

**Sunday December 25, 2022**

**Nativity of Our Lord**



**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MALMO**

21590 State Highway 47, Isle, MN 56342

Phone: 320-684-2123 (1-877-684-2123) Fax: 320-684-2836

E-mail address: [blcmalmo@gmail.com](mailto:blcmalmo@gmail.com)

Church Web Site: [blcmalmo.org](http://blcmalmo.org)

**Pastor James Muske**

**320-583-5796**

Parish Nurses: Darlene Christensen, RN 320-279-0097

Kathy Berland RN ANP 218-838-6181

Prayer Chain Contacts: Char Berg 320-684-2102 or

Darlene Christensen 320-279-0097

Church Secretary: Mary Braun

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

***MISSION STATEMENT***

*We will LIVE and SERVE through FAITH*

*we will ACT with LOVE and KINDNESS*

*we will GIVE hope and SUPPORT to all.*

**Hearing Assistance is available during the service.**

**Please notify usher if you would like assistance**

**NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**  
**CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25, 2022**  
**9:00am**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ALL ARE WELCOME!** All are welcome to stay and enjoy a Christmas meal together immediately following today's worship service.

**DIGITAL SIGN APPRECIATION PLAQUE** is displayed in the Fellowship Hall for the winter.

**MONTHLY TITHING** For your convenience we have direct deposit forms in the Narthex. You can sign up indefinitely or sign up for a few months if you're going south for the winter.

**LOAVES and FISHES** Our Jan. Service Project is helping with the Free Community Meal at First Lutheran in Aitkin on Mon. Jan. 9, 2023. The organization "Loaves and Fishes" supports these free meals and we have volunteered to provide volunteers to hand out the meals. We need to provide approximately 200 wrapped cookies/bars and 6 Volunteers (to be at First Lutheran between 1-5pm). If you are interested in helping contact Julie Swaggert for more information. Phone: 763-229-9121 or Email: jswaggert@gmail.com

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** for 2023 are here! Please pick up your envelopes in the Fellowship Hall.

**POINSETTIAS** Please take your poinsettia home after service today if you ordered one.

---

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of life,

**you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation.**

**Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.**

Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG "Angels We Have Heard on High" #289 ELW**



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

*Refrain*



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

**GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God,

**you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:7-10**

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

<sup>8</sup>Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

<sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM Psalm 98**

<sup>1</sup> *O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.*

*His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.*

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup> *He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.*

<sup>4</sup> **Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

<sup>5</sup> *Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.*

**<sup>6</sup> With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.**

*<sup>7</sup> Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.*

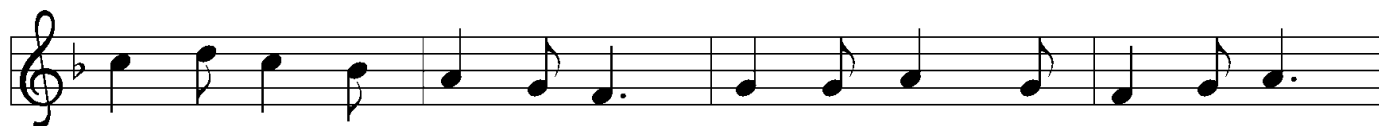
**<sup>8</sup> Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy**

*<sup>9</sup> at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” #288 ELW**



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

## **GOSPEL: John 1:1-14**

### **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.

The Gospel of the Lord  
**Praise to You, O Christ**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" #283 ELW**



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;

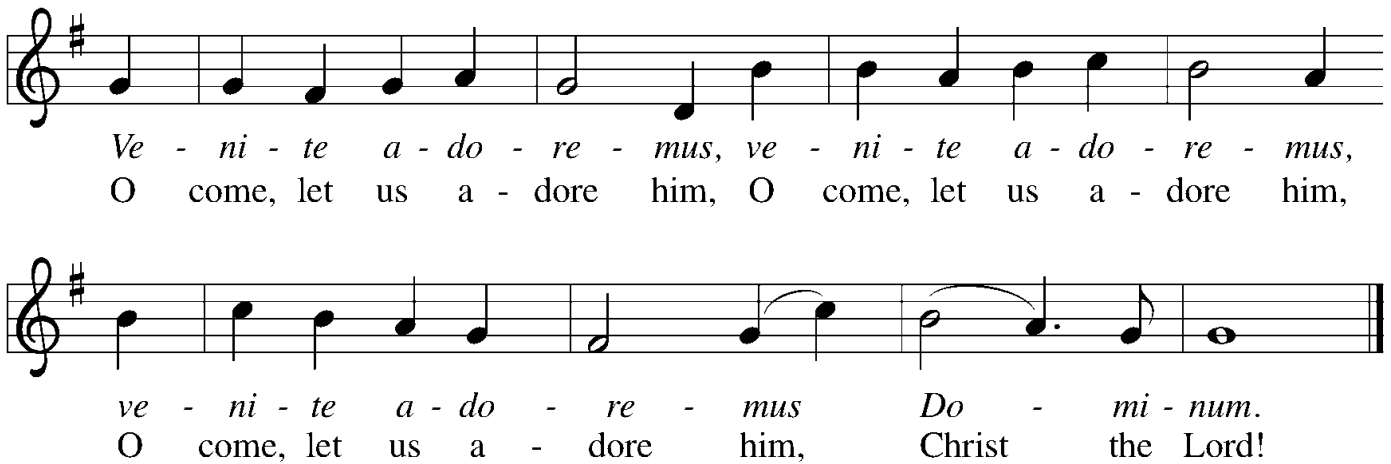


come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing:

*Refrain*



Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,  
ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

*Please Stand*

## **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the 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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

With wonder and thanksgiving for Christ's coming into the world, we pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family.

*A brief silence.*

The church in every land makes a joyful noise to herald your coming, O God. We give thanks for poets, musicians, and hymn writers who give voice to our praise, and for all who lead the church's worship. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

This day dawns with new hope for all living things, and from ocean depths to mountain peaks the earth rejoices. Inspire in us an urgent zeal to protect the planet and renew its resources (local environmental concerns may be named).

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Bring heavenly peace to this world and an end to armed conflict. Raise up leaders in every nation who will honor human rights and establish equal justice for all people. Give courage to all who speak out against oppression and advocate for the powerless. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Guard the lives of any in danger, especially those who work to protect others. Lead any who are in desperate circumstances to sanctuary, help, and safety. Grant rest to the weary and soothe those who are troubled (especially). God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Bless all who gather to worship on this holy day. Be present at our tables and celebrations, and watch over those who travel. Sustain charities, outreach ministries, and food pantries that give generously to people in need (local organizations may be named). God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

In Christ we have beheld your glory, full of grace and truth. We give thanks for those in every generation who reflect the light of Christ. May their witness shine forth in our time. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING** - *Please be seated as the Ushers pass the offering plate.*

*Please stand as the ushers bring the offering to the altar.*



## OFFERING PRAYER

Good and loving God,  
we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

#### Invitation to Communion

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Radiant God,  
with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, ✠ Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

Amen

## CLOSING HYMN: “Jesus, What a Wonderful Child” #297 ELW [previously recorded with John Koziol]



Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won-der-ful child.



Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek, and



mild; new life, new hope the child will bring.

Lis-ten to the an - gels sing: "Glo - ry, glo - ry,  
glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring!

**DISMISSAL**

Christ the Savior is born!  
Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Visitors! It has been great having you join us for worship! Please come again.*

**THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK**

Music: Digital Hymnal & John Koziol  
Greeters: Gary & Brenda Sjerven  
Ushers: 8:30am Mark & Mary Vukelich & family

*Thank you for your service!*

***BLESSINGS TO EVERYONE ON THIS  
WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS MORNING.  
GO PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS—  
CHRIST THE SAVIOR IS BORN!!***



## POINSETTIA Donations



<u>Name</u>	<u>In Memory/Honor of</u>
Carol Bakken	Loved Ones
Char & Roy Berg	Family
Judie Birk	Family
Chuck & Elsa Carlson	Family
Teri Carlson	Les Tillman
Lee & Barb Forrester	Family
Skip Hansen	Lynn
Dennis Hennessy & Julie Swaggert	Family
Del & Dianne Jones	Jack Spetz
Darrell Kelly	Mom, Dad, Uncle, Brother
Wayne & Janice Olson	Family
Sam & Sue Samuelson	Family
Jenny Schuett	Family
Gary & Brenda Sjerven	Families
Patti Smith	George Smith
Paula Spetz	Jack & Jennifer
Dick & Sue Stebbins	Loved Ones
Dave & Joanne Stueven	Family
Sylvia Tapelt	Family
Bev Wedig	Al, Jen & Travis
Winnie Zahradka	Randy

*Thank you to those who have made donations for the beautiful flowers to decorate our sanctuary!*