



New Life Ev. Lutheran Church Lake Zurich, IL

...rooted in the word, growing in faith, reaching out to our uprooted world.

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Christmas Day December 25, 2022

A warm welcome to those who are visiting us today. You may hang your coat in the entry way of the church or on the coat rack downstairs. The bathrooms are located in the lower level of this building. Before you go home today, please sign our guest book located on the podium in the entry way. Also, refreshments are served in the fellowship hall after our service this morning. We invite you to join us for something to eat and drink.

Our lower level is wired for sound. If you need to take your child out during the service, you won't miss any of the sermon. The service is also simulcast on the church's Facebook page.

In the unlikely event of an emergency during this morning's service, you can exit the building using the main entryway or the exit to the right of the chancel. Our building does have a fire alarm system which is wired directly to the fire department. Remember, we follow the "Run, Hide, Fight" response in an emergency.

<p><i><u>Before Service Prayer:</u> Dear God of all glory, through eyewitnesses You have revealed to us Your Son as the Babe of Bethlehem, as the Savior at the cross, and as the King of heaven. Help us, therefore, to praise Him properly on the celebration of His incarnation, to receive Him humbly in His grace, and to look for Him to come again in glory, for His name's sake. Amen.</i></p>
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Today's Service: "A Christmas Day Christmas Carol Communion Service," reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-800156 and under CCLI license #1132777.

*Today's Theme: **A SAVIOR BORN TO DWELL AMONG US***

For centuries on Christmas Day the Church has read chapter one of St. John's Gospel. There, in just a few simple words, Scripture describes the indescribable: "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us" (John 1:14). The word God had spoken in the Garden, promising to send a Savior who was part of mankind, came true. God Himself became flesh and blood—to be born under law, to suffer, and to die that He might redeem us.

The Greek word translated "made His dwelling" can also be translated "pitched His tent." That word describes a temporary dwelling place. God came into our broken world to dwell for a time, so that one day we might go to God's perfect home and dwell for all eternity.

Unlike those Christmas Eve shepherds, we cannot see Christ with our eyes. Yet still He dwells among us. For He is the Word made flesh. As we listen to the Word today, we truly are hearing the voice of Christ. As we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we partake of His true body and blood. In Word and sacrament, still today, our Savior dwells among us, feeding our faith, preparing us for our true home.

Pastor's Welcome

The Hymn of the Festival: "He is Born, the Child Divine"

Refrain

He is born, the Child Di - vine; Play the
o - boe, sound the bag - pipes. He is born, the
Child Di - vine; Sing ye all, He is born to - day.

1 Proph - ets from the a - ges past Have fore -
2 Ah! How fair is the Ho - ly Child, And how
3 In a sta - ble was He born; Straw, a
4 King of all for - ev - er - more, Lit - tle

told the Sav - ior's com - ing; We for more than four
per - fect are His grac - es; Ah, how fair is the
lit - tle, for His cra - dle; In a sta - ble
In - fant though Thou art, King of all for -

thou - sand years Have a - wait - ed this joy - ous time.
Ho - ly Child; Oh, how sweet is the Child Di - vine!
was He born, What a lodg - ing for Christ, the Lord!
ev - er - more, Reign in ev - 'ry hu - man heart.

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

The Confession of Sins: (CW93 11)

C: (to be sung)

**Faithful Father, now before You Do I come with fervent plea.
Though unworthy, I implore You Still be merciful to me.
Let Your face upon me shine When before You I recline;
Let Your sacrament give gladness, And relieve my soul's sadness.**

P: In His wonderful mercy, God promised to send His Son to be our Savior and Substitute. Again in love God accepted the perfect life and innocent death which Jesus offered on our behalf to atone for our sins. Therefore, on the basis of Christ's work and God's own promise, I declare to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

C: (to be sung)

**Praise and thanks and adoration, Son of God, to You we give,
For You chose to serve creation Died that Adam's heirs might live.
Dear Lord Jesus, guide my way; Faithful let me day to day
Follow where Your steps are leading, Find Your love and joy exceeding.**

P: In the peace of forgiveness let us join in singing the song of the angels: (CW93 63)

**C: Glory be to God above! Glory to the Lord we love!
Blessing, worship, thanks and praise Sing we now and all our days!
Gloria in Excelsis Deo!**

**Lord, You take our sin away; Send Your mercy now we pray.
Lord, You take our sin away; Listen to the prayer we say.
Gloria in Excelsis Deo!**

**O Lord God, be glorified By Your Church both far and wide!
Now we sing adoringly, Praise to You, great Trinity!
Gloria in Excelsis Deo!**

The Salutation

P: The Lord be with you:

C: And with you also.

The Collect (CW93 42)

P: (to be sung)

Come, your hearts and voices raising,
Christ the Lord with gladness praising;
Loudly sing His love amazing,
Worthy folk of Christendom.

C: (to be sung)

**Gracious Child, we pray Thee, hear us,
From Thy lowly manger cheer us,
Gently lead us and be near us
Till we join the angelic choir.**

The First Lesson: Isaiah 52:7-10 – The prophet foretold that the Lord would dwell among us, laying bare His arm, rolling up His sleeves and doing what was necessary to bring the good news of salvation to the ends of the earth.

⁷ How beautiful on the mountains
are the feet of those who bring good news,
who proclaim peace,
who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion,
"Your God reigns!"

⁸ Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices;
together they shout for joy.
When the LORD returns to Zion,
they will see it with their own eyes.

⁹ Burst into songs of joy together,
you ruins of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted His people,
He has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰ The LORD will lay bare His holy arm
in the sight of all the nations,
and all the ends of the earth will see
the salvation of our God. (NIV 2011)

The Response: (CW93 41)

C: (to be sung)

**To us a Child of hope is born,
To us a Son is given,
And on His shoulder ever rests
All power in earth and heaven.
All power in earth and heaven.**

**His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor,
The God by all adored.
The God by all adored.**

The Second Lesson: **Hebrews 1:1-9** – In the past God sent angels and prophets as messengers to His people. In these latter days, God speaks to us through His Son who came to dwell among us.

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways,² but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom also He made the universe.³ The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word. After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.⁴ So He became as much superior to the angels as the name He has inherited is superior to theirs.

⁵ For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are My Son;

today I have become Your Father"?

Or again,

"I will be His Father,

and He will be My Son"?

⁶ And again, when God brings His firstborn into the world, He says,

"Let all God's angels worship Him." (NIV 2011)

The Response: (CW 41)

C: (to be sung)

**A wondrous change which He does make!
He takes our flesh and blood,
And He conceals for sinners' sake
His majesty as God.
His majesty as God.**

**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?
To help me in my need?**

Stand

The Gospel Lesson: **John 1:1-14** – The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

⁹ The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not recognize Him. ¹¹ He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God—¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴ The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (NIV 2011)

The Response: (CW93 41)

C: (to be sung)

**For us He opens wide the door
Of paradise today;
The angel guards the gate no more.
To God our thanks we pay.
To God our thanks we pay.**

The Nicene Creed:

We believe in God, the Father 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who 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.

Be Seated

The Sermon Hymn: CW 345 “Where Shepherds Lately Kneled” (CW93 54)

The Sermon

The Hymn Response: (CW93 53)

C: (to be sung)

**Create my nature pure within
And make my heart averse to sin;
Let Your good Spirit not depart,
Nor hide Your presence from my heart.**

**I cannot live without Your Light,
Cast out and banished from Your sight;
Your holy joys, my God, restore
And guard me that I fall no more.**

**Oh, may Your love inspire my tongue!
Salvation shall be all my song;
And all my powers shall join to bless
The Lord, my strength and righteousness.**

The Offering

The ushers will gather the offering which will then be placed on the Lord's Altar. Offerings can also be given electronically by using your smart phone and the QR code which takes you to the donation part of New Life's website.



The Offertory

The Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

The Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, for in the wonder and mystery of His birth You have opened our eyes to the glory of Your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of Your love. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise Your holy name and join their glorious song:

The Sanctus: (CW93 61)

C: (to be sung)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored!
Heaven and earth cannot contain All the glory of Your name!
Hail, Hosanna, God most high! Blest is He who now draws nigh
In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing:
Hail, Hosanna! Praises due Be forever, Lord, to You!**

The Words of Institution: (CW93 38)

C: (to be sung)

**The night our Savior was betrayed,
He took the bread, and when He prayed,
He broke and gave them of the bread
And unto His disciples said:**

P: "Take and eat; this is My body, which is given for you. Do this remembrance of Me."

C: (to be sung)

**Then, when the sacred meal was o're,
Our blessed Savior spoke once more:
He offered thanks, and lifted up,
To give to all, the blessed cup:**

P: "Drink from it, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The Agnus Dei

C: (to be sung)

**O Lamb of God, You take away
The sin of all; now hear us pray,
And grant us from our sin release:
Have mercy on us! Grant us peace!**

Our Communion Practice

At New Life we keep the ancient church's practice of offering communion to those who have been baptized and thoroughly instructed (confirmed). Members of New Life and other WELS or ELS congregations may approach the Lord's altar today. We keep this practice because we believe that Christ's true body and blood are offered in this meal, and want all who receive it to do so in a worthy manner for salvation and not condemnation.

If you are a visitor and desire to join us at the Lord's Table—praise be to God! Act on your desire by speaking with the pastor after the service to discuss the matter. He will be happy to work with you so that you too, after thorough instruction, can approach the Lord's Altar for this most intimate communion with God and expression of unity with fellow believers. Until that time, begin your journey by observing what the confirmed do and listening to what the pastor says in the distribution. And be assured, even if you need to wait to join us at the Lord's table, you still have the forgiveness of all of your sins through faith in Jesus. The Christ child and all His spiritual blessings are yours by faith!

Distribution Music

The Thanksgiving: (to be sung)

**Oh, thank the Lord and sing His praise,
What He has done proclaim!
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice
And proudly bear His name
Who leads His thankful people forth
His promises to claim.
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy.
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!**

**Lord, let Your servant go in peace,
Your word has been fulfilled.
My eyes have seen the saving work
Which for the world You willed:
The glory of Your chosen race
As Light for all revealed.
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!**

The Collect

P: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in Your loving kindness You sent Your Son to share our humanity. We thank You that through Him You have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that You will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Benediction (CW93 55)

P: (to be sung)

The Lord bless and keep you,
And look with love upon you,
Be gracious, and cause His face to shine with peace!

C: (to be sung)

**All glory to Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit!
The Savior close beside us, God's love from harm to hide us,
The Spirit's power to guide us, Evermore!**

The Closing Hymn: "Ah , Dearest Jesus, Holy Child" (CW93 38 vs. 13-15)

**Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled,
Within my heart, that it may be
A quiet chamber kept for Thee.**

**My heart for very joy doth leap,
My lips no more can silence keep;
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
That sweetest ancient cradle-song:**

**Glory to God in highest heaven,
Who unto us His Son hath given!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.**

Announcements

