

Messiah Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod



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St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

December 27, 2020

Divine Service I

Messiah Lutheran Church

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VISITORS WELCOME! A special welcome to any visitors and guests who are with us today. Please sign the guestbook near the front door and introduce yourself to the pastor after the service. We pray that the hearing and receiving of the Word of God in our midst will be filled with joy and thanksgiving!

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated every Sunday and on Feast Days. Visiting communicant members of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are invited to commune today. All other visitors are asked to speak with the pastor before coming to the altar. If there is time before the service, introduce yourself to the pastor or an elder. Other visitors are invited to use this time for prayer. If you desire information about attending communion, you are encouraged to visit with the pastor after the service today.

PRAYERS OF PREPARATION are found in the cover of the hymnals. Take some time before the service begins in quiet preparation and prayer. **Please turn off and put away all electronic devices during the service.**

+SERVING TODAY+

Elder: Mark Varvil

Greeter: Deleen Nehls

Organist: Evone Hagerman

Altar Guild: Bonnie Griepentrog & Tamara Weathersby

Fellowship: Today's fellowship snacks are provided by the Roemkes.

Stand

Invocation

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The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

+CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION+

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

+SERVICE OF THE WORD+

Introit

Ps. 92:1-5; antiphon: John 20:31



These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the
| Son of God,*

and that by believing you may have life | in His name.

It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,*

to sing praises to Your name, | O Most High;

to declare Your steadfast love in the | morning,*

and Your faithful- | ness by night,

to the music of the lute | and the harp,*

to the melody | of the lyre.

For You, O LORD, have made me glad | by Your work;*

at the works of Your hands I | sing for joy.

How great are Your works, | O LORD!*

Your thoughts are | very deep!

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.

These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the
| Son of God,*

and that by believing you may have life | in His name.

Kyrie

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Gloria in Excelsis

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

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Merciful Lord, cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your Church that we, being instructed in the doctrine of Your blessed apostle and evangelist John, may come to the light of everlasting life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Sit

First Reading

Revelation 1:1–6

¹The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending His angel to His servant John, ²who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. ³Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before His throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Gradual

Ps. 119:105, 103; 45:1a, c



**Your word is a lamp | to my feet*
and a light | to my path.**

**How sweet are Your words | to my taste,*
sweeter than honey | to my mouth!**

**My heart overflows with a | pleasing theme;*
my tongue is like the pen of a | ready scribe.**

Epistle

1 John 1:1—2:2

¹That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— ²the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— ³that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

⁵This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us

from all sin. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

^{2:1}My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

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Holy Gospel

John 21:20–25

²⁰Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who had been reclining at table close to Him and had said, “Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?” ²¹When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about this man?” ²²Jesus said to him, “If it is My will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!” ²³So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, “If it is My will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?”

²⁴This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

²⁵Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

Sit

O Word of God Incarnate

LSB 523

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

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Prayer of the Church

Offertory

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Please be seated as the altar is prepared for the Service of the Sacrament. You are encouraged to use this time to prepare yourself to receive the Sacrament; appropriate prayers are found in the front cover of the hymnal. Visitors, please review the communion statement in the front of the bulletin.

Offering may be left at either of the doors to the sanctuary.

Stand

+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT+

Preface	<i>p160</i>
Sanctus	<i>p161</i>
Prayer of Thanksgiving	
Lord's Prayer	<i>p162</i>
The Words of Our Lord	<i>p197</i>
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Agnus Dei	
<i>Sit</i>	
Distribution	
<i>Let All Together Praise Our God</i>	<i>LSB 389</i>
<i>God Loves Me Dearly</i>	<i>LSB 392</i>
<i>The Only Son from Heaven</i>	<i>LSB 402</i>
<i>Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring</i>	<i>LSB 353</i>
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Nunc Dimittis	<i>p165</i>
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Benediction	
 <i>Let Us All with Gladsome Voice</i>	 <i>LSB 390</i>

+VDMA+

**Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum
The Word of the Lord endures forever**

