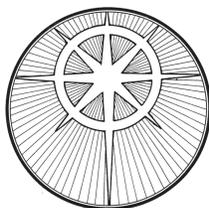


**A Prayer
Upon Enter-
ing Church**
Grant me the
power of
Your Holy
Spirit that I
may become
truly godly
during this
year and live
as a true
child of God,
that I may be
devout in my
prayers and
be a careful
hearer and
doer of Your
Word...Give
me new zeal
in my Chris-
tian faith that
I may grow
and increase
in whatever
is good. Bless
my calling
and labor,
my going out
and my com-
ing in. Amen



The Baptism of Our Lord

January 10, 2021+ 9:00 A.M.

Welcome to the Lord's Day.

It isn't only high school students that are worried about what others think of them! So does every adult the world over. As members of the fallen human race we share an unshakeable desire to be noticed and seen for who we are (or at least the "me" we show to others). We desire to be loved, admired, and befriended. This why we are fallen – we ought to be infinitely more concerned in what God thinks of us. And so, what does God think of you?

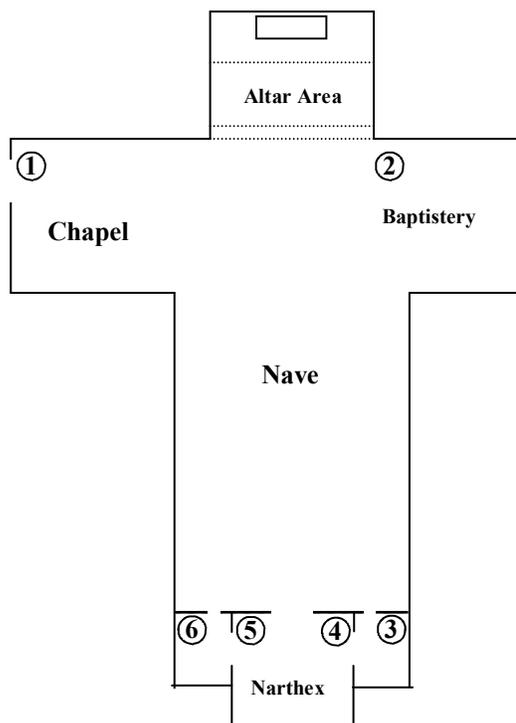
Sharing God's Blessings Today

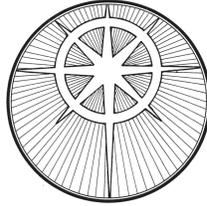
- Sunday's Radio Broadcast is sponsored in memory of Thomas Rahn by friends and family.
- The sponsor charts for 2021 for Radio Broadcasts and Flowers are available for you to sign up. The charts are by the stairs by the northwest entry.

To Share Your Offering

Offerings are received in **Zion's wooden offering boxes built into the walls of the church.** Please see the map, where the boxes are labeled by **number (1-6)** or ask an usher for assistance.

This returns us to an older and beautiful tradition of the Lutheran church in which offerings are not collected during worship so as to focus more intently on God's gifts and offerings to us.





PRELUDE

Improvisation on "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"
 ... Paul Manz

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand and turn toward the cross as it is carried into the sanctuary.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN "The Star Proclaims the King Is Here"



1 The star pro - claims the King is here; But, Her - od,
 2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far And fol - lowed
 3 With - in the Jor - dan's sa - cred flood The heav'n - ly
 4 And oh, what mir - a - cle di - vine, When wa - ter
 Δ 5 For this Thy glad e - piph - a - ny All glo - ry,



why this sense - less fear? For He who of - fers heav'n - ly
 on His guid - ing star; And, led by light, to light they
 Lamb in meek - ness stood That He, of whom no sin was
 red - dened in - to wine! He spoke the word, and forth it
 Je - sus, be to Thee, Whom with the Fa - ther we a -



birth Seeks not the king - doms of this earth.
 trod And by their gifts con - fessed their God.
 known, Might cleanse His peo - ple from their own.
 flowed In streams that na - ture ne'er be - stowed.
 dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

*To be bap-
 tized in God's
 name is to be
 baptized not
 by me, but by
 God himself.
 Therefore,
 although it is
 performed by
 human
 hands, it is
 still truly
 God's work.*

*~ Martin Lu-
 ther, Large
Catechism,
 1529 A.D.*

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



☐ Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



☐ Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the holy Church, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



☐ Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



☐ Lord, have mer - cy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



☐ A - men

GLORIA

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



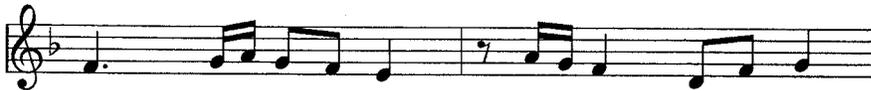
Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For you a -



lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



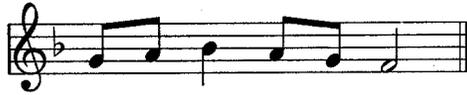
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

~ 1 Peter 3:21

SALUTATION and COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.



☐ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray . . . Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in his name faithful in their calling as your children and inheritors with him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT Genesis 1:1-5

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 29

P: Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

C: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

*We are united
with Christ.
We will grow
together with
Him all our
lives. Just as
He rose up to
live a new
life, we also
rise up every
morning and
live with the
Resurrected
One. We live
through Him
and for Him.
That is the
meaning of
Baptism.*

*~ Bo Giertz,
To Live
with Christ,
1974 A.D.*

- P: The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- C: The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**
- P: The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- C: he makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**
- P: The voice of the LORD splits the flames of fire; the voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- C: The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.**
- P: And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"
- C: The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**
- P: The LORD shall give strength to his people; the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

EPISTLE Romans 6:1-11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might

What makes Christian baptism effective? Salvation through communion with Christ. We have grown together with Christ through baptism... Baptism is a picture of burial in the grave – and resurrection. When this happens, God unites a person with Christ and she becomes a member of His body...

*~ Bo Giertz,
Sermon on
Matthew
3:13-17,
1937 A.D.*

When Jesus comes, He does not stand on the bank and call everyone to come out of the water. Jesus does not stand there and say, "Hey, you've got it all wrong. There isn't temporal and eternal punishment for sin. No, God is all-loving. So come, follow me. I can teach you to accept one another and we will try to turn this world into a happier, more tolerant, place." . . .

walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

VERSE

L: Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

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

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, im-

mediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

The following verses are chanted as the ministers gather at the font:

L: I will pour clean water upon you, 'says the Lord.*
From all your impurities and all your idols 'I will cleanse you.

C: **Sprinkle me with hyssop, O Lord and I 'shall be cleansed;*
wash me and I shall be whit'er than snow.**

L: When the goodness and loving-kindness of 'God appeared,*
he saved us by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the
'Holy Spirit.

C: **I saw water flowing 'from the temple,*
and all to whom this water came, 'they were saved.**

L: I will pour clean water upon you, 'says the Lord.*
From all your impurities and all your idols 'I will cleanse you.

**All: Glory to the Father and 'to the Son,*
and to the 'Holy Spirit;
as it was in 'the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. 'Amen**

P: Do you renounce the devil?

C: **Yes, I renounce him.**

P: Do you renounce all his works?

C: **Yes, I renounce them.**

*No, Jesus lets
God's judgment
stand. Jesus lets
people get into
the water. But
then, Jesus does
something more.
He gets into the
water with them.
Why? Because
that is the nature
of God's love. It
does not delight
in the death of
sinners but
rather they turn
from their sin
and be saved. So,
Jesus enters the
waters of the Jor-
dan because He
loves and because
He knows He
alone can bear
God's punish-
ment for sin and
He alone can rise
from death and
lead God's people
into a kingdom
where this kind
of love never
ends.*

*~ David Schmitt,
1517.org,
A.D. 2021*

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

*~ Saint Paul,
1 Corinthians
12:12-13*

P: Do you renounce all his ways?

C: **Yes, I renounce them.**

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: **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**

P: You have made public confession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

C: **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

P: God the Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit bless and guide you,
now and forever.

C: Amen

Please be seated. During the hymn, the congregation is sprinkled with water in remembrance of its Holy Baptism into Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY "To Jordan's River Came Our Lord"



1 To Jor - dan's riv - er came our Lord, The Christ, whom
2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— The Son of
3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood And John bap -
4 Then from God's throne with thun - d'rous sound Came God's own



heav'n - ly hosts a - dored, The God from God, the
God in flesh dis - guised— To stand be - neath the
tized the Lamb of God, The Ho - ly Spir - it,
voice with words pro - found: "This is My Son." was



Light from Light, The Lord of glo - ry, pow'r, and might.
Fa - ther's will And all His righ - teous - ness ful - fill.
heav'n - ly dove, De - scend - ed on Him from a - bove.
His de - cree, "The one I love, who pleas - es Me."

5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight
Anointed Christ in glorious sight
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall
To save the world and free us all.

6 Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;
This man is Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

*Jesus answered,
"Truly, truly,
I say to you,
unless one is
born of water
and the
Spirit, he
cannot enter
the kingdom
of God.*

~ John 3:5

SERMON

“The Confession of the Almighty God”

Please kneel.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Trusting in our Lord Jesus Christ, the everlasting God and Son of Mary, let us pray.

P: . . . O King of Kings,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY

As the pastors prepare the altar, music provides a time for worshipers to prepare for the Holy Supper, offering thanks to God and asking for the blessing of His Holy Spirit. When the Offertory ends, please stand.

“The Baptism of Our Lord”

... Charles Callahan

Please stand.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, heavenly Father, for the priceless gift of your Son, sent into our flesh to redeem the creation. Grant that we may now so eat of his flesh and drink of his blood that we may ever dwell in him, and he in us.

C: Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

☐ And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

☐ We lift them to the Lord.

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

☐ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS ("Holy")

☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
 Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

~ Colossians 2:9-12

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me."

In the same way also he took the cup after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink of it, in remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

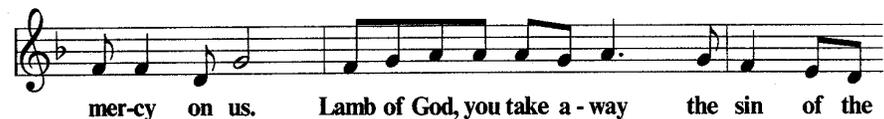
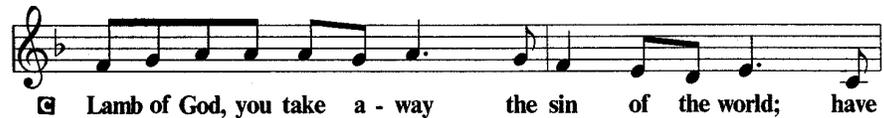
C: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

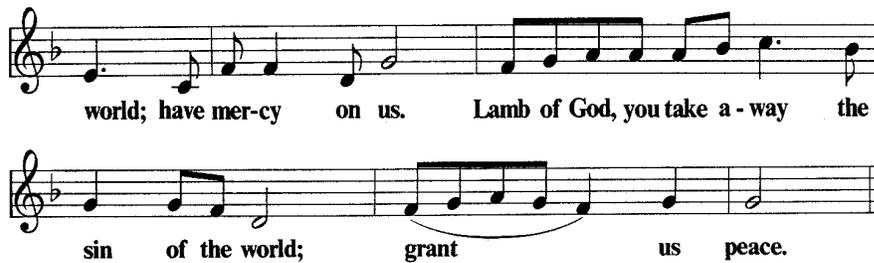
ACCLAMATION

P: The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you. The Word was made flesh

C: **and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.**

AGNUS DEI (*"Lamb of God"*)





Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

The congregation is ushered forward for Communion. The pastor will hand you the holy Body. Please take a cup of the holy Blood as directed. Those who do not commune may cross their arms over their chest as they come forward to ask for a blessing.

Holy Communion is the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ which He joyfully gives to His Church to eat and to drink. This gift bestows tremendous benefits. His Body and Blood forgives ours sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this is life and salvation.

The Lord therefore invites to His altar baptized Christians who trust that they will receive in Holy Communion all that He promises there: His body and blood, the forgiveness of sins, union with Christ and His Church, life, and salvation. Know that He gives it to you with great joy.

COMMUNION HYMNS

The vocalists sing the hymns during the distribution. The texts are printed for prayerful meditation.

“God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It”

God’s own child, I gladly say it:
 I am baptized into Christ!
 He, because I could not pay it,
 Gave my full redemption price.
 Do I need earth’s treasures many?

In addition to being a faithful remembrance of and participation in the Last Supper, the Lord’s Supper is a reminder of the entire table fellowship that Jesus engaged in from his incarnation to His ascension. It recalls and fulfills all the covenantal meals God celebrated with His people in the Old Testament...as an act of divine remembrance, the Lord’s Supper is a continuation of the table fellowship of Jesus with sinners.

*~ Arthur Just,
Heaven on Earth, 2008
 A.D*

Yes, even a child needs atonement! If I am naïve enough to believe in the idea of "the innocent little ones," I will realize that I have been out of touch with real life, when it falls on me to rear children. I soon discover that they are no angels. On the contrary, they are very much human; just like all of us they are full of selfishness and willfulness. They can quarrel and be envious long before they can speak a full sentence. "By nature" they are not fit for God's kingdom, no more than we grown-ups....

I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity!

Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me
Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood,
Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?

Satan, hear this proclamation:
I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny,
God, my Lord, unites with me!

Death, you cannot end my gladness:
I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness
To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
To make life immortal mine.

There is nothing worth comparing
To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ;
I'm a child of paradise!

“Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters”

Wash, O God, our sons and daughters,
where your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among your people;
bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Weave them garments bright and sparkling;
compass them with love and light.
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit,
holy dove and heart’s delight.

We who bring them long for nurture;
by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking
cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps;
free from sin and all its snares,
one with Christ in living, dying,
by your Spirit, children, heirs.

Oh, how deep your holy wisdom!
Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor!
With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you,
water-washed and Spirit-born.
By your grace, our lives we offer.
Recreate us; God, transform!

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. O God of wonder, we have tasted your goodness,
and beheld your presence in the Word made flesh. Shine forth
his light in all we say and do, and fill the earth with your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

...But the unfathomable depth of God’s mercy and atonement is revealed precisely here: I can look at my playing child and know that it too partakes of Christ’s life, that the seal of the cross is marked on its forehead, and that the guilt that follows us because of our perverted will is removed. Baptism is God’s own proof of that fact.

~ Bo Giertz,
Christ’s
Church,
1939 A.D.

A Prayer as You Go

My Lord and Savior, I thank You because it is not I who have chosen You, but You have chosen me and made me a Christian... You have taken me, a shoot on a wild vine, and grafted me onto Your noble vine, the one vine that can bear fruit that never perishes. I thank you because it is Your life and power at work in me...

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

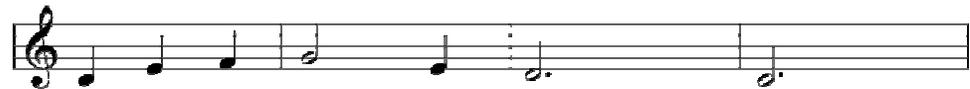


Please turn toward the cross as it is carried from the sanctuary.

RECESSIONAL HYMN "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path.
When we have run with pa - tience the race,



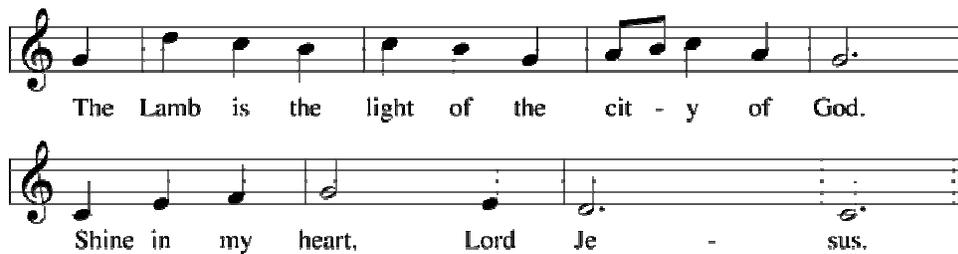
The star of my life is Je - sus.
And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
We shall know the joy of Je - sus.



Refrain
In Him there is no dark - ness at all.



The night and the day are both a - like.



SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

Fantasia on "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" ... John A. Behnke

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for children preschool age through grade 6 begins in the east balcony, above the Baptistry. Children will gather first in the Baptistry area and then proceed up the steps together.

Preschool through Grade 4 remain in the balcony for all of the Sunday School time. Grades 5-6 proceed to the conference room/library (by the elevator) after the music portion. Please reclaim your children at 10:45 a.m.

+ Soli Deo Gloria + *To God alone be glory*

Serving at Worship

Preaching: The Rev. Christopher Johnson

Presiding: The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde
(*Pr. Gulhaugen at Bethany, 10:30*)

Organist: Kantor Irene Beethe

Violin: Mary Premeau

Vocal Ensemble: Vicky Radunz; Cyndi Reuter; Carol Rich

Lector: Beth Oestreich

Radio Announcer: Scott Schubring

Acolytes: Madison Cornell; Michael Cornell; Emma Pagel

Ushers: Marty and Janet Dettmering; Landis and Jewell Holdorf;
Gary and Sue Wolslegel

Elder: Jon Oestreich

Altar Guild: Bonnie Waack; Anna Mae Zeinemann

...For no one
but You could
ever soften up
my hard wood
and give life to
my barren, rot-
ten stem. It's
more than I
can ask for.
Therefore, I
heartily thank
You because I
know You
wanted it this
way. Your
good will be
done every-
where, always
and also with
me. Amen.

~ Bo Giertz,
died 1998
A.D.

Acknowledgements

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Zion Lutheran Church

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Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

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