

# Second Sunday of Christmas

## Sunday, January 3, 2021

### Prelude

John Bennet, "Adagio"

### Canticle of Praise – (Setting 5)

### Greeting & Dialog

A: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

A: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

**C: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

A: To us a child is born, to us a son is given.

**C: In him is life, and the life is the light of all people.**

### Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### Lessons and Carols

#### **Carol: ELW 510 "Word of God Come Down to Earth"**

- 1 Word of God, come down on earth,  
living rain from heav'n descending;  
touch our hearts and bring to birth  
faith and hope and love unending.  
Word almighty, we revere you;  
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.

## First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14

<sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
proclaim, give praise, and say,  
“Save, O LORD, your people,  
the remnant of Israel.”

<sup>8</sup>See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
among them the blind and the lame,  
those with child and those in labor, together;  
a great company, they shall return here.

<sup>9</sup>With weeping they shall come,  
and with consolations I will lead them back,  
I will let them walk by brooks of water,  
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

<sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,  
and declare it in the coastlands far away;  
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him,  
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.”

<sup>11</sup>For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,  
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

<sup>12</sup>They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,  
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD,  
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,  
and over the young of the flock and the herd;  
their life shall become like a watered garden,  
and they shall never languish again.

<sup>13</sup>Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
and the young men and the old shall be merry.  
I will turn their mourning into joy,  
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

<sup>14</sup>I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,  
says the LORD.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

## **Carol: ELW 510 “Word of God Come Down to Earth”**

2 Word eternal, throned on high,  
Word that brought to life creation,  
Word that came from heav'n to die,  
crucified for our salvation,  
saving Word, the world restoring,  
speak to us, your love outpouring.

## **Second Reading: 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>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on 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>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

## **Carol: ELW 510 “Word of God, Come Down on Earth”**

3 Word that speaks God's tender love,  
one with God beyond all telling,  
Word that sends us from above  
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,  
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;  
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

## **Gospel: John 1:1-18**

[<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not

overcome it.

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

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

<sup>14</sup>And 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. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon

### Carol: ELW 302 "As with Gladness Men of Old"

- 1 As with gladness men of old  
did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we  
evermore be led by thee.
- 2 As with joyful steps they sped,  
Savior, to thy lowly bed,  
there to bend the knee before  
thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;  
so may we with willing feet  
ever seek thy mercy seat.
- 3 As they offered gifts most rare  
at thy cradle, rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.

- 4 Holy Jesus, ev'ry day  
keep us in the narrow way;  
and when earthly things are past,  
bring our ransomed souls at last  
where they need no star to guide,  
where no clouds thy glory hide.
- 5 In the heav'nly country bright  
need they no created light;  
thou its light, its joy, its crown,  
thou its sun which goes not down;  
there forever may we sing  
alleluias to our king.

## **Nicene Creed**

**C: 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;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**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.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He 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**

## **Responsive Prayer**

**A: Glory to God in the highest,**

**C: and peace to God's people on earth.**

**A: Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.**

**C: Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.**

**A: Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.**

**C: Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.**

**A: Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.**

**C: Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear you light to all the world.**

**A: Let us pray to the Lord.**

**C: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**A: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:**

**C: Our Father in heaven,  
    hallowed be your name,  
    your kingdom come,  
    your will be done,  
    on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
    as we forgive those  
    who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
    and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
    and the glory are yours,  
    now and forever. Amen.**

## Carol: ELW 303 “*Brightest and Best of the Stars*”

- 1 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid.  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant redeemer is laid.
- 2 Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining;  
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;  
angels adore him in slumber reclining,  
maker and monarch and savior of all.
- 3 What shall we give him, in costly devotion?  
Shall we bring incense and off'rings divine,  
gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,  
myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?
- 4 Vainly we offer each ample oblation,  
vainly with gifts would his favor secure;  
richer by far is the heart's adoration,  
dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.
- 5 Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness and lend us your aid.  
Star of the east, the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant redeemer is laid.

## Benediction and Dismissal

P: Go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit!  
Proclaim the gospel throughout the earth!  
Serve the Lord with gladness,  
with deeds of justice and mercy!

**C: Amen.**

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

Bach, “*Prelude and Fugue in F major*”

## Announcements

- We appreciate your continued gifts to Concordia Church! Remember, you may give in three ways:
  1. Text-to-give: Text “Concordia” to 73256 and follow the link you receive
  2. Give online at [onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give](https://onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give)
  3. Send a check via mail to the church