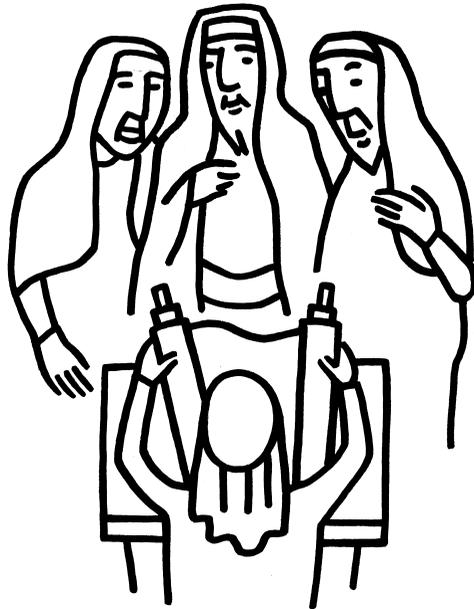




concordia
church



First Sunday of Christmas

December 26, 2021



Love God. Love Your Neighbor.

www.concordiafaith.org

773-281-1225

Concordia on Seeley

3855 N. Seeley

Sunday morning worship at 10am

In-person & virtual options

Join the livestream on Sunday mornings or view recordings of our past services on our YouTube channel.

 **YouTube** Concordia Church Chicago

Welcome, and thank you for worshipping with us this morning.

Holy Communion happens at every service and is open to all baptized.

The restroom is located in the gym; exit the sanctuary through the left door behind the altar and follow the hallway down the stairs.

Prelude

“Von Hummel Hoch” by J.S. Bach

Blessing of the Nativity Scene

O Lord our God, with Mary and Joseph, angels and shepherds, and the animals in the stable, we gather around your Son, born for us. Bless us with your holy presence, and inspire us to help those who have no place to dwell. Be with us that we might share Christ's love with all the world, for he is our light and salvation. Glory in heaven and peace on earth, now and forever. *Amen.*

Opening Hymn

#275 “Angels from the Realms of Glory”



1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.



Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.



Dialogue

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 was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Opening Prayer

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

¹⁸Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD"; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Carol

#277 "Away in a Manger"

1 A - way in a man-ger, no crib for his bed, the lit - tle Lord
 2 The cat - tle are low-ing; the ba - by a - wakes, but lit - tle Lord
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -

Je - sus laid down his sweet head; the stars in the bright sky looked
 Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look
 ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

down where he lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 down from the sky and stay by my cra - dle till morn-ing is nigh.
 your ten - der care and fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.

Second Reading

Colossians 3:12-17

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.



Gospel Reading

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C: **Glory to you, O God.**

Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

⁴¹Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Rev. Nicholas Zook

Hymn of the Day

#288 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!"

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
He has o - pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Apostle's Creed

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. 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.

Offertory

*We encourage you to use this time for reflection & gratitude
as we prepare for communion.*

Liturgy of the Eucharistic Meal

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: We give you thanks, Father,
through Jesus Christ,
your beloved Son,
whom you sent
in this end of the ages
to save and redeem us
and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word,
inseparable from you.

Through him
you created all things,
and in him you take delight.

He is your Word,
sent from heaven
to a virgin's womb.

He there took on our nature
and our lot and
was shown forth as your Son,
born of the Holy Spirit
and of the virgin Mary.

It is he, our Lord Jesus,
who fulfilled all your will
and won for you a holy people;
he stretched out his hands
in suffering
in order to free from suffering
those who trust you.

It is he who,
handed over to a death
he freely accepted,
in order to destroy death,
to break the bonds
of the evil one,
to crush hell underfoot,
to give light to the righteous,
to establish his covenant
and to show forth
the resurrection,

taking bread and
giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat;

this is my body, broken for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup,
gave thanks, and
gave it for all to drink, saying:

This is my blood

poured out for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then,

his death and resurrection,
we lift this bread and cup
before you,

giving you thanks that
you have made us worthy

to stand before you

and to serve you

as your priestly people.

And we ask you:

Send your spirit

upon these gifts of your church;

gather into one

all who share

this bread and wine;

fill us with your holy spirit

to establish our faith in truth,

that we may praise

and glorify you

through your Son, Jesus Christ.

Through him

all glory and honor are yours,

Almighty Father,

with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church

both now and forever.

C: Amen

P: 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.

Communion Invitation

We invite all who are baptized in Christ to come forward for communion. All are welcome at the Lord's table. Parents of young children are asked to let the pastor know if they want their child to receive communion or a blessing.

Communion is served by continuous table around the altar, and you are asked to take a place as openings appear.

Communion

Anthem

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

God of wonder, in Jesus we behold the light of the world come near. As you have come among us now, send us out in joy, hastening to share the good news of your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit dwelling among us now and forever.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn

#299 "Cold December Flies Away"



1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.
2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.
3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown - ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders
All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.
In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en
And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the
light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est
birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.
hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.
spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

Announcements

Blessing and Dismissal

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

A: Go in peace. Share the joy of the Christ child.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Postlude continues the feeling of our time together as we leave worship and go share God's love with our family, friends, and the community.

The church office will be minimally staffed December 23rd-31st. If you are in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Zook (773) 805-8191 or Jen Phillips (312) 933-4096.

Postlude *Medley on "Von Himmel Hoch and Lobt Gott" by J.H. Walther*

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- 1) Mobile: Text 'Concordia' to 73256 and follow the link or scan the QR code here
- 2) Online: Visit www.onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
- 3) Via cash or check left in the offering plate or mailed to the church at:
3855 N Seeley Ave
Chicago, IL 60618



Copyright Information:

Below is a list of all the songs that we are using in today's liturgy with their copyright information located with them.

Entrance Hymn

#275 "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

Carol

#277 "Away in a Manger"

Text: North American, 19th cent.
Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841–1905

Hymn of the Day

#288 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!"

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795–1856

Anthem

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Closing Hymn

#299 "Cold December Flies Away"

Text: Catalanian carol; tr. Howard Hawhee, b. 1953
Music: EL DESEMBRE CONGELAT, Catalanian carol
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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Church Staff Contact Information



Rev. Nicholas Zook, Pastor
nzook@concordiafaith.org
773-281-1225



Jennifer Phillips, Director of Mission Development
jphillips@concordiafaith.org
773-463-1600 ex. 402



Desirae Diehl, Parish Administrator
ddiehl@concordiafaith.org
773-281-1225



Luke Duroc-Danner, Organist & Choir Director
ldurocdanner@concordiafaith.org



Marisa Buchheit, Music Director
mbuchheit@concordiafaith.org



Matt Flanagan, Audio/Visual Engineer
emflanaganmusic@gmail.com