

The Nativity of Our Lord
December 25, 2023
Divine Service, Setting Three, p. 184

Prelude

Invocation (*stand*) P. 184

Confession and Absolution

Processional Hymn "Angels from the Realms of Glory" LSB 367

Kyrie p. 186

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis "A Great and Mighty Wonder" LSB 383, v. 2

**The Word becomes incarnate and yet remains on high,
And cherubim sing anthems to shepherds from the sky.**

Proclaim the Savior's birth:

"To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth!"

Collect of the Day p. 189

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.** (*sit*)

Old Testament Reading *The Lord's Coming Salvation* Isaiah 52:7–10

⁷How 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."

⁸The 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.

⁹Break forth together into singing,
you waste places of Jerusalem,
for the LORD has comforted his people;
he has redeemed Jerusalem.

¹⁰The 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.**

Gradual

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

Solo 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.

All **Sing to the Lord a | new song,*
 for he has done | marvelous things!**

Epistle *The Supremacy of God's Son*

Hebrews 1:1–6

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but 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. ³He 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, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

⁵For 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”?

⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God's angels worship him.”

A This is the word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse of the Day (*stand*)

John 1:14

Alleluia. Alleluia.

The Word became flesh and dwelt a- | mong us,*
 and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father,
 full of | grace and truth.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel *The Word Became Flesh*

John 1:1-14

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

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

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And 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.

Hymn of the Day (*sit*) "Once in Royal David's City" LSB 376, *solo sts. 2, 4*

Sermon "Leave the Heavy Lifting to God" Hebrews 1:1-6

Nicene Creed (*stand*) p. 191

Offering (*sit*) *O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild* arr. J. S. Bach

O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!
For sinners You became a child.
 You came from heaven down to earth
 In human flesh through human birth.
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!

O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!
With God we now are reconciled.
 You have for all the ransom paid,
 Your Father's righteous anger stayed.
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!

O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!
Joy fills the world which sin defiled.
 Whate'er we have belongs to You;
 O keep us faithful, strong, and true.
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!

Offertory (*stand*) p. 192

Prayer of the Church *congregation responds "Hear our prayer"*

Preface p. 194

Sanctus p. 195

Lord's Prayer p. 196

Words of Institution p. 197

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei p. 198

Distribution (*sit*) "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" LSB 359

"Gentle Mary Laid Her Child" LSB 374

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" LSB 393

Post-Communion Hymn (*stand*) "Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing"
LSB 924, st. 1

**Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Your love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us; O refresh us,
Trav'ling through this wilderness.**

Thanksgiving and Post-Communion Collect

p. 200

Salutation and Benedicamus

Benediction

p. 201

Recessional Hymn "Go Tell It On The Mountain"

LSB 388

Postlude

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