

Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA

612 Water Street, Sparta, Wisconsin

December 25, 2016 9:00 am

God With Us; Full of Grace and Truth



Gathering

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Pastor: May the love that breathes life into all humanity and all of creation

Congregation: Be born in us today.

P: God of creation, shaper of seas and stars, of planets and of people

C: God is here with us.

P: God, born in Bethlehem, gurgling, crying, laid in a manger

C: God is here with us.

P: God, breath of the universe; flickering, dancing in the candle flame

C: God is here with us.

P: God, Emmanuel, among us, within us

C: We bring ourselves and our dreams for we want to be here with you.

*Hymn: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

#270

*Greeting and Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Today Christ is born: Alleluia, alleluia! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

C: **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.

*Hymn: *Joy to the World*

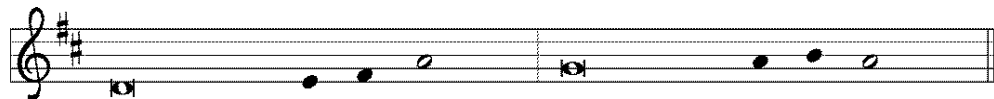
#267

Word

First Reading: Isaiah 52.7-10

Page 596 in the black pew Bible

Psalm 98



¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made | known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing. R**

Page 2

* *Symbol indicates a time when the congregation stands*

⁵Sing to the LORD| with the harp,
with the harp and the | voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound | of the horn
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD. R**

⁷Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,
the world and those who | dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers | clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge the
earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peo- | ples with equity. **R**

Second Reading: Hebrews 1.1-12

Page 970 in the black pew Bible

Gospel Acclamation

page 179

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

a - le - lu - ya! A - le - lu - ya!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel: John 1.1-14

Page 862 in the black pew Bible

Children's Sermon

Sermon

***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.**

***The Prayers:**

Pastor: Rejoicing in the good news of Christ's birth and dwelling in hope, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

From the Assembly: Holy God, you raise up leaders throughout the church to proclaim your word of hope. Unite the church through the good news of salvation, so that all will know and experience your glory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

From the Assembly: Holy God, you created mountains and hills, seas and rivers, and all creatures. Reveal to us the goodness of all you have made so that we live wisely with these your gifts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

From the Assembly: Holy God, you desire that all people live in peace. Guide all in positions of authority to lead with equity, and give courage to advocates who speak for the voiceless. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

From the Assembly: Holy God, you sent your Son to be our physician and remedy. Strengthen medical professionals and counselors to care for the sick and grieving Carol Thorsen and Joanne Dexter so that all people experience healing and consolation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

From the Assembly: Holy God, you gather us together in community, blessing us with friends and family. Make yourself known to all who participate in worship today, and send us forth to serve our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

From the Assembly: Holy God, you show your love and faithfulness in every generation. Through the witness of our ancestors in the faith, you have shown us how to testify to your grace and truth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Hear the prayers of your people, glorious God, for the sake of the one who took on our nature and form to redeem the whole world, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Meal

***Sharing of the Peace**

Offering *The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. Psalm 23:1*

***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.

***A Sung Communion Liturgy for Christmas (*tune: Greensleeves*)**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts unto the Lord. Sing unto God your praises.
We gather on this holy day. We gather at this table.

**All: Lift, lift your hearts up high! Sing praise to God, and glorify!
Praise, praise, the Prince of Peace, the Babe, the Son of Mary.**

God breathed in us the breath of life. God gave the gift of Eden.
We turned away and sin was born; We sought for greener gardens.

**Lift, lift your hearts up high! Sing praise to God, and glorify!
Praise, praise, the Prince of Peace, the Babe, the Son of Mary.**

God called to us from age to age through messengers and prophets,
When we would not our hearts give away,
the Word-made-flesh God sent us.

**This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.**

O Holy god of power and might! **Hosanna in excelsis!**
Blessed be the one who in your name comes! **Hosanna in the highest!**

**This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.**

The Word-made-flesh, Emmanuel; God come to live among us!

He preached good news; the kingdom come!

A light shone in the darkness.

Nails, spear shall pierce him through!

The cross be borne for me, for you.

Hail, hail, the Word made flesh; the Babe, the Son, of Mary.

On the night he was betrayed, Christ took the bread and broke it.

Thanking God, he shared the gift. "Remember, when you eat it!"

Nails, spear shall pierce him through!

The cross be borne for me, for you.

Hail, hail, the Word made flesh; the Babe, the Son, of Mary.

He took the cup and raised it up. "My life I pour out for you.

From sin, set free! Remember me! We covenant anew."

Nails, spear shall pierce him through!

The cross be borne for me, for you.

Hail, hail, the Word made flesh; the Babe, the Son, of Mary.

Pour out your Spirit, Holy God, upon these gifts, and bless them.

Make them for us the Bread of Life, the Cup of our Salvation!

Raise, raise the song on high! The Virgin sings her lullaby:

Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

***Lord's Prayer**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Communion

Hymns during distribution: 288, 287, 275, 292

***Prayer after Communion: (Sung)**

Thank God for Holy Mystery; Body of Christ; the gift of life!

As we depart, let us take heart; God's light will lead us always!

Raise, raise the song on high! The Virgin sings her lullaby;

Joy, Joy, for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Sending

***Blessing:**

May the God of Christmas fill you hearts with all joy and peace in believing! **Amen.**

The blessing of the manger, God's creation all around;

The blessing of the shepherds, God's people with feet on the ground;

The blessing of the angels, good news for all, and peace for the world;

Be with you all now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn: *Go, Tell it on the Mountain

#290

***Sending:**

Go in peace. Christ is with you! **Thanks be to God!**

Needed to meet budgeted mission - \$6875.00

Weekly Giving for December 18 – \$12,909.17

Simply Giving for 12/18 – 12/24 - \$ 4575.50

Total Given - \$17,484.67

Attendance for Sunday, December 18 - 8:15 - 76 10:30 - 288

December 24 3:00 pm -

5:00 pm -

7:30 pm -