

Happy
New
Year.



HOLY CROSS

LUTHERAN CHURCH

BELONGING, BELIEVING, & BEARING  IN JESUS

First Sunday of Christmas New Years Eve “Carol Sing”

With Holy Communion

December 31, 2023 • 10 a.m.

Today we celebrate the first Sunday of Christmas and the start of our new year by signing our favorite Christmas carols.

Please take a few moments before the service to write on the request form included in the service folder one carol (with hymn number and name) to hand to an usher as they come down the center aisle after Pastor’s welcome. These will be combined and a few carols randomly chosen from the group to be sung during the carol sing and at various points in our service.

WELCOME

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit

People: **Amen.**

(Matthew 28:19-20)

SPECIAL MUSIC CALL TO WORSHIP

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

People: **The works of his hands are faithful and just, all his precepts are trustworthy;**

Pastor: they are established forever and ever,

People: **to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.** *(Psalm 111:1, 7-8)*

Pastor: We too often are not faithful in the ways we follow his precepts. We are too often not trustworthy in the works of our hands, nor in the thoughts of our hearts.

(We take a few moments to confess our sins to the Lord in silence.)

Pastor: The Lord, has caused his wondrous works to be remembered.

People: **The Lord is gracious and merciful.**

(Psalm 111:4)

Pastor: His most wondrous work is this, in his grace Jesus Christ was born to die and rise for you so that I might proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CAROL SING

Pastor Mike will take requests from the congregation. A couple of verses of each carol will be sung, provided it is familiar to the congregation and to our organist.

FIRST READING Isaiah 61:10-62:3

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
and her salvation as a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

SECOND READING Galatians 4:4-7

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CAROL

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 2:22-40

Pastor: The Gospel according to Luke the 2nd chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²² When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord

²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation ³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: **Praise to You O Christ**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

CAROL

SERMON *“New Year’s Praise’n Eve”*

Text: Isaiah 61:10-11

OFFERING

NICENE CREED

**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 people 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.**

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

CAROL "Joy to the World"

LSB #387, v. 1

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her
King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him
room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.

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THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Christ Child be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

CAROL "Joy to the World"

LSB #387, v. 2

2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

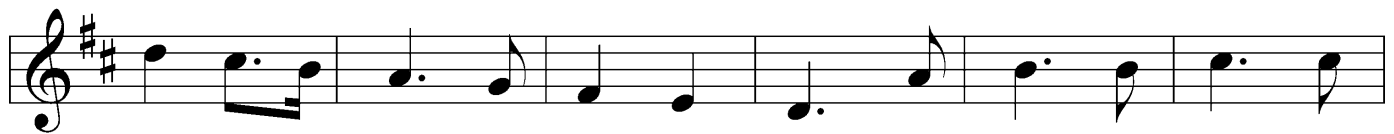
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DISTRIBUTION HYMNS *(from requested carols)*

BENEDICTION

SENDING CAROL "Joy to the World"

LSB #387, vv. 3-4



3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



ground; He comes to make His bless - ings
prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous -



flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
ness And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His



found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.

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“THANK YOU!” to all who assisted with our worship and to all who helped set up our Christmas Cookie Fellowship this morning.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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7307 N. Nevada • Spokane, WA 99208
509-483-4218 www.holycrosslcms.net

Worship Sundays at 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.
Fellowship for all from 9:45 to 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall
Sunday School for Kids and Youth at 10 a.m.
“To Be” Study Groups at 9, 10, & 10:30 a.m.