

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

C Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

God-with-us,

**C we confess that we have turned away those
seeking shelter, claiming there is no room when
we have plenty. We have made power and wealth
our idols, while you show us true glory: a baby in
a manger. Too often, we have valued violence
instead of your peace. Turn us from our ways to
your ways. Grant us the grace to begin again.
Free us from all that keeps us bound, and forgive
our sin, through Jesus Christ, who gives himself
for us.**

Amen.

Hear the good news and rejoice! You are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, ✝ forgiven in Christ, and freed to respond in joy.

C Amen.

KYRIE

Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo-ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of



vic-t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

¹⁸ Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ His 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. ²⁰ Then 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. ²⁶ Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 148

(Refrain: The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven.)

¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

C ²Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.

³Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

C ⁴Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,

C ⁶who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away. *(Refrain)*

⁷Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

C ⁸fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;

⁹mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

C ¹⁰wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;

¹¹sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

C ¹²young men and maidens, old and young together. *(Refrain)*

¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

C ¹⁴The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah! *(Refrain)*

(Refrain: The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven.)

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12-17

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear 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. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let 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. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:41-52

C Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴¹ Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴ Assuming 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. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When 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." ⁴⁹ He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them.

⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON *Pastor Tim Holt*

HYMN OF THE DAY *LBW 40* *“What Child is This”*

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

For those who teach and those who learn, we pray. Bless the education ministries of your church. Guide Sunday school teachers, college and seminary professors, and Bible study leaders in our ongoing faith formation and curiosity. God of grace,
C receive our prayer.

For the nations of the world, we pray. Raise up rulers who lead with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Let your peace rule in their hearts and in all lands. God of grace,
C receive our prayer.

For the well-being of your people, we pray. Keep watch over all who travel this holiday season. Accompany those who are alone or ill (*We pray*

especially for Rick Bauer, Courtney Hagedorn-Drew, Harold Hembree, Mary Ann Jerger, Tammy Kieffner, Keith Kluesner, Chad Knies, Zach Leinenbach, Candy Lewis, Judy Lorey, Eryn Mann, Zander Mann, Mark Matthews, Justin Mehling, Matt Mehling, Logan Musgrave, Bryar Rahman, Jami Roelle, Steve Rothgerber, Annette Schepers, Sandy Schnaus, Donnie Schwenk, Kaine Seitz, Larry Sendelweck, Annie Voelkel, Anderson Vonderheide, Ron Wiseman and all those we name before you either silently or aloud.) Console parents and children whose relationships are strained or severed. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

We pray that you guide the military serving to protect us. Grant them safety and wisdom to carry out their assigned duties. *(We pray especially for Austin Breitwieser, Luke Himsel, Cooper Uebelhor, and Devin Wilson.)* God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

For the ministry of this place, we pray. Let the word of Christ dwell among us. In times of conflict, clothe us in love and move us to forgiveness. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

For your holy, beloved, and chosen ones of every time and place, we give thanks. Draw us all into everlasting praise and joy. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

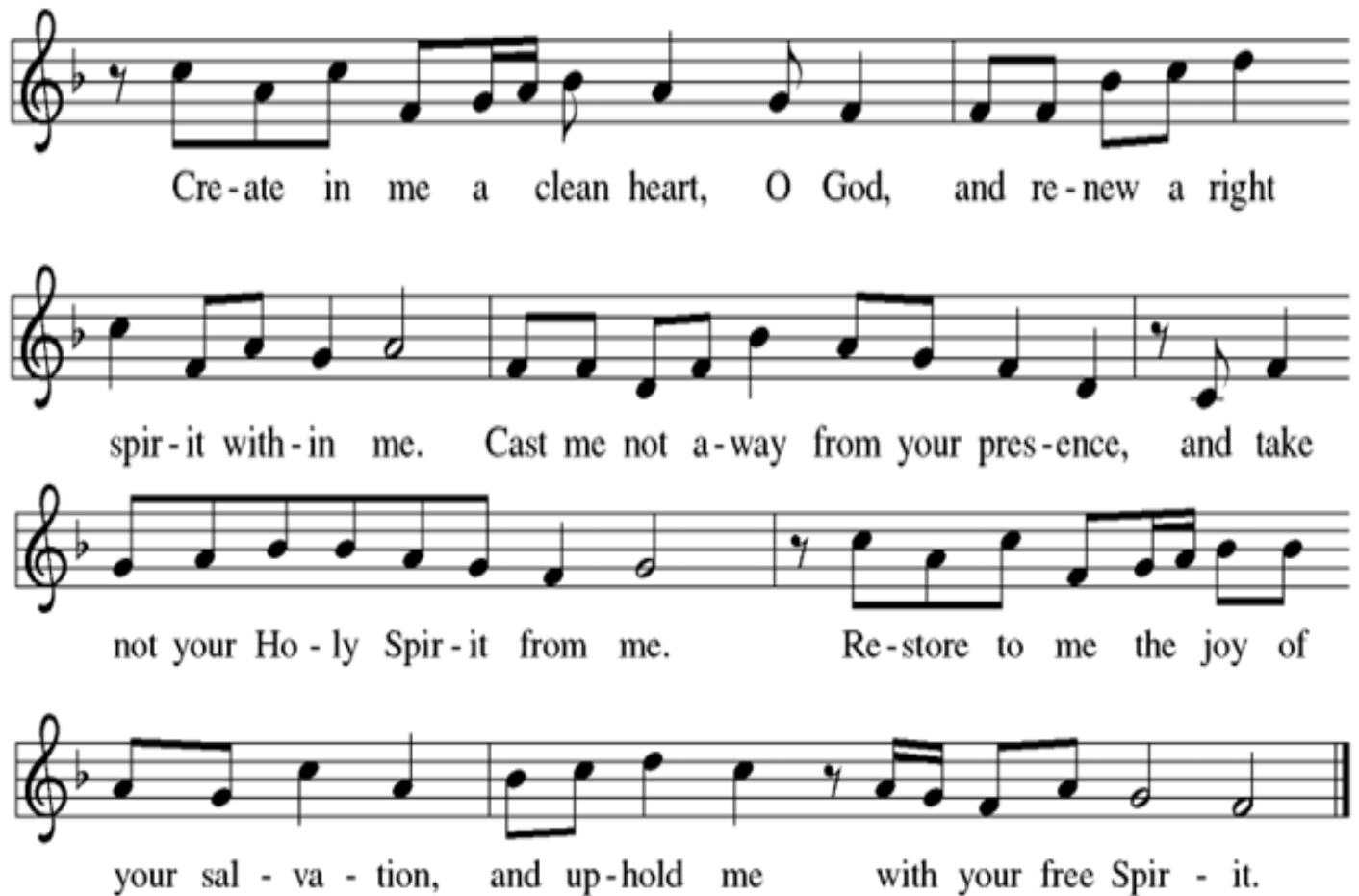
The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



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 your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

C God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMUNION

All who are baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Children who have not yet received instruction about Holy Communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. As you approach the communion assistant, the first will hand you the bread. Take and eat it. Then take a communion cup from the nearby tray. After you have taken the wine, place your empty cup in the tray table beside the pillar.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.


Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMNS

LBW 41 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

WOV 644 "Away in A Manger"

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

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

C God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, ✝ Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN *LBW 56 "The First Noel"*

DISMISSAL

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Mission Statement: *Worship Boldly, Empower for Discipleship,
Cultivate Spiritual Maturity, Strengthen Community, Serve.*

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR YOUR SERVICE TODAY:

Greeters: Beth Buchta
Comm. Asst: John Potts
Video: JoAn Breitwieser
Organist: Arlene Vonderheide
Lay Reader: Terry Seitz
Audio: Doug Wiseman
Acolytes: Trace Weisheit
Altar Guild: Erin Kalb and Brandi Dodd

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY: 207 SS:

**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF
Dec. 29th, 2024 – Jan. 5th, 2024**

Sun. Dec. 29 th	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship Service
Sun. Jan. 5 th	8:00 AM	Chancel Choir Practice
	9:00 AM	Sunday Worship Service <i>(Installation of Council Members)</i>
	10:00 AM	Take down Christmas decor

ST. PAUL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The annual congregational meeting-part 2 will be held immediately following the morning worship service on Sunday, January 26th.

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2025 offering envelopes are available to pick-up. There is a table set-up in the welcome area. If you cannot find a box with your name, please advise Marcie Rumfelt in the church office at (812)695-3061 or email at: secretaryst.paul@frontier.com. Please remember envelope numbers can change from year to year, so these should only be used starting in January 2025.

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Wreaths Across America

Wreaths will be removed from the graves at 12:30 PM on Saturday, January 4, 2025.

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WELCA News

Tuesday, January 7th is our first meeting for 2025. We will be doing Blanket Tacking beginning at 4:00 pm in the basement. Hope to see you there!

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In Service to Our Country

Austin Breitwieser
AM-1 Luke Himsel
Cooper Uebelhor
Devin Wilson

Redzikowo, Poland
Virginia Beach, VA
Colorado Springs, CO

