

# Saint Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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## The Second Sunday after Christmas January 3, 2021



**Color of the Day:** White - the festival color of the Church. It is reserved for celebrations that reflect themes of purity, light, innocence, holiness, and redemption, including special events in Jesus' life as His Birth, Baptism, Transfiguration, and Resurrection.

### OPENING HYMN

#395 - O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright



1 O Morn-ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's  
2 Come, heav'n-ly Bride-groom, Light di-vine, And deep with-in  
3 Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls  
4 Al-might-y Fa-ther, in Your Son You loved us when



own truth and light, A-glow with grace and mer-cy!  
our hearts now shine; There light a flame un-dy-ing!  
from God a-bove A ray of pur-est plea-sure.  
not yet be-gun Was this old earth's foun-da-tion!



Of Ja-cob's race, King Da-vid's son, Our Lord and mas-  
In Your one bod-y let us be As liv-ing branch-  
Your Word and Spir-it, flesh and blood Re-fresh our souls  
Your Son has ran-somed us in love To live in Him



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on-ly!  
es of a tree, Your life our lives sup-ply-ing.  
with heav'n-ly food. You are our dear-est trea-sure!  
here and a-bove: This is Your great sal-va-tion.



Low-ly, ho-ly! Great and glo-rious, All vic-to-rious,  
Now, though dai-ly Earth's deep sad-ness May per-plex us  
Let Your mer-cy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!  
Al-le-lu-ia! Christ the liv-ing, To us giv-ing



Rich in bless-ing! Rule and might o'er all pos-sess-ing!  
And dis-tress us, Yet with heav'n-ly joy You bless us.  
For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us.  
Life for-ev-er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev-er!

5 O let the harps break forth in sound!  
Our joy be all with music crowned,  
Our voices gladly blending!  
For Christ goes with us all the way—  
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!  
His love is never ending!  
Sing out! Ring out!  
Jubilation!  
Exultation!  
Tell the story!  
Great is He, the King of Glory!

6 What joy to know, when life is past,  
The Lord we love is first and last,  
The end and the beginning!  
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,  
Transport us to that happy place  
Beyond all tears and sinning!  
Amen! Amen!  
Come, Lord Jesus!  
Crown of gladness!  
We are yearning  
For the day of Your returning!

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## + CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

(Stand)

**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.

(Kneel/Stand)

**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, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

(Stand)

## + SERVICE OF THE WORD +

### INTROIT

*Psalm 147:1, 5, 11–12; antiphon: John 1:14*

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.

Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;\*

for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.

Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;\*

his understanding is beyond | measure.

But the LORD takes pleasure in those who | fear him,\*

in those who hope in his | steadfast love.

Praise the LORD, O Je- | rusalem!\*

Praise your God, O | Zion!

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

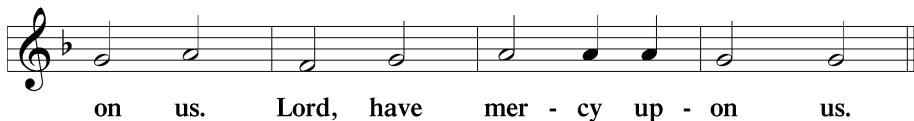
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

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.

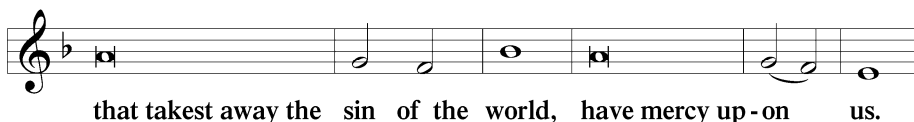
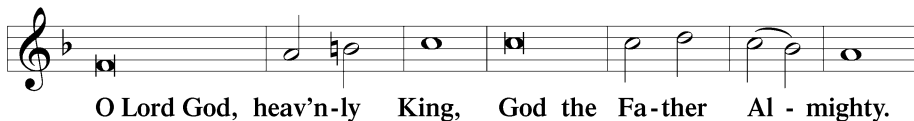
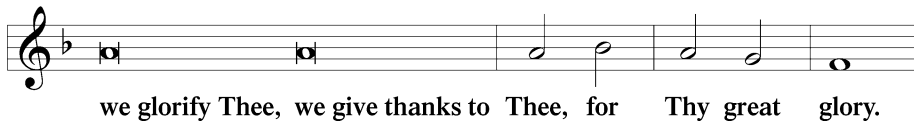
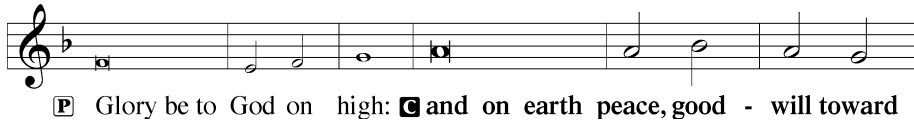
## GLORIA PATRI

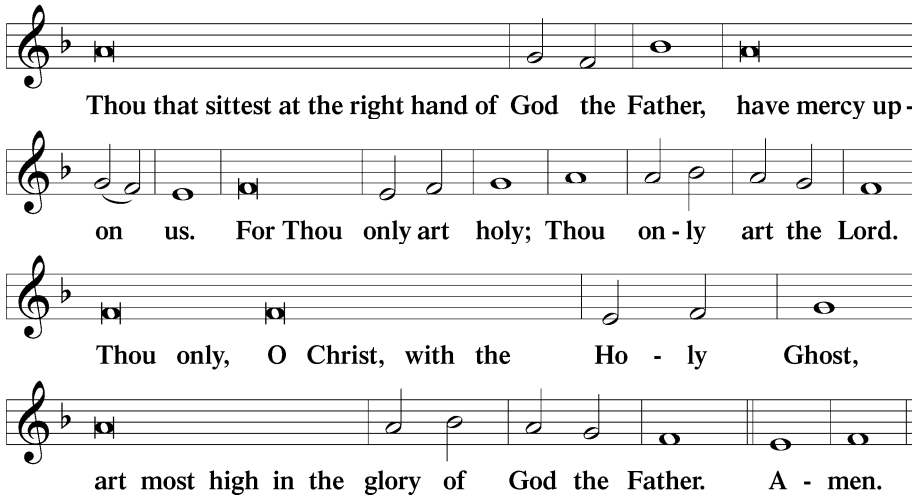


## KYRIE



## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS





Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

**SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**



**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spir - it.  
**P** Let us pray.

**P** Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.  
 (Sit)

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*1 Kings 3:4-15*

<sup>4</sup> The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. <sup>7</sup>And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. <sup>13</sup>I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. <sup>14</sup>And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

<sup>15</sup>And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL

*Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a*

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

## EPISTLE

*Ephesians 1:3–14*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup>which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

<sup>11</sup>In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup>so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 2:40–52*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

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

<sup>40</sup>The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

<sup>41</sup>Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. <sup>43</sup>And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, <sup>44</sup>but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, <sup>45</sup>and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." <sup>49</sup>And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. <sup>51</sup>And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

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

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

## 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 † everlasting. Amen.

(Sit)

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

#410 - Within the Father's House



1 With-in the Fa-ther's house The Son has found His home,  
 2 The doc-tors of the Law Gaze on the won-drous child  
 3 Yet not to them is giv'n The might-y truth to know,  
 4 The se-cret of the Lord Es-capes each hu-man eye,



And to His tem-ple sud-den-ly The Lord of life has come.  
 And mar-vel at His gra-cious words Of wis-dom un-de-filed.  
 To lift the earth-ly veil that hides In-car-nate God be-low.  
 And faith-ful pon-d'ring hearts a-wait The full e-piph-a-ny.

5 Lord, visit Thou our souls  
 And teach us by Thy grace  
 Each dim revealing of Thyself  
 With loving awe to trace

△ 6 Till we behold Thy face  
 And know as we are known  
 Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
 Coequal Three in One.

Text and tune: Public domain

**SERMON**

**The Wisdom and Favor of God**

*Luke 2:40-52*

**Introduction**

You may have noticed \_\_\_\_\_.

**The Framing of the Text**

Our text begins with \_\_\_\_\_.

Our text ends with \_\_\_\_\_.

**The Heart of the Text**

The first verse of our text \_\_\_\_\_.

The reason for the trip \_\_\_\_\_.

Following Passover \_\_\_\_\_.

The group had traveled \_\_\_\_\_.

After three days \_\_\_\_\_.

When Mary and Joseph find Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.

When Mary and Joseph find Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.

It was not Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.

Our text says that \_\_\_\_\_.

And finally our text tells us \_\_\_\_\_.

**What Does This Mean?**

One of the first things \_\_\_\_\_.

Yet, not only was Jesus truly human \_\_\_\_\_.

What other conclusion \_\_\_\_\_.

The fact that Jesus lived \_\_\_\_\_.

In our world today \_\_\_\_\_.

Let me encourage you this morning \_\_\_\_\_.

**Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:**

\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

Miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine (teachings), check out Pastor's blog at: <http://rabswritings.blogspot.com/> or Pastor Mendez's blog at: <https://pastormendez.blogspot.com/>

(Stand)

## OFFERTORY



**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

(Sit)

## OFFERING

(Stand)

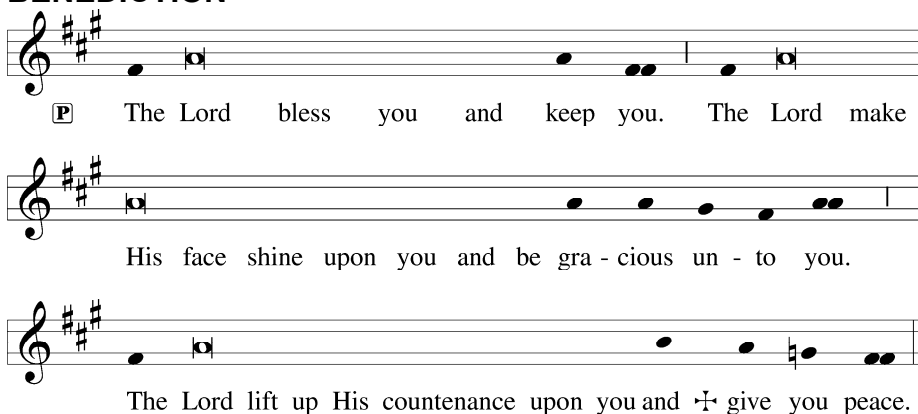
## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### LORD'S PRAYER

**P** 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.

**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## BENEDICTION



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make  
His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



■ A-men, a-men, a - men.

### CLOSING HYMN

#863 - *Our Father, by Whose Name*



1 Our Fa - ther, by whose name All fa - ther-hood is known,  
2 O Christ, Thy - self a child With - in an earth - ly home,  
3 O Spir - it, who dost bind Our hearts in u - ni - ty,



Who dost in love pro - claim Each fam - i - ly Thine own,  
With heart still un - de - filed, Thou didst to man-hood come;  
Who teach - est us to find The love from self set free,



Bless Thou all par - ents, guard - ing well, With con - stant love as  
Our chil - dren bless in ev - 'ry place That they may all be -  
In all our hearts such love in - crease That ev - 'ry home by



sen - ti - nel, The homes in which Thy peo - ple dwell.  
hold Thy face, And know - ing Thee may grow in grace.  
this re - lease May be the dwell - ing place of peace.

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