



*December 25, 2024  
The Nativity of Our Lord  
Christmas Day*

*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church*

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Holbrook, NY  
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*Presiding Minister:* Rev. George Kirkup  
*Preacher:* Rev. Bruce Nathan  
*Organist:* Doreen Leonard

## Christmas Season Schedule

December 29 <sup>th</sup>	Divine Service (Christmas 1)	10:00AM (BC)
January 5 <sup>th</sup>	Divine Service (Epiphany)	9:00 & 11:00AM (BC)
January 5 <sup>th</sup>	New Years' Brunch	10:00AM (SB)
January 11 <sup>th</sup>	Removal of Christmas Decorations	10:00AM (BC)

Prelude

In Dulci Jubilo

J.S. Bach

*Stand*

Of the Father's Love Begotten

*LSB 384:1-4*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession,... I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

## INTROIT

*Psalm 98*

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!  
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

The LORD has made known his salvation;  
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.  
**He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.  
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!



**G** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

## KYRIE

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**G** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

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**P** Glory be to God on high:  
**G** and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.  
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.  
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray... with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 52:7–10*

**A** The Old Testament reading for the Nativity of Our Lord is from Isaiah, chapter fifty-two.

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of him who brings good news,  
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,  
who publishes salvation,  
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;  
together they sing for joy;  
for eye to eye they see  
the return of the LORD to Zion.

Break forth together into singing,  
you waste places of Jerusalem,  
for the LORD has comforted his people;  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

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.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

*Psalm 2*

Why do the nations rage  
and the peoples plot in vain?

**The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together,  
against the LORD and against his anointed, saying,**

“Let us burst their bonds apart  
and cast away their cords from us.”

**He who sits in the heavens laughs;  
the LORD holds them in derision.**

Then he will speak to them in his wrath,  
and terrify them in his fury, saying,

**“As for me, I have set my King  
on Zion, my holy hill.”**

I will tell of the decree:

The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you.

**Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,  
and the ends of the earth your possession.**

You shall break them with a rod of iron  
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

**Now therefore, O kings, be wise;  
be warned, O rulers of the earth.**

Serve the LORD with fear,  
and rejoice with trembling.

**Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,  
for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.**

EPISTLE

*Hebrews 1:1-9*

**A** The Epistle is from Hebrews, chapter one.

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For to which of the angels did God ever say,

"You are my Son, today I have begotten you"?

Or again, "I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son"?

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

Of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels winds,  
and his ministers a flame of fire."

But of the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,  
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.

You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;  
therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

ALLELUIA

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**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

**C** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

*LSB back cover*

*Sit*

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

*LSB 358:1–4*

SERMON

**“A Christmas Gift from God”**

*text: Hebrews 1*

*Stand*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Lord, in your mercy

**C** **hear our prayer.**

LORD’S PRAYER

**P** Let us pray... through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

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**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

**C** **Amen, amen, amen.**

Angels from the Realms of Glory

*LSB 367:1–3*

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.  
The Lord bless you. The Lord keep you. Alleluia. Amen

*In Holy Communion, our Lord invites us to eat and drink His true body and blood. In preparation for this sacrament, each communicant will examine himself and come to the Lord's Table seeking forgiveness of sins. As the catechism says, "a person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: 'Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.'" Therefore, we expect all communicants to have been baptized, instructed, and confirmed in the Christian faith, repent of their sins, and believe that Jesus here offers His true body and blood for their forgiveness.*

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

**C** **It is meet and right so to do.**

**P** It is truly meet right and salutary ... evermore praising God and saying:

**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;**

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

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*Sit*

DISTRIBUTION

What Child Is This

*LSB 370*

The First Noel

*traditional*

*Stand*

NUNC DIMITTIS

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**P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** **and His mercy endureth forever.**

**P** Let us pray. O God the Father, .... through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

PAULINE BENEDICTION

Postlude

Joy to the World

*Handel/Bock*

## Poinsettia Dedications

*Thank you to all who ordered poinsettias to decorate the altar this Christmas. Please take your plants home after 11PM Christmas Eve service or in succeeding weeks. They will be removed after our celebration of the Epiphany of our Lord on January 5, 2025.*

### *Given by*

*Arlene Stuvon  
Barbara Roth*

*Elaine Kohler  
Susan Bieler  
Linda McAvey  
Carolyn & Timothy Trimborn  
Beth & Joe Sagerstrand  
Evelyn & Michael Schroeder*

*Lori Connelly*

*Stacey Alborano*

*Marlene Countiss  
Barbara Ciniglio  
Marilyn Mazeski  
Carol Ciccio*

*Joan Wolff  
Sally & Paul Cataldo and Family*

### *Dedication*

*In memory of Barbara Rogers  
In memory of Ryan Joseph Putter  
In memory of Diane Kauff Boyle  
In memory of Cressy Kauff & Wilbur Kauff  
In memory of Howie, Joan & Helen Hansen  
In memory of Joy Losgar  
In memory of John F. McAvey  
In memory of all our loved ones  
In memory of loved ones  
In memory of K & P Spengler  
In memory of K & G Schroeder  
In memory of Traudi Schroeder  
In memory of James W. Connelly  
In memory of Lorraine & Harold Webber  
In memory of our daughter  
    *Madison Elizabeth Alborano*  
In memory of Leanna McNaughton  
In memory of loved ones  
In celebration of our Savior's birth  
In memory of Doris & Kenneth Busch  
    *and Ralph Ciccio*  
In memory of Daniel Wolff  
In memory of Lillian & Peter Cataldo  
In memory of Julia & Sam Lundy  
In memory of James Moran & Mike Dove*

Please pick up your 2025 offering envelopes in the Narthex of the larger sanctuary. If you would like envelopes there is a sign-up sheet to indicate that desire.