

Prelude “Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne” Sharon Barton

Greeting/Announcements

Hymn “What Child Is This” LBW #40

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness LBW pg. 77

Kyrie LBW pg. 78

Hymn of Praise “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” LBW #44

Prayer of the Day

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

First Reading Isaiah 61:10-62:3

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading Galatians 4:4-7

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Faith Seeds Pastor Scott Grorud

Faith Seeds is a time for children of all ages to come forward for a lesson geared to them.

Gospel Acclamation LBW #43

**Rejoice, rejoice this happy morn, a Savior unto us is born,
the Christ, the Lord of glory! His lowly birth at Bethlehem
the angels from on high proclaim and sing redemption's
story! My soul, extol, God's great favor; bless him ever
for salvation; Give him praise and adoration!**

The Announcement of the Gospel “Glory to You, O Lord”

Gospel Luke 2:21-40

Response after the Gospel “Praise to You, O Christ”

Sermon “The Slow Way” Pastor Dave Wollan

Hymn “In His Temple Now Behold Him” (Tune: LBW #50) LBW #184

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering/Special Music “Carol of the Bells” Sharon Barton

Offertory Response ... “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

LBW #565 Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711 Tune: Vom Himmel Hoch

Prayers of the Church

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.**

Benediction

Closing Hymn “Go Tell It on the Mountain” LBW #70

Postlude “There’s A Song in the Air” Sharon Barton

Faith Lutheran Church (LCMC)

Hutchinson, Minnesota
8:00 a.m. First Word Service
December 31, 2023
First Sunday after Christmas

What Does This Mean?

1. Why do you think God chose to be born as a baby?
2. Why do you think God chose the hard way?
3. How has Jesus become your “way”?

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