

# United Lutheran Church

*First Sunday of Christmas  
December 30, 2018*

Whatever you do,  
whether in word  
or deed,  
do it all in the  
name of the  
Lord Jesus,  
giving  
thanks to  
God the Father  
through him.  
Colossians 3:17

PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME TAG.

Members & visitors: Regarding the RED ATTENDANCE PAD  
located at the center aisle: please sign and pass it down the pew.  
Once it has reached the end of the pew, pass it back to the center aisle.

◆ = Congregation Stands P = Pastor C = Congregation A = Assistant

## PRELUDE

### ◆ GATHERED IN GRATITUDE

C **Baptized into the Body of Jesus Christ and Nourished by His Supper, we are United in Gratitude, Living Everywhere the Love of the Triune God.**

P O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

C **for his steadfast love endures forever.** *Psalm 118:29*

### ◆ GREETING OUR NEIGHBORS

P The Lord is with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Now share the Lord's greeting with one and another.

### ◆ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High, † One God, now and forever

C **Amen**

P Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

*(silence for self-examination.)*

P Gracious God,

C **in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of † the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

### ◆ GATHERING HYMN

*"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

*ELW #283*

### ◆ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God,

C **shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

**1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26**

<sup>18</sup>Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. <sup>19</sup>His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. <sup>20</sup>Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord"; and then they would return to their home.

<sup>26</sup>Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and with the people.

- A Word of God, word of life.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

**Psalm 148**

*Let us pray responsively, Psalm 148.*

*The Pastor will pray the fine printed verses and the congregation will pray the bold printed verses.*

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise God in the heights.

<sup>2</sup>**Praise the LORD, all you angels;  
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

<sup>3</sup>Praise the LORD, sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you shining stars.

<sup>4</sup>**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
who commanded, and they were created,

<sup>6</sup>**who made them stand fast forever and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

<sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;

<sup>8</sup>**fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

<sup>9</sup>mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

<sup>10</sup>**wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds;**

<sup>11</sup>sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;

<sup>12</sup>**young men and maidens, old and young together.**

<sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup>**The LORD has raised up strength for the people  
and praise for all faithful servants,  
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah! Amen**

## SECOND READING

*Colossians 3:12-17*

<sup>12</sup>As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- A Word of God, word of life.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

## ◆ GOSPEL

*Luke 2:41-52*

- P The Holy Gospel according to the St. Luke, the second chapter.
- C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>41</sup>Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. <sup>43</sup>When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." <sup>49</sup>He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**KIDTALK**

**SERMON**

*Intern Pastor Jason Schultz*

◆ **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”*

*ELW #275*

◆ **APOSTLES’ CREED**

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

◆ **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

*Each Petition will end with the Pastor saying, "Lord in your mercy"*

*We ask the congregation to respond by saying, "Hear our Prayer"*

◆ **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES /NOISY OFFERING**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*“What Child is This?”*

*Judy Anderson*

◆ **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

P Gifting God,

C you have gifted us with your Gifting Image, creating us as extensions of your generosity. By the power of your Holy Spirit, daily restore us to your Gifting Image, that we may serve with joy as grateful channels of your endless blessings; through the One whose Gifts are given without measure, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

◆ **DIALOGUE**

P The Lord is 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 our thanks and praise.**

◆ **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

◆ **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

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.

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P Jesus Christ died and was raised for sinners. We qualify.

*At United we practice Open Communion.*

*Those who will receive forgiveness of sins are welcome to the Table.*

*If you are unable to come to the altar, please indicate your desire for communion to an usher.*

*The dark colored liquid is wine, and the light colored liquid is grape juice.*

*For those who need an alternative to wheat flour wafers,  
gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

**“O Lamb of God”**

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way.

3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save; have mer-cy now, we pray.

you set us free from guilt and grave; have mer-cy now, we pray.

e-ter-nal peace with God you made; give us your peace, we pray.

*“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”*

**ELW #272**

*“Your Little Ones, Dear Lord”*

**ELW #286**

*“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”*

**ELW #288**

◆ **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

P The body and blood of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthens you and keeps you in his grace.

C Amen.

◆ **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P God who is our Holiness,

C **in this Supper you have given us Life, Holiness, and the Promise of eternal communion with You in exchange merely for our Sin. In gratitude for this Happy Exchange, may our Thanksgiving and Joy spread from this sanctuary as we become instruments of that same Happy Exchange, covering our neighbors with your Love and Mercy this coming week; through Jesus Christ, the Pattern of our Life Together. Amen.**

◆ **BENEDICTION**

P Now receive the Benediction.

*(Congregation: Face your neighbor.)*

C **The Lord blesses you and keeps you;  
The Lord’s face shines upon you and is gracious to you;  
The Lord looks upon you with favor and gives you peace.**

◆ **DISMISSAL**

A Go in Peace. Serve the Lord by taking care of one another.

C **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s Quotes**

It is so easy to overestimate the importance of our own achievements compared with what we owe to the help of others.

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