

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

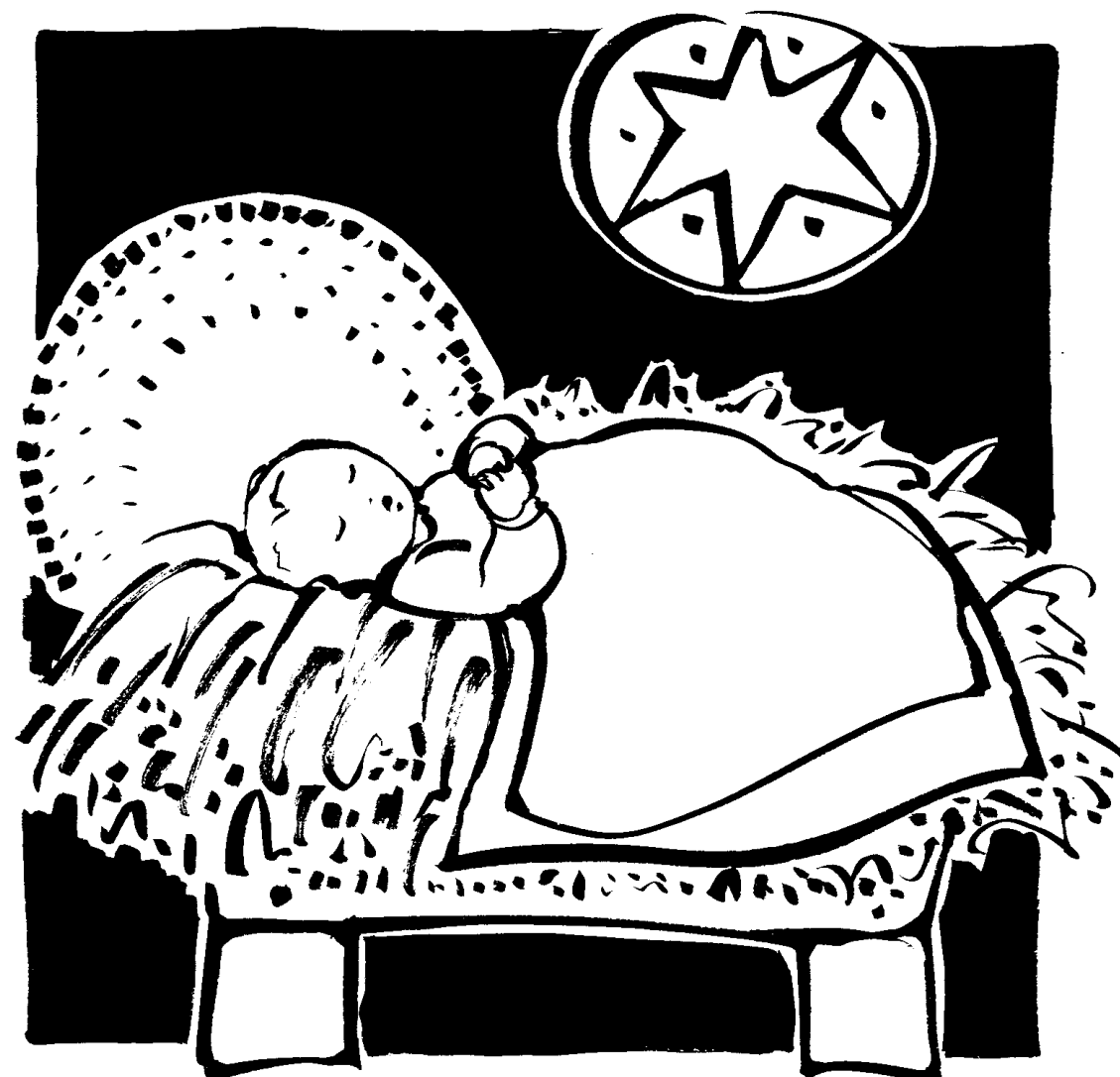
CLOSING HYMN #62

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love.

*From all of us at Shining Mountains
Have a blessed Christmas in Jesus!*

*Christmas Worship Tomorrow – 10:30 AM
Epiphany Worship – January 2nd – 10:30 AM*




Full of grace and truth
JOHN 1:14

CHRISTMAS DAY FESTIVAL SERVICE

Saturday, December 25th at 10:30 AM

WELCOME!

We are glad that you have joined us to celebrate the birth of the Christ child.

- ◆ **Restrooms** are located in the hallway to the right as you leave our sanctuary.
- ◆ **Cry Room** is located across from the kitchen in the entryway. It is equipped with a live-feed TV so you can continue to participate in the service.
- ◆ **The order of service** is printed out for you today. Note that sections for the minister to speak are marked with a “M” while the sections for the congregation are marked with a “C”.
- ◆ **An offering plate** can be found in the entryway. God’s love for us moves us to give these gifts, which are one way in which we support the preaching and teaching of God’s Word here and around the world. Visitors may join us if you like, but please do not feel obligated to do so. If you’d like to give online via our secure giving site you can scan this code: 
- ◆ **Gift bags** for children will be distributed after worship. Please be sure to pick one up on your way out of the building.
- ◆ **The Lord’s Supper** will be celebrated this morning. We ask that visitors speak with Pastor Sonntag before coming forward.
- ◆ **Prayer before worship** Father, open my heart to hear and believe your word, so that through faith your Son may take his rightful place not just in the manger, but also within my heart. In his name I pray. Amen.

Shining Mountains Lutheran Church
1710 Vaquero Parkway + Bozeman MT
Pastor Jeffrey Sonntag
406.586.7979 + pastor@shiningmountains.org

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:24,25

(As he speaks the Words of Institution, the minister both proclaims the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord’s use.)

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

(The Lord’s Supper is a wonderful gift in which we receive Jesus’ own body and blood to forgive our sins and to strengthen us in our faith (Matthew 26:26-28). It is, however, a gift that is given us with certain responsibilities. The sacrament is intended for those who have been instructed and who understand what they are doing (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). It is also a way for us to express our unity of faith (1 Corinthians 10:16-17). Therefore, we ask that only confirmed members of Shining Mountains or other churches of the Wisconsin or Evangelical Lutheran Synod(s) (WELS/ELS) come forward to receive Communion. If you would like to become a communicant member of Shining Mountains, or have any questions about this practice, please speak with the pastor after the service.)

Please stand.

SONG OF SIMEON

Luke 2:29-32

1. **O Lord, now let your servant
Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised
Incarnate, saving Word –
A Light that will enlighten
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory
Of those in Israel!**
2. **All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever three in one;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God’s triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

(The words of the Preface mark the beginning of the Sacrament section of the service and lift the worshipers' hearts in praise. The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy.)

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

HYMN #40

O Jesus Christ, Your Manger Is



1 O Je - sus Christ, Your man - ger is
2 He whom the sea And wind o - bey
3 Dear Chris - tian friend, On him de - pend;
4 Pon - der a - gain What glo - ry then
5 The world may hold Her wealth and gold;



My par - a - dise where my soul is re -
Comes down to serve the sin - ner in great
Be of good cheer and let no sor - row
The Lord will give you for your earth - ly
But you, my heart, keep Christ as your true



clin - ing. For there, O Lord, We find the Word
meek - ness. Now God's own Son With us is one
move you. For God's own child In mer - cy mild
sad - ness. The an - gel host Can nev - er boast
treas - ure. To him hold fast Un - til at last



Made flesh for us—your grace is bright - ly shin - ing.
And joins us and our chil - dren in our weak - ness.
Joins you to him—how great - ly God must love you!
Of great - er glo - ry, great - er bliss or glad - ness.
A crown is yours and hon - or in full meas - ure.

OPENING HYMN #55

Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful



1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, Oh,
2 God from true God, and Light from Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion;
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, oh, come ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, to earth he comes,
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.
Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n,



Come and be - hold him, Born the King of an - gels.
On - ly be - got - ten Son of God the Fa - ther.
Glo - ry to God, all Glo - ry in the high - est.
Word of the Fa - ther, Now in flesh ap - pear - ing.



Refrain
Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Oh, come, let us a - dore him,



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.



STAND

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

RESPONSIVE DIALOGUE FOR CHRISTMAS

M: Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

C: **His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

M: The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

C: **All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.** *Psalm 98:1-3*

M: But who can endure the day of his coming?
Who can stand when he appears?

C: **If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?** *Malachi 3:2
Psalm 130:3*

M: Restore us again, O God our Savior, and put away your displeasure toward us.

C: **Show us your unfailing love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.** *Psalm 85:4,7*

M: Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,
because he has come and has redeemed his people.

C: **My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.** *Luke 1:68
Luke 1:46-47*

M: When the time had fully come, God sent his Son,
born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law,
that we might receive the full rights of sons.

C: **The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.
We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only,
who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.** *Galatians 4:4-5
John 1:14*

M: I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.
Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord.

C: **Glory to God in the highest!** *Luke 2:10,11,14*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: On this holy day, dear Father, we rejoice to hear the good news of great joy that a Savior has been born for us. For fulfilling your prophecies and in the fullness of time sending your Son to be our Savior, we give you our heartfelt thanks and praise.

C: **Unto us a child is born! Unto us a Son is given!**

M: What a great mystery of our faith this is: that God has become fully human for our salvation! Even though he is the all-powerful Lord of all, he is wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger.

C: **Help us always believe that this precious child was born as our substitute to be our Savior.**

M: In the midst of our joy, we grieve for the many people in our world who do not know that Jesus has come to bring them forgiveness and healing. As the shepherds spread abroad the good news of the birth of the Savior born for all the world, may we also make use of the unique opportunities this holiday presents to tell others of what we have seen and heard concerning the child.

C: **Grant that the true peace between God and fallen mankind may comfort all people.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: As the angels sang out their praise, move us also to sing out our praise to you, today and every day, as the joy of Christmas remains in our hearts.

C: **Glory to God in the highest! Amen.**

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.**

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

OFFERING

Our offerings are an expression of thankfulness for what our Savior has done for us, and a way of supporting the spread of the gospel through the Church's work.

You can place your offering in the plate in the entryway or give electronically by clicking this code to go to our secure giving site.



HYMN #63 (v.1)

Angels We Have Heard on High

- 1. Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo: Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 33:18-23, 34:5-7

¹⁸Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory." ¹⁹And the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ²⁰But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live." ²¹Then the LORD said, "There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. ²²When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen."

⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. ⁶And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."

2. **Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?**
What the gladsome tidings be, Which inspire your heaven'ly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo: Gloria in excelsis Deo.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:31-32

³¹What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

3. **Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;**
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo: Gloria in excelsis Deo.

GOSPEL

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed
 3 This is he whom heav'n - taught sing - ers
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him,
 5 Christ, to you, with God the Fa - ther,



Ere the worlds be - gan to be, He is
 When the vir - gin, full of grace, By the
 Sang of old with one ac - cord; Whom the
 An - gel hosts his prais - es sing, Pow'rs, do -
 And the Spir - it cease - less - ly Hymn and



Al - pha and O - me - ga, He the source, the
 Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, Bore the Sav - ior
 Scrip - tures of the proph - ets Prom - ised in their
 min - ions bow be - fore him And ex - tol our
 chant and high thanks - giv - ing And un - end - ing



end - ing he, Of the things that are, that
 of our race, And the babe, the world's Re -
 faith - ful word. Now he shines, the long - ex -
 God and King. Let no tongue on earth be
 prais - es be, Hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, And that fu - ture years shall
 deem - er, First re - vealed his sa - cred
 pect - ed; Let cre - a - tion praise its
 si - lent, Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert
 min - ion And e - ter - nal vic - to -



see Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 face Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 Lord Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ring Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.
 ry Ev - er - more and ev - er - more.