



And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Luke 2:39-40

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 27, 2020

CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

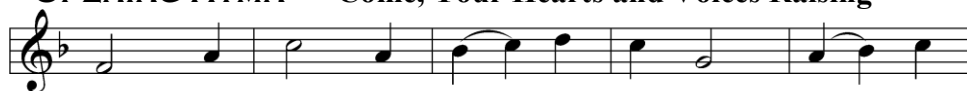
CONOVER, NC

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We stand.

OPENING HYMN “Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”



1 Come, your hearts and voices rais - ing, Christ the
2 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing And in
3 Ja - cob's star in all its splen - dor Beams with
4 From the bond - age that op - pressed us, From sin's



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing His love a -
love our race be - friend - ing; In our need His help ex -
com - fort sweet and ten - der, Forc - ing Sa - tan to sur -
fet - ters that pos - sessed us, From the grief that sore dis -



maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.
tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.
ren - der, Break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.
tressed us, We, the cap - tives, now are free.

5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing
When by faith we grasp this blessing,
And to You we come confessing
That Your love has set us free.

6 Gracious Child, we pray, O hear us,
From Your lowly manger cheer us,
Gently lead us and be near us
Till we join Your choir above.

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INVOCATION

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

P Alleluia! My eyes have seen Your salvation,
C a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel. Alleluia!

P Your righteousness, O God, reaches the high heavens.
C You who have done great things, O God, who is like You?

P My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to You;
C my soul also, which You have redeemed.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C 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.

P 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.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C and also with you.

C O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

We sit.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 61:10–62:3

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 111

P Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

C Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

P Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

C He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

P He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

C He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

P The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy;

C they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

P He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name!

C The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!

EPISTLE LESSON

Galatians 4:4-7

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

We stand.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 2nd chapter

C Glory to You, O Lord.

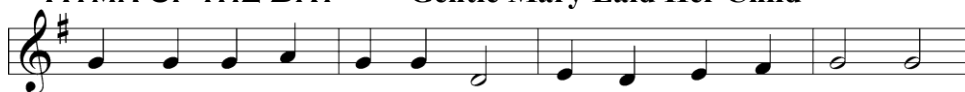
After the Gospel is read:

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

We sit.

HYMN OF THE DAY “Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”



1 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;
2 An - gels sang a - bout His birth, Wise Men sought and found Him;
3 Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;



There He lay, the Un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.
Heav - en's star shone bright - ly forth Glo - ry all a - round Him.
He is still the Un - de - filed But no more a strang - er.



Such a babe in such a place, Can He be the Sav - ior?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, Heard the an - gels sing - ing;
Son of God of hum - ble birth, Beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa - vor.
All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring - ing.
Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo - ry!

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SERMON

Pastor Michael Geml

We stand.

APOSTLES' CREED

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life T everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

We sit.

INSTALLATION OF MRS. JESSICA WESTBY

We stand.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN “Another Year is Dawning” AURALIA

**Another year is dawning: Dear Father, let it be,
In working or in waiting, another year with Thee;
Another year of progress, another year of praise,
Another year of proving Thy presence all the days.**

**Another year of mercies, of faithfulness and grace;
Another year of gladness in the shining of Thy face;
Another year of leaning upon Thy loving breast;
Another year of trusting, of quiet, happy rest.**

**Another year of service, of witness for Thy love;
Another year of training for holier work above.
Another year is dawning: Dear Father, let it be,
On earth or else in heaven, another year with Thee.**

POSTLUDE