



# CHRISTMAS DAY

Luther Memorial Church . . . . . December 25, 2025

# LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

A Congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession  
134 21<sup>st</sup> Street • Fond du Lac, Wisconsin • [fdllutheran.com](http://fdllutheran.com)



**Worship. . . . 10am**

Andrew A. Schaller, Pastor

Church: (920) 922-7421

Cell: (605) 880-7886

## CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 2025

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP:

**PSALM: 100** (TLH Pg. 144);

**PRAYERS: 8** (Pg. 102); **9** (Pg. 102).

**HYMNS: 708 710 105**

### OPENING PRAYER

**OPENING HYMN: 708** -*"Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful"*

**Pastor:** Almighty God, before whom angels veil their faces, and in whose presence, they delight, with reverence and joy we acknowledge your glory and worship you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, eternal Trinity.

**Congregation:** We come into your presence this day with thanksgiving. We rejoice that You sent Your own son into the human race to save us fallen human beings.

**Pastor:** Confessing our sin and our unworthiness, we pray for your mercy and forgiveness, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh to dwell among us, full of grace and truth.

**All:** We confess that we are by birth and nature sinful. We have not done what You command. We have done the very things that you forbid. We have by our own wickedness deserved your eternal wrath and punishment. We have earned a place in hell.

P: Nevertheless, you have had mercy on us. You have sent Your own Son into the flesh to fulfill the Holy Demands of Your Law. You have also laid all our sins and guilt upon Him.

**C:** He is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins and for the sins of the whole world. While we today see him as an infant in a manger, we know that He came to be our sin bearer and savior.

P: <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>He did this when he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world, so that we would be holy and blameless in his sight. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ. He did this in accordance with the good purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup>and for the praise of his glorious grace, which he has graciously given us in the one he loves.

<sup>7</sup>In him we also have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in keeping with the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup>which he lavished on us in all wisdom and insight. <sup>9</sup>He made known to us the mystery of his will in keeping with his good purpose, which he planned in Christ. <sup>10</sup>This was to be carried out when the time had fully come, in order to bring all things together in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth.\*\*

♪ **1. O God of God, O Light of Light,  
Thou Prince of Peace, Thou King of kings!  
To Thee where angels know no night  
The song of praise forever rings.  
To Him who sits upon the throne,  
The Lamb once slain for sinful men,  
Be honor, might, all by Him won,  
Glory and praise! Amen, Amen.**

(TLH 132:1)

### **OT LESSON:**

### **ISAIAH 9:6-7**

<sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this. \*\*

♪ 2. Deep in the prophets' sacred page,  
Grand in the poets' winged word,  
Slowly in type, from age to age,  
Nations beheld their coming Lord,  
Till through the deep Judean night  
Rang out the song "Good will to men!"  
Hymned by the first-born sons of light,  
Reechoed now, "Good will!" Amen.

(TLH 132:2)

**EPISTLE:**

**1 JOHN 3:1-5**

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin.\*\*

♪ 3. That life of truth, those deeds of love,  
That death of pain, mid hate and scorn,  
These all are past, and now above  
He reigns our King, once crowned with thorn.  
Lift up your heads, ye heavenly gates;  
So sang His hosts, unheard by men;  
Lift up your heads, for you He waits.  
We lift them up. Amen, Amen.

(TLH 132:3)

## **A GOSPEL CELEBRATION**

Pastor: And it came to pass in those days *that* a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. <sup>3</sup>So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city.

**Congregation**: <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child.

Pastor: <sup>6</sup>So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. <sup>7</sup>And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

1. O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy darkness shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary,  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth  
And praises sing to God, the King,  
And peace to men on earth.

(TLH 647:1-2)

Pastor: Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. <sup>10</sup>Then the angel said to them,

**Congregation:** “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. <sup>11</sup> For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.”

**Pastor:** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

**Congregation:** <sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim.  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King!"
2. Christ, by highest heaven adored.  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell;  
Jesus, our Immanuel!  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King!"

(TLH 94:1-2)

**Pastor:** So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, “Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup> And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

**Congregation:** <sup>17</sup> Now when they had seen *Him*, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child.  
<sup>18</sup> And all those who heard *it* marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

**Pastor:** <sup>19</sup> But Mary kept all these things and pondered *them* in her heart.  
<sup>20</sup> Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

**4. Come, Desire of nations, come,  
Fix in us Thy humble home;  
Oh, to all Thyself impart,  
Formed in each believing heart!  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King!"**

(TLH 94:4)

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH:**

## **CHRISTMAS CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, who sent His Son to be my Savior.

And I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, my Lord, the long-promised Messiah, who came as foretold, being conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, announced by the angels, worshipped by the shepherds, adored by the Wise Men, who lived to suffer die, and rise again, to free me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, Who has brought me to faith in my Savior, and by whose work in my heart I rejoice in my salvation, walk in Christ, show forth His praises, and will one day live and reign with Him in all eternity. Amen.

**HYMN: 710** - "*Once in Royal David's City*"

## A SHEPHERD HOMILY

### THE OFFERINGS OF THANKFUL HEARTS

We express our thanksgiving for what the Savior Jesus has done for us by supporting His Work with our time, talents and gifts. Should you wish to leave a gift, there are offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary. As our gifts are brought forward to His Altar, we sing His Praise.

### THE OFFERING HYMN

(TLH 91:1,7-8)

♪ Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has truly kept His word  
And the sinners' Help and Friend Now at last to us does send.

♪ Comfort my desponding heart; You are my Strength and  
Refuge. I am weak, and cunningly Satan lays his snares for me.

♪ Bruise for me the Serpent's head That, set free from doubt and  
dread, I may cling to You in faith, Safely kept through life and  
death.

### PRAYER(S) /THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION: (Pastor) CONGREGATION: "Amen."

CLOSING HYMN: 105 - "Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men"

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in Jesus' name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us this morning, and hope that you will return and join us again. If you have any questions about our church or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please either speak with the pastor or with an usher on the way out.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 25, 2025

### SPECIAL SERVICES UPCOMING

*The Holiday Season is coming to a close. All that remains is our New Year's Eve Communion Service this Wednesday at 6pm.*

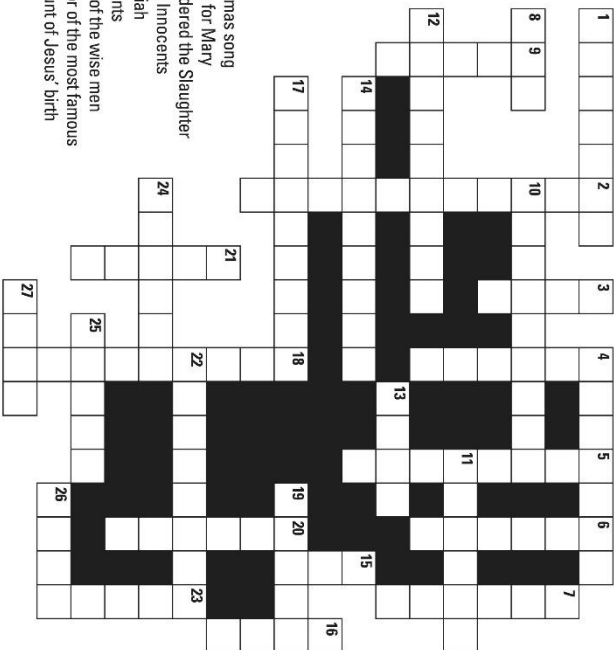
† **Wednesday December 31<sup>st</sup>** – New Year's Eve Worship, 6pm

# Puzzle!

Enjoy solving this Christmas crossword.

## CLUES

1. He has a red nose
2. Red plants
3. A nova
4. (across) The Anointed One
5. (down) Crib
6. Keeper of sheep
7. Season that means "coming"
8. He was a carpenter
9. 12th month (abbr.)
10. Northern little helpers
11. Enflashed
12. Messiah composer
13. Of Ephrathah
14. Gabriel came to her
15. A form of holy B&B
16. Wise men
17. Tree decorations
18. Patron saint of children (2 words)
19. Red-suited man
20. Heavenly singers
21. Christmas song
22. Home for Mary
23. He ordered the Slaughter of the Innocents
24. Messiah
25. Presents
26. A gift of the wise men
27. Author of the most famous account of Jesus' birth



Answers: 1. Rudolph, 2. poinsettias, 3. star, 4. (across) Messiah, 5. shepherd, 6. advent, 7. Joseph, 8. Dec, 9. elves, 10. incarnate, 11. Handel, 12. Bethlehem, 13. Mary, 14. mistletoe, 15. inn, 16. Magi, 17. ornaments, 18. Herod, 19. Santa, 20. angels, 21. carol, 22. Nazareth, 23. Herod, 24. Christ, 25. gifts, 26. gold, 27. Luke

## **CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS FROM MARTIN LUTHER**

*"If Christ had arrived with trumpets and lain in a cradle of gold, his birth would have been a splendid affair. But it would not be a comfort to me. He was rather to lie in the lap of a poor maiden and be thought of little significance in the eyes of the world. Now I can come to him. Now he reveals himself to the miserable in order not to give any impression that he arrives with great power, splendor, wisdom, and aristocratic manners. But upon his return on that Day, when he will oppose the high and the mighty, it will be different. Now he comes to the poor, who need a Savior, but then he will come as a Judge against those who are persecuting him now."*

**– A Sermon on the Nativity, 1530**

*"The inn was full. No one would release a room to this pregnant woman. She had to go to a cow stall and there bring forth the Maker of all creatures because nobody would give way. Shame on you, wretched Bethlehem! The inn ought to have been burned with brimstone, for even though Mary had been a beggar maid or unwed, anybody at such a time would have been glad to give her a hand. There are many of you in this congregation who think to yourselves: "If only I had been there! How quick I would have been to help the baby! I would have washed his linen! How happy I would have been to go with the shepherds to see the Lord lying in the manger!" Yes you would! You say that because you know how great Christ is, but if you had been there at that time you would have done no better than the people of Bethlehem. Childish and silly thoughts are these! Why don't you do it now? You have Christ in your neighbor. You ought to serve him, for what you do to your neighbor in need you do to the Lord Christ himself."*

**-- A Sermon on the Nativity**



These devotions are produced by Pastor/Professor Emeritus Paul Schaller and sent out on a weekly basis. Graphics in the bulletin are taken from Church Art Online via a regular legal subscription.

# HYMN SHEET

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

## PSALM 100

<sup>1</sup> Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! <sup>2</sup> Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! <sup>3</sup> Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. <sup>4</sup> Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! <sup>5</sup> For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations. \*

## PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP

### **GENERAL**

O Lord God, Heavenly Father, who has given Your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification, quicken us, we pray, by Your Holy Spirit to newness of life that through the power of His Resurrection we may dwell with Christ forever; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

### **GENERAL**

Almighty and ever-living god, who makes us both to desire and to do those things which are good and acceptable to You, let Your fatherly hand be over us and let Your Holy Spirit be with us; and so lead us in the knowledge and obedience of Your Word that in the end we may obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

## HYMN:

## OH, COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

1. Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant, Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold Him, Born the King of angels. Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

2. God of God, Light of Light, Born of a virgin, to earth He comes, Very God, Begotten, not created. Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

3. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation; Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above. Glory to God, In the highest. Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

4. Yeah, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning; Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n. Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing. Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him, Oh, come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

**LITURGICAL HYMN      O GOD OF GOD, O LIGHT OF LIGHT**

1. O God of God, O Light of Light, Thou Prince of Peace, Thou King of kings! To Thee where angels know no night The song of praise forever rings. To Him who sits upon the throne, The Lamb once slain for sinful men, Be honor, might, all by Him won, Glory and praise! Amen, Amen.

**LITURGICAL HYMN      O GOD OF GOD, O LIGHT OF LIGHT**

2. Deep in the prophets' sacred page, Grand in the poets' winged word, Slowly in type, from age to age, Nations beheld their coming Lord, Till through the deep Judean night Rang out the song "Good will to men!" Hymned by the first-born sons of light, Reechoed now, "Good will!" Amen.

**LITURGICAL HYMN      O GOD OF GOD, O LIGHT OF LIGHT**

3. That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death of pain, mid hate and scorn, These all are past, and now above He reigns our King, once crowned with thorn. Lift up your heads, ye heavenly gates; So sang His hosts, unheard by men; Lift up your heads, for you He waits. We lift them up. Amen, Amen.

**GOSPEL HYMN      O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM**

1. O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by; Yet in thy darkness shineth The everlasting Light; The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

2. For Christ is born of Mary, And gathered all above, While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wondering love. O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth And praises sing to God, the King, And peace to men on earth.

**GOSPEL HYMN      HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING**

1. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King; Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies; With the angelic host proclaim. "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored. Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity! Pleased  
as Man with man to dwell; Jesus, our Immanuel! Hark! the herald  
angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

**GOSPEL HYMN**

**HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING**

4. Come, Desire of nations, come, Fix in us Thy humble home; Oh,  
to all Thyself impart, Formed in each believing heart! Hark! the  
herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King; Peace on earth  
and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Hark! the herald  
angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"

**HYMN**

**ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY**

1. Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed, Where a  
mother laid her baby In a manger for His bed; Mary was that  
mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

2. He came down to earth from heaven Who is God and Lord of  
all, And His shelter was a stable, And His cradle was a stall; With  
the poor and mean and lowly Lived on earth our Savior holy.

3. But our eyes at last shall see Him through His own redeeming  
love, For that Child, so dear and gentle, Is our Lord in heav'n  
above, And He leads His children on To the place where He is  
gone.

4. Not in that poor, lowly stable With the oxen standing by Shall  
we see Him, but in heaven, Set at God's right hand on high. Then  
like stars His children crowned, All in white, His praise will sound.

**THE OFFERING HYMN**

**(TLH 91:1,7-8)**

♪ Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has truly kept His word  
And the sinners' Help and Friend Now at last to us does send.

♪ Comfort my desponding heart; You are my Strength and  
Refuge. I am weak, and cunningly Satan lays his snares for me.

♪ Bruise for me the Serpent's head That, set free from doubt and  
dread, I may cling to You in faith, Safely kept through life and  
death.

## **HYMN**

## **PRAISE GOD THE LORD YE SONS OF MEN**

- 1. Praise God the Lord, ye sons of men, Before His highest throne;  
Today He opens heaven again And gives us His own Son.**
- 2. He leaves His heavenly Father's throne, Is born an infant small,  
And in a manger, poor and lone, Lies in a humble stall.**
- 3. He veils in flesh His power divine A servant's form to take; In  
want and lowliness must pine Who heaven and earth did make.**
- 4. He nestles at His mother's breast, Receives her tender care,  
Whom angels hail with joy most blest, King David's royal heir.**
- 5. 'Tis He who in these latter days From Judah's tribe should come,  
By whom the Father would upraise The Church, His Christendom.**
- 6. A wondrous change which He doth make! He takes our flesh  
and blood, And He conceals for sinners' sake His majesty of God.**
- 7. He serves that I a lord may be; A great exchange indeed! Could  
Jesus' love do more for me To help me in my need?**
- 8. He opens us again the door Of Paradise today; The angel guards  
the gate no more, To God our thanks we pay. Amen.**