



Christmas Day
Friday, December 25, 2020
9:30 a.m.



WELCOME / PRELUDE **Twas in the Moon of Wintertime** *Grant Underwood*

1 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!



2 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

3 Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!



APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

CHRISTMAS PROCLAMATION

P: Behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all people. For to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

C: **Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased. Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.



First Reading: Isaiah 52:7-10

Doré Family

L. A reading from Isaiah

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion.

⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins 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.

L. The word of the Lord

C. Thanks be to God

Psalm 98

Doré Family

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, rejoice, and sing.**

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.**

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 peoples with equity.

Second Reading: Hebrews 1:1-14

Doré Family

L. A reading from Hebrews

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made 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 his Father, and he will be my Son"? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him."

⁷Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire."

⁸But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.

⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

¹⁰And, "In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands;¹¹they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing;

¹²like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Celtic Alleluia





THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:1-14

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

C. **Glory to you, 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 came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

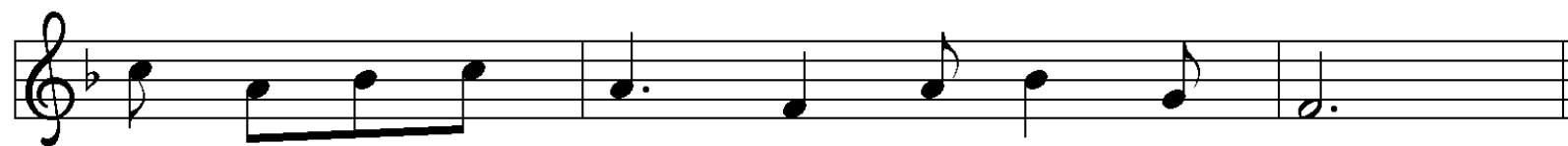
P. The word of the Lord

C. **Thanks be to God!**

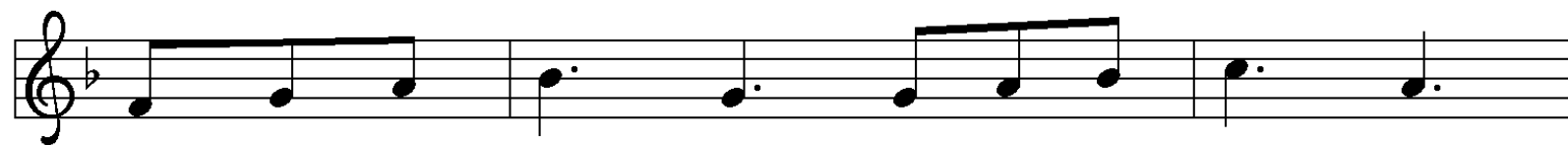
That Boy-Child of Mary



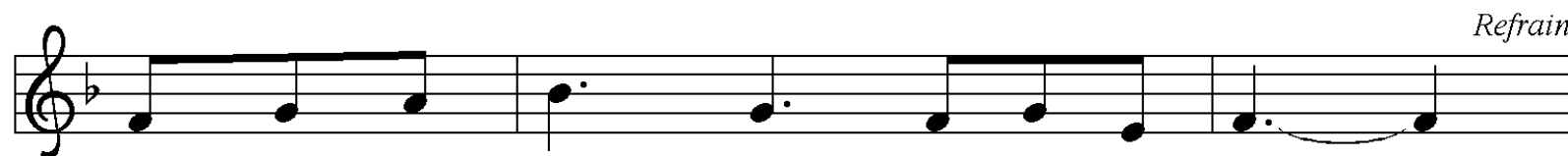
That boy - child of Mar - y was born in a sta - ble,



a man - ger his cra - dle in Beth - le - hem.



- 1 What shall we call him, child of the man - ger?
- 2 His name is Je - sus, God ev - er with us,
- 3 How can he save us, how can he help us,
- 4 Gift of the Fa - ther, to hu - man moth - er,



What name is giv - en in Beth - le - hem?
God giv - en for us in Beth - le - hem.
born here a - mong us in Beth - le - hem?
makes him our broth - er in Beth - le - hem.



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.



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: God of glory, you bring your word to birth among us. As you spoke through prophets and ancestors, empower your church to proclaim your name with boldness and tenderness, that your salvation is revealed to all the ends of the earth. Hear us, O God.


C: Your mercy is great.

P: You founded the earth and the heavens are the work of your hands. Protect the beauty of mountains and valleys. Save glaciers, tundra, and arctic lands from the threat of changing climates. Sustain all things by your powerful word. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You send messengers to announce peace. Build trust among nations. Strengthen relationships that reach beyond borders. Grant safety to ambassadors, relief workers, military personnel, and health care providers who travel across the world. Reveal your redemption through their work. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.



P: You bring hope to all people. Bring wholeness to all who long for your comfort and companionship. Revive aching spirits and restore tired bodies. Bring healing and wholeness to all who long for mercy (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: You are the fullness of grace and truth. Bless ministries of generosity in this congregation and community. Open our doors in welcome, extend our tables to guests, and send us out with provisions for those who lack food, water, shelter, clothing, or companionship. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. Claim us as your children in this life and in the next. Encourage us by the witness of the saints across the ages who have testified to your light and life (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

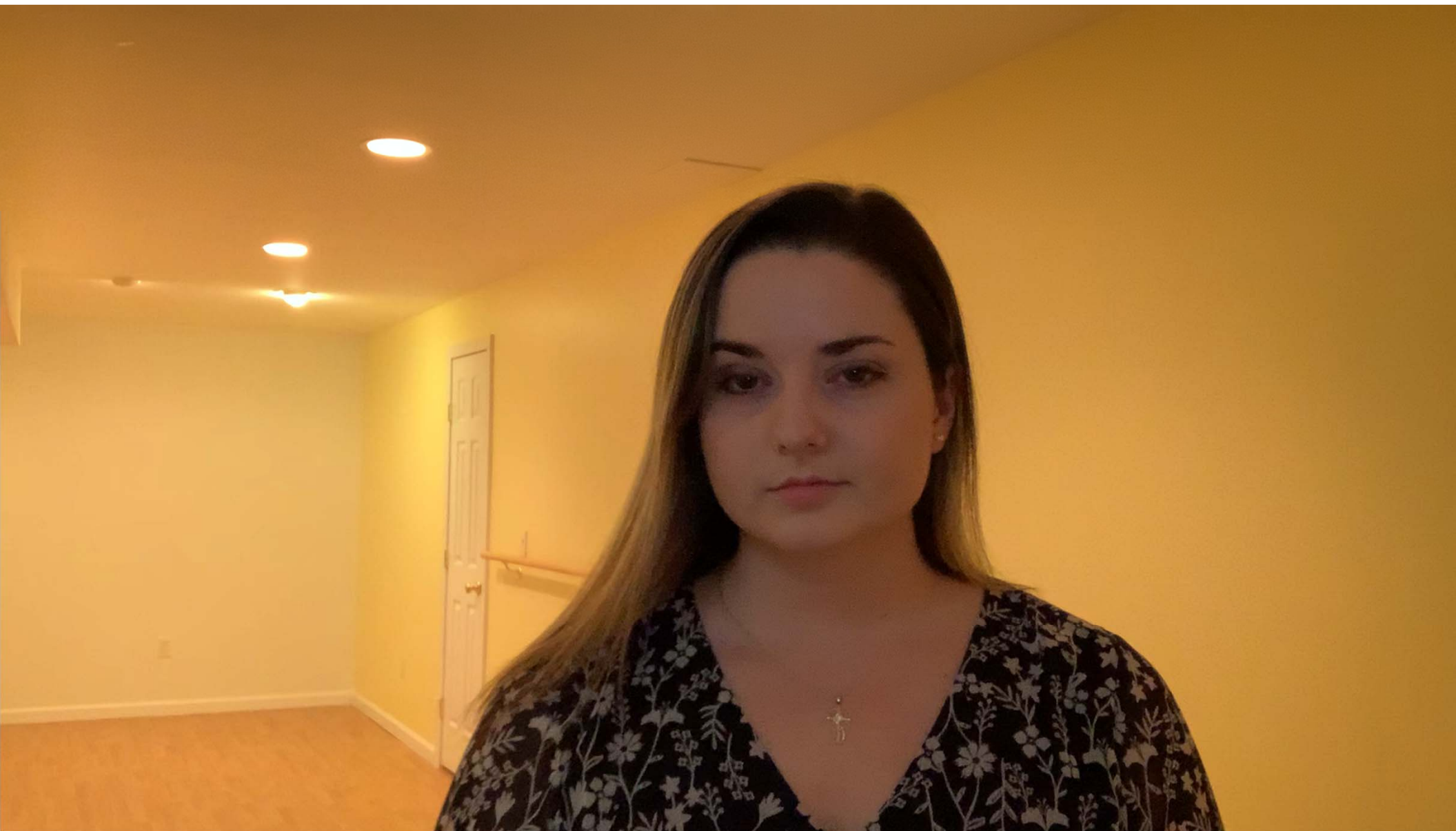
P: God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

ANTHEM

The First Noel

Johnna Fettinger





OFFERING PRAYER

O God, we are stirred this Christmas morning to refocus our attention from the commercialism of Christmas to the miraculous birth of an infant who was born in a manger long ago. You have given us such a precious gift. Thank you, God. We offer you these gifts as our gratitude for all that you give to us. We pray in the name of that miraculous infant, the Baby Jesus.

C. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**



BLESSING

Almighty God,
who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary,
proclaimed joy through the angels,
sent the shepherds with good news,
and led the magi by a star,
bless you this day ✠ through the Word made flesh.

C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Angels We Have Heard on High

Janet Lutz

ELW # 290

1 Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*



DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

C. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Grant Underwood

**Contributions to the Danbury Food
Pantry and the Prince of Peace Love Fund
are gratefully acknowledged.**

*Given as a thank offering to God for the congregation
of Prince of Peace, by Pastor Paul & Janet Lutz*

*Given in honor of our church family, by Allen and Pam
Nemetz*

*Given as a thank offering to God for all the blessings
of Christmas, by Allen & Pam Nemetz*

Given as a thank offering to God, by Edith Sherman

*Given in memory of Margaret & Edward Timpner, by
Marci & Jim Sharp*

*Given in memory of Delores and Bowman Sharp, by
Marci & Jim Sharp*



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We are excited to offer THREE more Christmas worship services.

Christmas Day “Parking Lot” Communion (in your car over the radio) at 11:00* a.m. . Bring bread and wine or receive a prefilled cup with wine and bread when you arrive. Stay warm in your car as we will follow a short service (to be provided) broadcasted over the FM radio.

The First Sunday of Christmas, 12.27.2020, Lessons and Carols #1 at 9:30* a.m. Cut & Paste the link, read the Christmas Weekly, or go to our website: (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86131719903?pwd=eHFCNHRWMWhqeTRtUIRmYWVvK2NKdz09>)

The Second Sunday of Christmas, 1.3.2021, Lessons and Carols #2 at 9:30* a.m. Cut & Paste the link, read the Christmas Weekly, or go to our website: (<https://princeofpeacebrookfield.org/>)

The times refer to the Zoom, FaceBook live, or prerecorded presentations. All the services (except the parking lot communion service) are recorded, however, and available to watch at any time convenient for you. Simply go to our website (<https://princeofpeacebrookfield.org/>) to participate in Christmas worship at a time that works for you.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

A congregation of the New England Synod,
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Lectors: Doré Family

Congregational Voice: Julie Parker

Vocalists: Johnna Fettinger, Janet Lutz, Colin McLoone, Dan McLoone, Mindi Sanger, Grant Underwood

Virtual Technical Advisor: Heather Pontonio

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