluia.

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights. Praise him, all you angels of his; praise him, all his host. Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars. R

Praise him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens. Let them praise the name of the Lord; for he commanded, and they were created. He made them stand fast for ever and ever; he gave them a law which shall not pass away. R

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea-monsters and all deeps; Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing his will; Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and winged birds; R

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world; Young men and maidens, old and young together. Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name only is exalted, his splendour is over earth and heaven. He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah! R PSALM 148

Hear What the Spirit is Saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled

what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean." MATTHEW 2:13-23

Hear What the Spirit is Saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection Beth Morum, Lay-reader

Duet "Coventry Carol" *Nynka Greer, Dean Jobin-Bevans*

Affirmation of Faith: Hear, O Israel

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and with all your strength.**

This is the first and the greatest commandment. The second is like it; Love your neighbour as yourself.

There is no commandment greater than these.

The Peace *Please stand*

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also, with you.

(All may exchange a sign of peace with a bow, a smile but please no physical contact)

Offertory Hymn 375 “At the Names of Jesus”

Prayer Over the Gifts

God of light, in the birth of your Son we see your glory. May we who share in this mystery grow daily in your love. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings: Mae Cox, Lay-Reader

Collect of the Day

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all in need from harm and adversity; through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship (2006)*
alt.

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Officiant The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favour and grant us peace. Amen.

Recessional Hymn 306 “O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Postlude “The Adieu”
Jean Kemp, pianist

Attributed to Beethoven

*We wish to thank Jean Kemp, Nynka Greer and Dean Jobin-Bevans
for sharing their musical gifts with us this morning.*

*We wish to thank Mae Cox and Beth Morum
for leading the service this morning.*

Happy New Year!

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