

Communion Statement <u>We will be celebrating Holy Communion at this service</u>

We consider this to be a family meal partaken in and with the Real Presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The term "Communion" describes the relationship between the participants, certainly between each person and our Savior whose meal it is, but also with all who come together to consume Christ's body and blood in and with the bread and wine. To properly celebrate Communion all participants should be in communion; sharing the same confession of faith as is taught by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS). We welcome all those who regularly confess this faith as members or regular attenders of Lamb of God. Those who belong to another LCMS congregation and wish to join with us as fellow family members are asked to speak to an Elder prior to the beginning of service. Those who are visiting but not members of an LCMS congregation may approach the communion rail and receive a blessing with their arms folded in front of their chest, or remain seated.

This has been the practice of the Church from the beginning, which according to earliest records would dismiss all those not baptized and confirmed before the Lord's Supper was celebrated. We are celebrating this Sacrament in keeping with this tradition. If you are from outside the LCMS confession, please know that we are not judging you or your faith. We are not implying that you are not a Christian or worthy of the gifts Christ won for you on the cross. We are simply acknowledging that since you do not have the same confession as we do you are not "in communion" with us. If you still desire to participate in Holy Communion in the future at Lamb of God please speak with Pastor Mark after the service. Thank you for honoring our celebration of Holy Communion.

** Note: For those concerned about consuming alcohol-the individual cups in the center of each tray contain diluted wine. (1 drop of wine in water) There is gluten free wafers.

Lamb of God Lutheran Church

Empowered by Christ's Sacraments to be His witness in Friendship/Fellowship/and Faith.

2051 West Maple Ave. Flint, MI 48507 810 234 2423



Pastor Mark Pretznow 248 736 8639



Christmas Eve Service 3:00 pm *Christmas Dawn Celebrated* Divine Service I December 24, 2021

Procession of the Cross

Entrance of the Processional Cross

P Please stand and face the Processional Cross

Processional Hymn

LSB 380



Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the
 Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 151

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- ☑ Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Please be seated

Service of the Word

Responsive Reading

Psalm 98

P ¹Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

G 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.

³ 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!
- Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

- With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!
- C⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!
- \mathbf{P} ⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands;
- Iet the hills sing for joy together ⁹ before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.
- **P** He will judge the world with righteousness,
- **G** and the peoples with equity.
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Kyrie

LSB 152

- **P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- **C** Amen.

Please stand as you are able



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **G** And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

Most merciful God, You gave Your eternal Word to become incarnate of the pure Virgin. Grant Your people grace to put away fleshly lusts, that they may be ready for Your visitation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated

Old Testament Lesson:

Isaiah 62:10-12

¹⁰Go through, go through the gates;

prepare the way for the people;

build up, build up the highway;

clear it of stones;

lift up a signal over the peoples.

¹¹Behold, the LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth:

Say to the daughter of Zion,

"Behold, your salvation comes;

behold, his reward is with him,

and his recompense before him."

¹²And they shall be called The Holy People,

The Redeemed of the LORD;

and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God. Epistle Lesson:

Titus 3:4-7

⁴When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel:

Luke 2:1-20

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

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be

registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest,

and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

Children's Message

361 O Little Town of Bethlehem



Sermon: Titus 3:4-7

Please stand as you are able

Nicene Creed

G I believe in one God,

the Father Almighty,

maker of heaven and earth

and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of His Father before all worlds,

God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,

begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures

and ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Offering and Prayers

Offering Statement:

Please fulfill your obligation as a member to support the ministry that we have been given by the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ. You can drop your offering envelope off in the Offering Box in the Narthex as you leave today, mail us your envelope, give on-line at our website, or drop it off in the offering box in the lobby across from the Church Office Monday – Friday 9 AM-1 PM.

Offering Verses: Psalm 98:2-4

²The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

³He 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.

⁴Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!



Please be seated

Prayer of the Church

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For all who celebrate the incarnation, that the knowledge that their God reigns would cause them to lift up their voices and sing for joy, now and throughout the Church Year, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.

P ... let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- P Hear us, O Lord, for the sake of Your Son, the Word become flesh, the Savior of the nations, Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God.
- **C** Amen.

Please stand as you are able

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 160

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Full)

 P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of
 heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final

judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:



19



Please be seated

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Right Column

LSB 164

The true body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**



The true blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

Table Dismissal

P Depart now in His joy and peace, knowing that all of your sins have been forgiven.

367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

	- • · · · · • · • · •	
2 Shep - herds in 3 Sa - ges, leave	the realms of glo - ry, the field a - bid - ing, your con - tem - pla - tions, the al - tar bend - ing, tion, join in prais - ing	Wing your flight o'er Watch-ing o'er your Bright-er vi-sions Watch-ing long in God the Fa-ther,
	•	, 1
all the earth; flocks by night, beam a - far; hope and fear, Spir - it, Son,	Ye who sang cre - a God with us is now Seek the great De - sire Sud - den - ly the Lord Ev - er - more your voic	re - sid - ing, of na - tions, de - scend - ing,









The Dismissal

 P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. De-part + in peace.

C Amen.

Close of the Service

Please Stand as you are able





Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your onlybegotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



Benediction 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen.



Sharing of the Peace

- **P** The Peace of the Lord be with you always
- **G** And also with you

Join the Hallelujah Ringers for Pre-Service Christmas Eve Music.

Friday, December 24th at 9:30 pm



he by an b Peccep Curri Bug four Savior, has been poured out upon you fichty and abundantly this day. In the same manner as He has shared with or, plot e her in your his inter to be who need to hear the Gospel from your lips and by the work of your had cendbier \$24ye 2020 in the world as His Church.

Closing Peace



orve to finistmas Eve Service God 3:00 pm

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