

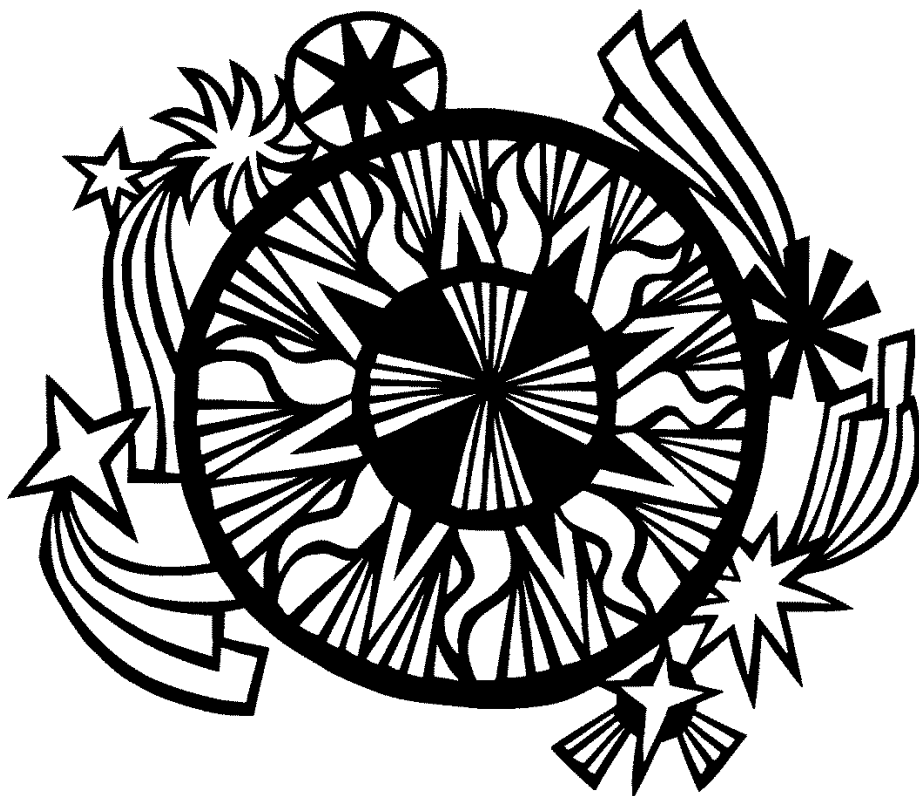


Salem Lutheran Church  
401 S. Lake St. Lake Mills IA 50450

**Welcome to the House of the Lord**

Second Sunday of Christmas  
January 2, 2022 – 9:00am

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**OUR MISSION:** We are God forgiven and mission driven.

**OUR VISION:** To be that Lake Mills place where belonging, healing, growing, serving and believing are open to all, regardless of background, experience or aptitude. Central to this is that we are a -forgiving, mission-driven community, which means we all want to have an impact, shaped by the love of Christ to serve all others.

<b>Saturday--5:30pm Worship Service</b> <b>Preaching: Pastor Joel Guttormson</b> <b>Organist:</b> Ruth Sheldon <b>Reader:</b> Shannon Bruhns <b>Liturgical Choir:</b> Open <b>Sound:</b> Shannon Bruhns <b>Acolytes:</b> Shannon Bruhns <b>Ushers:</b> Shannon Bruhns <b>Communion Servers:</b> <b>Altar Guild for January:</b> Joan Kloster & Janet Swenson	<b>Sunday--9:00am Worship Service</b> <b>Preaching: Pastor Joel Guttormson</b> <b>Organist:</b> Ruth Sheldon <b>Readers:</b> Krishna Hanson <b>Liturgical Choir:</b> Al Skellenger, Nancy Guttormson, Becky Helgeson, Bruce Adams <b>Sound:</b> Al Skellenger <b>Live Stream:</b> Brad Evenson <b>Acolytes:</b> Lyle Thomson <b>Ushers:</b> Lyle and Orloue Thomson <b>Communion Servers:</b> <b>Altar Guild for January:</b> Joan Kloster & Janet Swenson
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The radio broadcast is given by the members of Salem.

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## INTRODUCTION

*Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.*

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## GATHERING

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### PRELUDE

### BELLS

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We will remain seated for the confession and forgiveness; all may make the sign of the cross as the pastor begins.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth.

**Amen.**

In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**We confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition.**

**We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you.**

**Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us.**

**Amen.**

Beloved, I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. ☩ In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace.

**Amen.**

*We stand for the Gathering Hymn.*

# **GATHERING HYMN**

## *The Bells of Christmas (verses 1-4)*

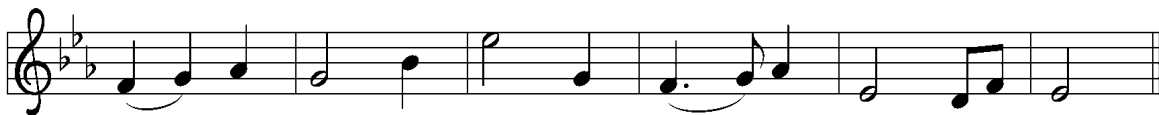
ELW #298



*Det ki - mer nu til ju - le - fest, det ki - mer*  
 1 The bells of Christ - mas chime once more; the heav'n - ly  
 2 This world, though wide and far out - spread, could scarce - ly  
 3 Now let us go with qui - et mind, the swad - dled  
 4 Oh, join with me, in glad - ness sing, to keep our



*for den høj - e gæst, som steg til la - ve*  
 guest is at the door. He comes to earth - ly  
 find for you a bed. Your cra - dle was a  
 babe with shep - herds find, to gaze on him who  
 Christ - mas with our king, un - til our song, from



*hyt - ter ned med nyt - års - ga - ver: fryd og fred.*  
 dwell - ings still with new year gifts of peace, good will.  
 man - ger stall, no pearl nor silk nor king - ly hall.  
 glad - dens them, the love - liest flow'r of Jes - se's stem.  
 lov - ing souls, like rush - ing might - y wa - ter rolls!

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word.  
 By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus  
 Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

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## WORD

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### FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:7-14

<sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel.” <sup>8</sup>See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. <sup>9</sup>With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

<sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.” <sup>11</sup>For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. <sup>12</sup>They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

<sup>13</sup>Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. <sup>14</sup>I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

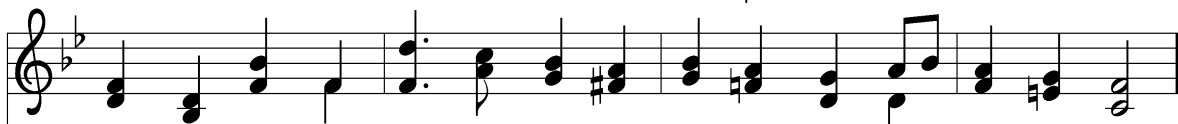
## PSALMODY

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

ELW #275



1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
 2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.



## SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3-14

<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>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Magnificat*

ELW #236

*We stand for the hearing of the gospel. First time through in unison, second in a two-part round*

*Canon*

Ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a Do - mi - num.

Ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a!

## GOSPEL

John 1:1-18

The Holy Gospel according to John  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON



**HYMN OF THE DAY*****He Came Down***

ELW #253



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;  
 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;  
 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;  
 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;  
 he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.  
 he came down that we may have peace;  
 he came down that we may have joy;

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*All may be seated as the pastor invites us into our time of prayer.*

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

You make yourself known in the gift of language in diverse forms. Draw our attention to those who communicate through sign, braille, and technology. Make your church a place where all methods of communication are celebrated. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Creating God, the sun greets us anew each morning. Thank you for waking us up today to witness and share your abundance. Awaken us always to your wisdom and deepen our care for your natural world. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Emmanuel, in your name we are assured that you are with us. Train nations and peoples to honor and respect one another, especially those whose names and identities have been mistreated, neglected, or oppressed. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You adopt us as your beloved ones. Accompany parents and children navigating the adoption process, especially those in the foster system. Sustain those struggling with infertility or pregnancy loss. Tenderly embrace all in need. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You journey with us through change. Guide those assuming new roles in this congregation or making transitions in their families, workplaces, or communities. As the seasons and the calendar change, equip us for unexpected challenges. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We give you thanks for all who modeled lives of loving service. Lead us in your grace until, with all your saints, we enter the fullness of your glory. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered as the pastor concludes the prayers.*

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

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**MEAL**


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**OFFERING**

*The offering is being collected at the beginning of the service as you walk in. The usher will bring the offering forward for the mission of the church including the care of those in need at the time of the offering song and prayer.*

**MUSICAL OFFERING****OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.  
**Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life, at the birth of time your word brought light into the world. In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary, to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us, his death and resurrection,  
 we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him. By your Spirit  
 bless us and this bread and cup, that, held and nourished by you, we may live as  
 your children, shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
 in your holy Church, both now and forever.

### **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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

In Christ's manger, at Christ's table,  
 come, see what God makes known for you.

### **DISTRIBUTION**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and  
 wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with  
 all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.  
**Amen.**

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## SENDING

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### BLESSING

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

**Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

### *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!*

ELW #246



1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is near," we  
 2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age  
 3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don  
 4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is  
 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther



hear it say. "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,  
 let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling,  
 down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,  
 wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mer - cy  
 and the Son with the ev - er - last - ing Spir - it



all you chil - dren of the day!"  
 shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
 one and all, to be for - giv'n;  
 and with words of love draw near.  
 while un - end - ing a - ges run!

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE



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