

December 25, 2024, Order of Service—Roxie Kenitzer, Synod Authorized Minister
CHRISTMAS DAY

Announcements, Concerns, Joys (*Rick Mueller*)

Blessing of the Paraments (*Roxie*)

Opening Dialogue (*Roxie*)s

Come! Look upon the baby Jesus, cradled in the arms of his mother.

Seeing this wondrous sight, may our hearts be comforted and our spirits filled with peace.

Come! Listen to choirs of angels announcing good news to all people.

Hearing this marvelous song, may we too sing: Glory to God in the highest!

Come! Receive this ancient story in your heart, not as history but as a gift.

Opening our hearts to this great mystery, may Christ be born in us today.

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.

***Confession and Forgiveness** (from Sundays & Seasons, copyright 2024, Augsburg Fortress)

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting. **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (*Silence for reflection*)

God-with-us,

C: we confess that we have turned away those seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when we have plenty. We have made power and wealth our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger. We have overlooked the shepherds, expecting good news in prettier packaging. Too often, we have valued violence instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again. Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us. Amen.

P: Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, +forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy. **Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

LBW #60

HP #88

***Kyrie** (response: **Lord, have mercy**)

LBW p.78

***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 you're 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.

***Children's Time**

Sharing the Peace

Receiving our Offerings of Thanksgiving

A reading from Isaiah the 52nd chapter (52:7-10) pew Bible, p.1144
(after each reading, "The word of the Lord." **"Thanks be to God!"**)

Psalm 98 pew Bible, p.935

A reading from Hebrews the 1st chapter (1:1-4) pew Bible, p.1862

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia! I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. Alleluia!
(Luke 2:10-11)

***The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1st chapter (1:1-14)** pew Bible, p. 1645
Before the gospel: **Glory to you, O Lord!**
After the gospel: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon/Homily

***Hymn of the Day** *Angels We Have Heard on High* LBW #71
HP #858

***The Creed** LBW, p. 85

***The Prayers of Intercession** (Each petition ends: God of grace, **receive our prayer.**)

***The Lord's Prayer** LBW, p.91

***Blessing**

**May the Word that Mary brought to birth carry you into new and abundant life.
May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms enfold you with love and strength.
May the Word that angels proclaimed in song bring harmony to our world.
And the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.**

***Sending Hymn** *Go Tell It on the Mountain* LBW #70
HP #871

***Dismissal**

P: Glory to God in the highest! **C: And peace to God's people on earth!**
P: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus. **C: Thanks be to God!**

