

Gradual/Alleluia Verse

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation / of our God.*



Shout joyfully to the Lord, / all the earth.

The Lord has made known His sal- / vation;*

His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the / nations.

Alle- / luia.*

Alle- / luia.

The Lord has / said to Me,*

“You are My Son; Today I have begotten You.” Alle- / luia.

(Psalm 98:2-4; Alleluia Ps 2:7)

Holy Gospel: St. Luke 2:1-20

The Savior is born

Followed by The Nicene Creed, p. 141

General Prayer of the Church

This evening we will be using a prayer from “Prayers for Feasts, Festivals, and Holidays” from The Lutheran Liturgy (p.332-333).

O ALMIGHTY AND MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, we thank Thee that Thou hast fulfilled Thine ancient promises and given us, in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ, the Lord.

O Lord Jesus Christ, praise and glory and honor be to Thee; for out of Thine unspeakable love Thou didst humble Thyself, that we might be exalted; Thou wast made man, that we might be made heirs of God and fellow heirs with Thee; Thou didst take upon Thee the form of a servant, that we might be renewed into the image/6f God; we sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, but Thou hast brought us light and life and peace and joy.

O Holy Spirit, we praise and bless Thee for making known to us and to all mankind, by the preaching of the Gospel, the joyful tidings of the holy Nativity; and we beseech Thee, quicken us by Thy grace and power, that we may not hear the Christmas message with passing wonderment only, but, like Mary, ponder it in our hearts, that it may kindle in us the light of true faith and the fire of fervent love. Let us not be turned aside by doubts or fears, but, like the shepherds, trusting fully in Thy Word, come with haste to see the things which have come to pass, accept them for our salvation, make known abroad, as we have opportunity, the great joy which shall be to all people, and glorify and praise God for the marvels of His grace and love.

Here special Supplications, Intercessions, and Prayers may be made
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
AMEN.

Pre-communion Prayer

We beseech Thee, O Lord, of Thy bountiful grace that through this sacred intercourse, we may be found conformed to Him, in whom our substance is united to Thee; who with Thee and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever. AMEN.

Communion Psalm: *Ant.* Out of the womb of the morning’s dawn, comes the dew of Your willing youth. (Psalm 110:3). **Psalm 110**

Post-communion Prayer

Grant, we beseech Thee, O Lord our God, that we who rejoice in celebrating these mysteries of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, may by a fitting conversation be received into fellowship with Him; who with Thee and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever. AMEN.

Upcoming Services

THURSDAY **-CHRIST’S MASS EVE SERVICE, 7:00 PM**

-Note: There is no 11 PM service

FRIDAY **-FULL MATINS ON CHRISTMAS DAY, 8:00 AM**

-CHRIST’S MASS DAY SERVICE, 9:00 AM

SATURDAY **--Vespers on St. Stephen, Martyr, 7:00 PM**

SUNDAY **FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

-Matins on St. John, Apostle, 8:00 AM

-Adult and Child Bible Studies, 9:00 AM

-Divine Service-Lord’s Supper, 10:15 AM

-Learn-by-Heart Recitation of the Lord’s Prayer

Service of Light, p.250

+ Versicles p. 250

+ Joyous Light p.251-252

+ Thanksgiving p.252

“Let my prayer..... p.253-255

Psalm 96..... p.338

Isaiah 9:2-7

Hymn #53

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

+ Introit..... (insert)

[Pastor chants first 4 lines,

then congregation joins in.]

+ Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis...p.137-139

+ Salutation..... p.139

+ Collect of the Day... (insert)

Epistle

Gradual/Alleluia Verse (insert)

+ Holy Gospel..... p.140-141

Nicene Creed..... p.141

Hymn..... #37

Sermon

Offering

+ Offertory: "Create in Me..." p.143

+ Prayer of the Church..... p.144

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

+ Preface, etc. p.144-151

Distribution & Hymns

Communion Psalm (by cantor)

Hymns: #39, #245, #62, #67

+ “Lord, now you let ...” p.152

+ Post-Communion Collects p.153

+ Benedicamus/Benediction p.154-5

+ **Hymn #68**



Each of the seven rays are designated with a few words and a Scripture verse:

- To comfort - Romans 15:12**, “Isaiah says: “There shall be a root of Jesse; And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, In Him the Gentiles shall hope.”
- To satisfy - Romans 14:7**, “For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself.”
- To sanctify - Romans 1:4**, “...and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.”
- To strengthen - Ephesians 3:16**, “...that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man,”
- To enlighten - 1 Corinthians 12**, “v. 1 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant:...”
- To receive eternal life - Romans 5:16**, “And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification.”
- To ignite - Romans 12:11**, “...not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.”

Propers for the Midnight Christ’s Mass

Introit

The LORD has | said to Me,
“You are My Son, today I
have be- | gotten You.”
“I have | set my King
on My holy hill of | Zion.”*



The earth is the LORD’s, and all its | fullness,*
the world and those who | dwell therein.
Who may ascend into the hill | of the LORD?*

Or who may stand in His | holy place?
He who has clean hands and a | pure heart,*
who has not lifted up his soul to an | idol.
He shall receive blessing | from the LORD,*
and righteousness from the God of his sal- | vation.
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 LORD has | said to Me,*
“You are My Son, today I have be- | gotten You.”
“I have | set my King
on My holy hill of | Zion.” *(Antiphon, Psalm 2:6-7, Psalm 2:1, 3-5)*

Collect

O God, who made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, grant, we implore You, that as we have known on earth the wonders of that Light, we may also come to the fullness of its joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN**

Epistle: Titus 2:11-14 *The grace of God has appeared*