



*Hope*  
in the  
**LORD**

Psalms 130:7



# Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the “Means of Grace” — God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

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December 18, 2022

*Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Choir-led Worship*

## The Thrill of Hope

*Psalm 62:5, Psalm 33:20, 1 Timothy 4:10*

### Welcome

### Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Hymn of Confession

*When in The Hour of Deepest Need*

*Tune of LSB 357*

When in the hour of deepest need  
We know not where to look for aid;  
When days and nights of anxious thought  
No help or counsel yet have brought, *Refrain*

*Refrain:*

*And so we come, O God to you this day  
And all our woes before You lay.*

O from our sins, Lord, turn your face;  
Absolve us through your boundless grace.  
Be with us in our anguish still;  
Free us at last from ev’ry ill. *Refrain*

Grant that we only you may love  
And seek those things which are above  
Till we behold you face to face,  
O Light eternal, through your grace *Refrain*

### Absolution

## First Reading

*Isaiah 11:1-3*

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;  
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

<sup>2</sup>The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—  
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and of might,  
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—  
<sup>3</sup>and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes,  
or decide by what he hears with his ears;

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

*LSB 357 v 2,3*

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who ord'rest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go.**

*Refrain:*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

**O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid thou our sad divisions cease,  
And be thyself our King of Peace. Refrain**

**So we with all our hearts each day  
To you our glad thanksgiving pay,  
Then walk obedient to your Word,  
And now and ever praise you, Lord. Refrain**

## *Hope*

*Interlude and narration*

## *Angels We Have Heard on High*

*Choir*

## Second Reading

*Isaiah 9:2*

<sup>2</sup>The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Holy Gospel**

*John 1:1-5, 9-14*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

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

<sup>14</sup>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.

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord

**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Incarnation*

*Interlude and narration*

*Christ Child*

*Choir*

**Homily**

**Creedal Statement**

**Presentation of the Offering**

*Please sign the Friendship Register located on each pew and pass it to others seated with you so that we may have a record of all those who are worshipping and receiving communion with us today.*

**Preface**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**Sanctus**

*Tune of 357*

**C** **Holy, Holy, Holy LORD**  
**We sing Alleluia!**

God of Sabaoth adored  
We sing Alleluia!  
Heaven and Earth with full acclaim  
Singing Alleluia!  
Sing Hosanna to the King,  
Singing Alleluia!

## Lord's Prayer

## The Words of Our Lord

### Agnus Dei

*Tune of 374*

**C** What feast of love is offered here,  
what banquet come from heaven?  
What food of everlasting life,  
what gracious gift is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the bread come down from heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
How sweet the manna given!

What light of truth is offered here,  
what covenant from heaven?  
What hope of everlasting life,  
what wondrous word is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the sun come down from heaven.  
Oh, see and hear and sing!  
The Word of God is given!

What wine of love is offered here,  
what crimson drink from heaven?  
What stream of everlasting life,  
what precious blood is given?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
the sweetest wine of heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
The Son of God is given!

### Distribution

*We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith.*

*If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit.*

***O Come, All Ye Faithful***

*LSB 379 v 4*

*ref O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*

***Fairest Lord Jesus***

*ELW 521*

**1 Fairest Lord Jesus,  
Ruler of all nature,  
O thou of God and man of Son,  
Thee will I cherish,  
Thee will I honor,  
Thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.**

***Infant Holy, Infant Lowly***

*LSB 393 v 1*

**1 Infant holy,  
Infant lowly,  
For his bed a cattle stall;  
Oxen lowing,  
Little knowing  
Christ the child is Lord of all.  
Swiftly winging,  
Angels singing,  
Bells are ringing,  
Tidings bringing:  
Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child is Lord of all!**

***Away in a Manger***

*LSB 364 v 1*

**1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

***Angels from the Realms of Glory***

*LSB 367*

*ref Come and worship, come and worship;  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.*

***Peace, Peace***

*Choir*

*When the verse from Silent Night is sung, please join the choir and light your candle.*

*Gloria*

*Interlude and narration*

*Gloria! Jubilate Deo!*

*Choir*

**Psalm**

*Psalms 98:1-4*

Sing to the LORD a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things;  
his right hand and his holy arm  
have worked salvation for him.  
<sup>2</sup>The LORD has made his salvation known  
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.  
<sup>3</sup>He has remembered his love  
and his faithfulness to Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
<sup>4</sup>Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,  
burst into jubilant song with music;

*Joy to the World*

*LSB 387*

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love.

## Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and +† give you peace.
- C** Amen.

*Christmas Hymn (Praise to God Whose Love was Shown)*

*Choir*

## Announcements

### Sending

- P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

### Weekly Prayer Requests:

- 1. Soup Suppers-** Father, we are so thankful for the community that you have placed here. Thank you for the nourishing soup suppers over the Advent season, thank you for the willingness and hospitality that the makers of the soups have shown and especially thank-you for the richness of fellowship with one another.
- 2. Safe Travels-** Lord, many of our brethren will be traveling to spend time with family or will have family traveling to spend time with them, keep all the people traveling this season safe.
- 3. Music-** Dear God, music is an amazing gift that you have bestowed upon us. Thank you for the talented musicians and singers that have shared their time and talent to praise you today. Thank you for making music a language that can link humans no matter where they are.
- 4. Your Son-** Daddy, thank you for sending your Son to this world to make us whole again. Help us to lean into your gift. Help us to remember that love moved first, and it is our calling to do the same with one another.
- 5. The World-** Lord, this world is broken in so many ways. Be with the lonely, the poor, the hungry, the lost, and all that are in need during this time. Help our hearts to be softened and our eyes to be opened to see the places in our lives where there are people who need to hear our story of your love and need our love to hear your story.

### In our prayers

**Celebrating Birthdays:** Dixie Kolk and Linda McCarty 12/23

**Celebrating Anniversaries:** Chuck and Dixie Kolk 12/18 and Randy and Cheryl Herschman 12/21

## Serving in Worship This Morning

December 18, 2022

### **Singers**

Kevin Zimmerman  
Jodi Rose  
Toni Peterson  
Robert Pajak  
Phil Marquardt  
Natalie Hofman  
Gretchen Lynn  
Wayne Chambard  
Betsy Will  
Karen Callies  
Monica Lux  
Steve Johnson

### **Ringers**

Nancy Anderson  
Jonelle Welle  
Diane Weinhold  
Pam Birkholz  
Arlene Marti

Beth Degler  
Kelsey Bellrichard

### **Sound and Lighting**

Clayton Yares  
Nathaniel Marquardt

### **Music Director**

John Peterson

### **Band**

Graydon Peterson  
Emily Borra  
Blake Peterson  
Lasse Carson

### **Media**

Dave Marti

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### **Pastor:**

Jason Neel

### **Elder:**

Terry Elhardt  
Phil Marquardt

### **Reader:**

Carl Schwanbeck  
Wayne Chambard

### **Usher:**

Mike Voegle

### **Organist**

Karine Platt

### **This Week at a Glance**

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	4:00 p.m.	<i>Not So Silent Night</i> Children's Program.
Tuesday	12:00 p.m.	Congregational Prayer
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Soup Supper
	6:45 p.m.	Advent Worship
	7:30 p.m.	Bell Choir rehearsal
Thursday	8:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service

### **Notes of Information:**

**Children's Program:** The Sunday School classes will be presenting *Not So Silent Night*, a Christmas program on **TODAY** at 4 pm in the Sanctuary. Treats to follow the performance.

**Stewardship Mission Updates:** We received a nice Christmas Card from Trinity First School which is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. The card includes a thank-you for our monthly mission offering to them and their most recent newsletter. The December newsletter from our second-year seminarian is also posted. If anyone would like to send a Christmas greeting, the address is: Jonathan and Stephanie Chapa, Campus Post Office, 801 Seminary Place, St. Louis, Missouri 63105-3196.

**Thank You for Supporting the Youth Bake Sale:** Thank you from the youth group for supporting them once again this year. Your support is a blessing to the youth and to the community. Thank you!

**Apocrypha Sunday Night Study:** Beginning Jan. 8th, we will gather on Sunday evenings to study CPH's *The Apocrypha: The Lutheran Edition with Notes*. These are writings that span the time between the Old and New Testaments. They are considered inspired scripture by our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters, and Martin Luther called them "profitable and good to read." The list cost of the book is \$45, but we will get a bulk discount on the books from CPH, and we are asking that participants pay half the discounted cost of the book (approximately \$19). Please sign up in the narthex if you are interested in participating! If you are a couple who are signing up, please indicate if you would like one or two books. If you would like to pay via check, please make it out to Spirit of Christ and put book study in the memo. If you would like to pay with cash, please put it in an envelope and label with your name and book study. If you have questions, please see Laura or Pastor.

**SOC Book Club:** SOC Book Club – The book club will not meet in December, they will resume meeting on January 23, 2023, at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall. January’s book is China Doll by Lisa See. All are invited to attend. If you have questions, please reach out to Joan Mager at 763-434-9652.

**Pledge Cards:** There are additional pledge cards in the Narthex if you are moved to prayerfully consider your giving for the upcoming year.

**Winter coats needed for NACE:** NACE needs winter coats, especially for men. If you have coats you would like to donate, please bring them into the Narthex and we will make sure that they get to NACE.

**LWML Byte:** Light of Christ in Eastern Europe. Through your mite offerings and prayers, missionaries are able to use social media platforms to effectively reach out untold thousands of people, not only in Eastern Europe, but worldwide. Also, your LWML mite offerings will help a German Lutheran Pastor with a congregation of more than a thousand former Muslims preach the Gospel. For more information on The Light of Christ in Eastern Europe ministry, go to: [lwml.org/2021-2023-mission-grant-8](http://lwml.org/2021-2023-mission-grant-8). Please note that the Mite box will be available for your contributions next Sunday on the table in the Narthex.

**Nursery:** The nursery is open, and the sound is working. If you have a restless child, please feel free to use this space.

**Mercy Ministry:** Mercy Ministry is asking for your help. If you or someone you know could use assistance in either of the two following areas - Transportation: Doctor’s visits, Shopping, Groceries, Other or Personal: Spiritual needs, Home Visits, Meals, Other, please contact the church office: 763 755-7234 or [secretary@soclc.org](mailto:secretary@soclc.org).

**T- shirts are available:** SOC T-shirts commemorating our 40th anniversary are available for purchase. The cost of the shirts is \$20, we have youth sizes and adult sizes available. See Laura for your shirt today!

**Sermons and bulletins posted online:** Audio and video recordings of worship sermons and digital bulletins are posted weekly. Bulletins and past sermons can be found at [www.spiritofchristhamlake.org](http://www.spiritofchristhamlake.org)

**Offerings via Give+:** Online giving is easy to do, one-time gifts and recurring donations are accepted. Visit the link at [soclc.org](http://soclc.org) to sign up or learn more.

<b>December 11, 2022</b>	
Average Offering	\$6389
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$6335

**Readings for next week:**

**Christmas Eve: Isaiah 9:2-7, Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-20**

**Christmas Day: Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-12, John 1:1-14**



**Please join us on Christmas Eve for Candlelight Services  
4pm and 9pm.**

**Please join us Christmas Day for worship  
9 am**



**SPIRIT of CHRIST**  
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
[www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org](http://www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org)

Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another reaching out to all people,  
proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

Church Office: 763-755-7234

Pastor Jason Neel: [soclcpastor@gmail.com](mailto:soclcpastor@gmail.com)

Ministers: All Members

Music Director

John Peterson: [carsinger@aol.com](mailto:carsinger@aol.com)

Office e-mail: [secretary@soclc.org](mailto:secretary@soclc.org)

Prayer Chain (Sue Hurst): [Sd\\_hurst@yahoo.com](mailto:Sd_hurst@yahoo.com)

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