

Our Saviour

Lutheran Church



Saturday Service
Eve of the Feast of the Name of Jesus
31 December 2022
www.oslc-warrenton.org

For the musical setting of hymns marked with “ELW”, look in the red *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal and for the musical setting of hymns marked with “W&P” look in the purple *Worship & Praise* paperback songbook. Both can be found in the pew backs.

GATHERING

Gathering Song *Cold December Flies Away* **ELW 299**

Cold December flies away at the rose-red splendor.
April’s crowning glory breaks while the whole world wonders
At the holy unseen pow’r of the tree which bears the flow’r.
On the blessed tree blooms the reddest flow’r.
On the tree blooms the rose here in love’s own garden,
Full and strong in glory.

In the hopeless time of sin shadows deep had fallen.
All the world lay under death. Eyes were closed in sleeping.
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose golden light
Brings unending joy, brings the endless joy
of our hope, highest hope, of our hope’s bright dawning,
Son below’d of heaven.

Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world awakens.
In the lily’s purest flow’r dwells a wondrous fragrance.
And it spreads to all the earth from the moment of its birth;
And its beauty lives. In the flow’r it lives,
In the flow’r, and it spreads in its heav’nly brightness
Sweet perfume delightful.

Opening Song *Jesus, Name Above All Names* **W&P 77**

Jesus, name above all names,
beautiful Saviour, glorious Lord,
Emmanuel, God is with us,
blessed Redeemer, living Word.

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

P God of new beginnings,

C **We confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. Amen.**

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.

P People of God, a new thing is growing in our midst, a tender branch, a living sign. By water and the Spirit, you are joined to this wonder. You have put on Christ, and your sins have been washed away. Rejoice in the way of the Lord.

C Amen.

Sharing the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

L Let us pray. *[A brief pause]*

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

WORD

First Reading

Numbers 6:22-27

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ²³Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,

²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;

²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

²⁷So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Reading Psalm 8

¹O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths
of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies,
to silence the foe and avenger.**
³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**
⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.
⁶**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**
⁷all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,
⁸**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**
⁹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Second Reading Galatians 4:4-7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”
⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Luke 2:15-21

P The holy gospel according to St. Luke.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Narrator: ¹⁵As soon as the heavenly messengers disappeared into heaven, the shepherds were buzzing with conversation.

Shepherds: Let's rush down to Bethlehem right now! Let's see what's happening! Let's experience what the Lord has told us about!

Narrator: ¹⁶So they ran into town, and *eventually* they found Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in the feeding trough. After they saw the baby, ¹⁷they spread the story of *what they had experienced and* what had been said to them about this child. ¹⁸Everyone who heard their story couldn't stop thinking about its meaning. ¹⁹Mary, too, pondered all of these events, treasuring each memory in her heart.

²⁰The shepherds returned *to their flocks*, praising God for all they had seen and heard, and they glorified God for the way the experience had unfolded just as the heavenly messenger had predicted.

²¹Eight days after His birth, the baby was circumcised *in keeping with Jewish religious requirements*, and He was named Jesus, the name the messenger had given Him before His conception in Mary's womb.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Song of Day

Love Has Come

ELW 292

Love has come - a light in the darkness!
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;
Hear how their song of joy arises:
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
What is the name her heart is saying?
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers;
Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

(Song continued next page →)

Love has come and never will leave us!
Love is life everlasting and free.
Love is Jesus within and among us.
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas.
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Prayers of the People

When prompted, call out names of people, places or organizations for which you are thankful or that are in need of God's care.

MEAL

Sharing Our Gifts

L Let us offer back to God what God has first given us: our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of his gracious love.

Our offerings support the work of the church. Please pass the baskets from front to back. You may also make an offering online at www.oslc-warrenton.org by clicking the "DONATE" tab on the homepage.

Offertory Song

How Majestic Is Your Name

W&P 66

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

O Lord, we praise your name.

O Lord, we magnify your name,

Prince of Peace, mighty God, O Lord God Almighty.

Dialogue

The presiding minister invites the people to prayer.

P The Lord be 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.

Thanksgiving Prayer

P Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope,
we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.

When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,
you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.

At this end of the ages your Son Jesus came to bring us your love
and to heal all the suffering world.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and resurrection,
we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share:
strengthen our faith, increase our hope,
and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church,
both now and forever

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Let us pray as our Savior taught us.

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.

Sharing Holy Communion

All baptized Christians are invited to share Christ's Body. If you wish to receive Holy Communion, please come forward and stand around the altar.

Communion Song

Hope Of Israel

Sung by VoP

Prayer After Communion

L Let us pray together. *[A brief pause]*

C We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

P Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

Sending Song

Come Thou Font of Every Blessing

ELW 807

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee;
may I still thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer:
"Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

Dismissal

L Go in peace. Tell the world what God has done.

C Thanks be to God.

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