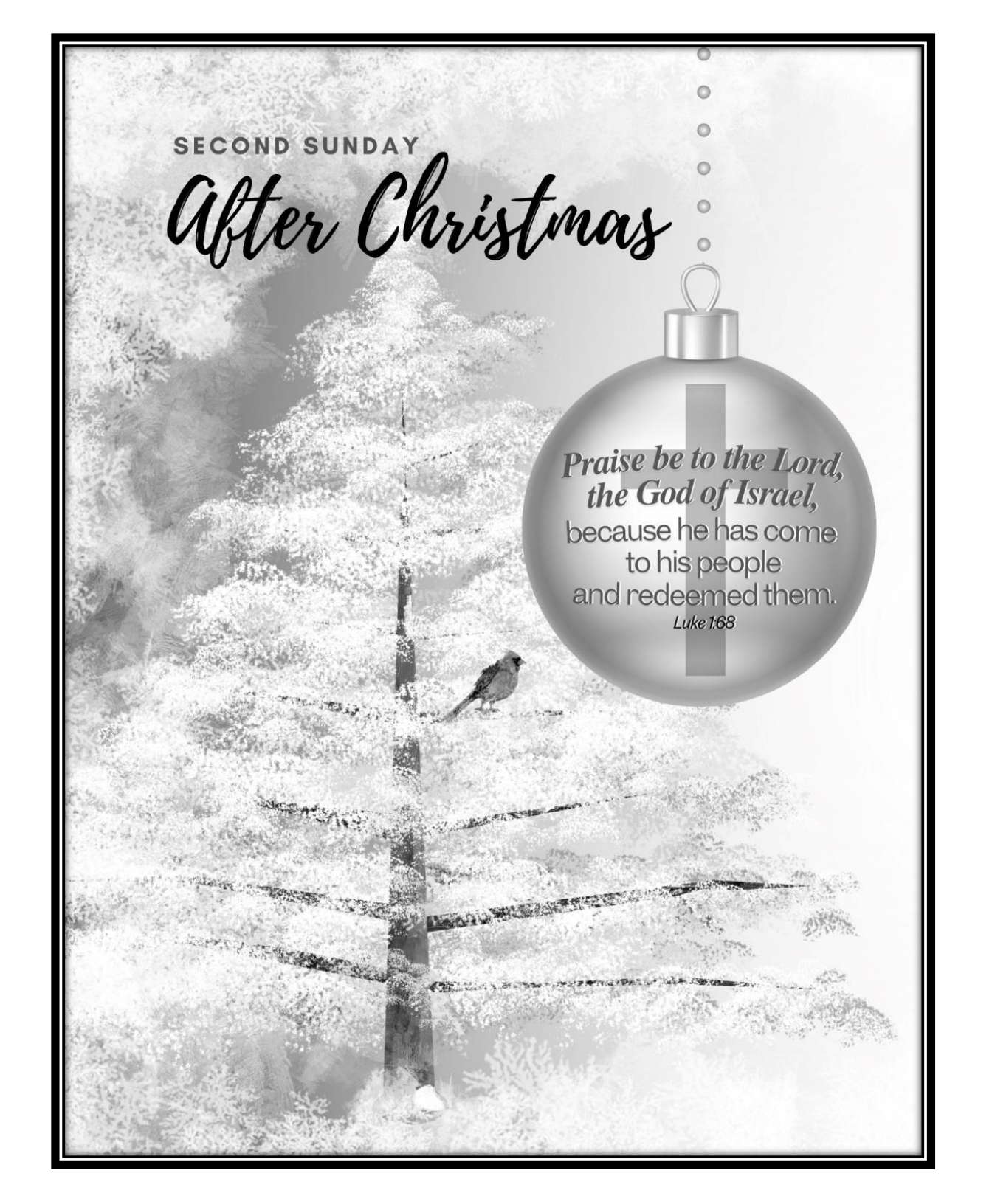


SECOND SUNDAY

# After Christmas



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

*Luke 1:68*

# T. LUCAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

## **First Sunday after Christmas**

January 4<sup>th</sup> & January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### **The Season**

In the person of Jesus, God gave us himself. And because our God became truly human and did everything necessary for our salvation, he is able to give us so many other Christmas gifts: forgiveness, hope, peace, a place in his family, eternal life in paradise. These gifts are given by our gracious God to show us his favor.

### **The Sunday**

After the fall into sin, people of faith waited for God to provide the gift they needed most—a Savior. Century after century passed. “Where is he?” they wondered. People were powerless to save themselves from sin and death and hell. So, there was nothing to do but patiently wait. At the perfect time in history, God sent his Son into the world. The faithful rejoiced!

### **Prayer before Worship**

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Thank you, loving Lord, for cleansing me of my sins and adopting me into your family through the miracle of Holy Baptism. As I worship today, help me remember what my baptism means to me. Lead me to feel genuine sorrow for my sins and empower me to put down the sinful nature that still lives in me. Lift me up as I hear your promise of forgiveness and give me strength to live a life pleasing to you.

### **Serving in Worship**

Presiding Minister: Pastor Timothy Henning

Organist: Laura Schulz

# I Stand beside Your Manger Here

CW 334

Stand for the 4<sup>th</sup> stanza



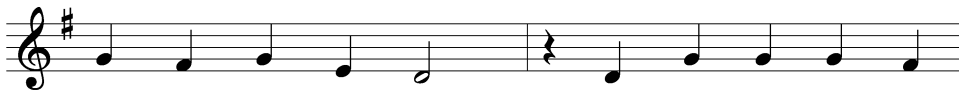
1 I stand be - side your man - ger here, O Je - sus,  
2 Be - fore I ev - er came to be, or knew of  
3 Death held me in the deep - est night till you, my  
4 One thing I hope; my Sav - ior, hear; be - stow on



life from heav - en. The gifts I bring as I draw near  
you, my Sav - ior, you'd cho - sen me, been born for me,  
sun - shine beam - ing, brought joy and bliss and life and light,  
me this bless - ing, that I may ev - er hold you near,



are what to me you've giv - en: my spir - it,  
that I might have your fa - vor. Be - fore you  
in love my soul re - deem - ing. O Sun, your  
you as my own pos - sess - ing. So let my



cour - age, mind, and heart— take all I am, take  
formed me by your hand in grace you had al -  
rays so warm and fair have made my dark - ness  
heart your man - ger be; come, ho - ly Child, lie



ev - 'ry part; in mer - cy let it please you.  
read - y planned how I would learn to love you.  
dis - ap - pear— faith's pre - cious light is shin - ing.  
down in me with all your joy - ful trea - sures.

Text: tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, ed. Joseph Klug  
Text: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703484 Tune: Public domain

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

## Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

# Joy Has Dawned

CW 352



1 Joy has dawned up - on the world, prom - ised from cre - a - tion—  
2 Sounds of won - der fill the sky with the songs of an - gels  
3 Shep - herds bow be - fore the Lamb, gaz - ing at the glo - ry.  
4 Son of Ad - am, Son of heav'n, giv - en as a ran - som;



God's sal - va - tion now un - furled, hope for ev - 'ry na - tion.  
as the might - y Prince of life shel - ters in a sta - ble.  
Gifts of men from dis - tant lands proph - e - sy the sto - ry:  
rec - on - cil - ing God and man, Christ, our might - y cham - pion!



Not with fan-fares from a - bove, not with scenes of glo - ry,  
Hands that set each star in place, shaped the earth in dark-ness,  
gold— a king is born to - day; in - cense—God is with us;  
What a Sav - ior! What a friend! What a glo - rious mys - t'ry!



but a hum - ble gift of love— Je - sus born of Mar - y.  
cling now to a moth - er's breast, \_ vul - n'ra - ble and help - less.  
myrrh— his death will make a way, and by his blood he'll win us.  
Once a babe in Beth - le - hem, — now the Lord of his - t'ry.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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## The Word

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived 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.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Genesis 17:1–7*

*Abram had waited for God to keep his promise to make Abram into the father of many nations.*

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.”

<sup>3</sup>Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

The Word of the Lord.

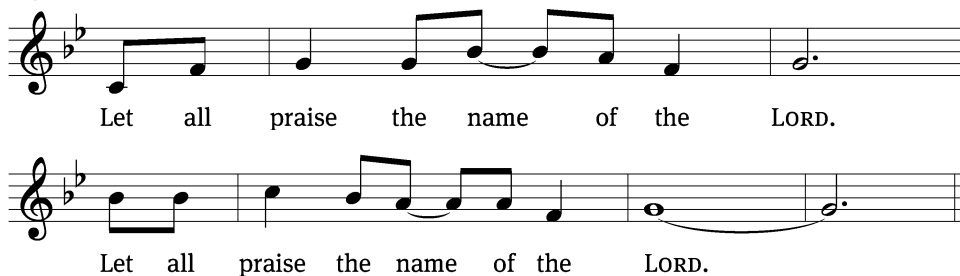
**Thanks be to God.**

# Let All Praise the Name of the LORD

Psalm 148A

Sung responsively between Pastor & congregation

## Refrain



Let all praise the name of the LORD.

Let all praise the name of the LORD.

Praise the LORD / from the / heavens;  
**praise him in the / heights above.**

Praise him, all his / angels;  
**praise him, all his / heav'nly hosts.**

Praise him, / sun and moon;  
**praise him, all you / shining stars. Refrain**

Praise the LORD / from the earth,  
**lightning and hail, / snow and clouds,**  
you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all / cedars,  
**wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and / flying birds,**  
kings of the earth and all / nations,  
**young men and women, old men and / children.**

**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. Refrain**

## Second Reading

Galatians 4:4-7

God kept his promise to send a Savior when the time had fully come.

<sup>4</sup>But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. <sup>6</sup>Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

## Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 98:3



Refrain



Tone



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

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## Gospel

Luke 1:68–79

*In joyful satisfaction that the Lord had kept his promise of salvation, the priest Zechariah sang a song of praise.*

<sup>68</sup>“Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,  
because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

<sup>69</sup>He has raised up a horn of salvation for us  
in the house of his servant David

<sup>70</sup>(as he said through his holy prophets of long ago),

<sup>71</sup>salvation from our enemies  
and from the hand of all who hate us—

<sup>72</sup>to show mercy to our ancestors  
and to remember his holy covenant,

<sup>73</sup>the oath he swore to our father Abraham:

<sup>74</sup>to rescue us from the hand of our enemies,  
and to enable us to serve him without fear

<sup>75</sup>in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

<sup>76</sup>And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;  
for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him,

<sup>77</sup>to give his people the knowledge of salvation  
through the forgiveness of their sins,

<sup>78</sup>because of the tender mercy of our God,  
by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven

<sup>79</sup>to shine on those living in darkness  
and in the shadow of death,

to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

## Children’s Sermon

*Children may come forward to the front pew*

# All My Heart Again Rejoices

CW 329



1 All my heart a - gain re - joic - es as I hear  
2 Hear! The con - quer - or has spo - ken: "Now the foe,  
3 Should we fear our God's dis - plea - sure, who, to save,  
4 See the Lamb, our sin once tak - ing to the cross,



far and near sweet - est an - gel voic - es.  
sin and woe, death and hell are bro - ken!"  
free - ly gave his most pre - cious trea - sure?  
suf - f'ring loss, full a - tone - ment mak - ing.



"Christ is born!" their choirs are sing - ing till the air  
God is man, man to de - liv - er, and the Son  
To re - deem us he has giv - en his own Son  
For our life his own he ten - ders, and his grace



ev - 'ry - where now with joy is ring - ing.  
now is one with our blood for - ev - er.  
from the throne of his might in heav - en.  
all our race fit for glo - ry ren - ders.

- 5 Softly from his lowly manger  
Jesus calls  
one and all,  
"You are safe from danger.  
Children, from the sins that grieve you  
you are freed;  
all you need  
I will surely give you."
- 6 Come, then, banish all your sadness!  
One and all,  
great and small,  
come with songs of gladness;  
we shall live with him forever  
there on high  
in that joy  
which will vanish never.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr., adapt.  
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

*Be seated*

## Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

**Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

**Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.**

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

**Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.**

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

**Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.**

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

**Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.**

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, *[especially . . . here name the person and the cause of the petition]*. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

**Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

**Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.**

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

**Amen.**

**Offering:** God's people offer their first and best to the Lord in response to the Lord's blessings to them. The offering is gathered in a basket in the church entrance before or after the service. If you prefer to give electronically, you may scan this graphic to access [www.stlucaswels.org/donate](http://www.stlucaswels.org/donate).

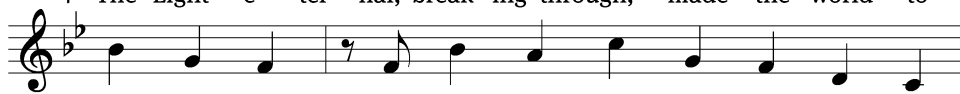


## We Praise You, Jesus, at Your Birth

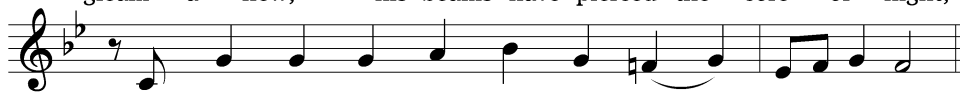
CW 359



1 We praise you, Je - sus, at your birth; clothed in flesh you  
 2 Now in the man - ger we may see God's Son from e -  
 3 The vir - gin Mar - y's lul - la - by calms the in - fant  
 4 The Light e - ter - nal, break - ing through, made the world to



came to earth. The vir - gin bears a sin - less boy  
 ter - ni - ty, the gift from God's e - ter - nal throne  
 Lord Most High. Up - on her lap con - tent is he  
 gleam a - new; his beams have pierced the core of night,



and all the an - gels sing for joy. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 here clothed in our poor flesh and bone. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 who keeps the earth and sky and sea. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 he makes us chil - dren of the light. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 The very Son of God sublime  
 entered into earthly time  
 to lead us from this world of cares  
 to heaven's courts as blessed heirs.  
 Alleluia!

7 All this for us our God has done  
 granting love through his own Son.  
 Therefore, all Christendom, rejoice  
 and sing his praise with endless voice.  
 Alleluia!

6 In poverty he came to earth  
 showing mercy by his birth;  
 he makes us rich in heav'nly ways  
 as we, like angels, sing his praise.  
 Alleluia!

Text (st. 1): German, c. 1380; (sts. 1, 6): tr. Gregory J. Wismar, b. 1946; (sts. 2-7): Martin Luther, 1483-1546; (sts. 2, 4): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001; (sts. 3, 5, 7): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006  
 Tune: Eyn Enchiridion oder Handbüchlein, Erfurt, 1524  
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Stand

## **Prayer**

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

**Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **Blessing**

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.

**Amen.**

# Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

CW 332



1 Let us all with glad-some voice praise the God of heav - en,  
2 To this vale of tears he comes, here to serve in sad - ness,  
3 We are rich, for he was poor; is not this a won - der?  
4 Christ, our Lord and Sav - ior dear, bless us and be near us.



who, to bid our hearts re - jice, his own Son has giv - en.  
that with him in heav'n's fair homes we may reign in glad-ness.  
There - fore praise God ev - er - more here on earth and yon - der.  
Grant us now a glad new year. A - men, Je - sus, hear us.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; German, 17th cent  
Tune: Ander Theil Des Dreszdenischen GesangBuchs, Dresden, 1632, alt.  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Setting Eight (German) from Christian Worship

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## Church Resources

**Family Devotions:** Get your family into God's Word during the week! Our church body has short devotions available for the entire family. Each devotion comes with a Set of questions for different age groups, a prayer, and hymn verses that can be sung or spoken. Please visit [wels.net/family-devotions](http://wels.net/family-devotions) to get your weekly devotions.

**Marriage Moments:** Every marriage has its "moments". That's why marriages need moments of encouragement and refreshment. *Marriage Moments* are short, weekly videos highlighting one biblical marriage thought accompanied by a discussion question. Couples may subscribe to receive the videos directly through email at [welscongregationalevices.net/marriagemoments](mailto:welscongregationalevices.net/marriagemoments).

**Connecting WELS Members:** Connection is more important now than ever. Our church body offers many ways for WELS members to connect through social media. Join the WELS online community at [facebook.com/welslutherans](https://facebook.com/welslutherans), [twitter.com/welstweets](https://twitter.com/welstweets), [Instagram.com/welslutherans](https://Instagram.com/welslutherans), and [vimeo.com/wels](https://vimeo.com/wels).

**WELS Together e-Newsletter:** Stay in the loop! Subscribe to the WELS Together e-Newsletter to stay connected with the people of your synod and the ministry they serve. Also, don't miss the twice-monthly videos that cover important and exciting synod news. Please visit [wels.net/together](http://wels.net/together) to read and subscribe.

**Baptism:** If you or a loved one had not yet been baptized, and are interested in more information, please contact Pastor Henning.

**Church Membership Starting Point** If you're interested in becoming a member here at St. Lucas, we would love to share with you a few Bible studies to introduce you to the biblical teaching here at St. Lucas. We are willing to set up these classes in any setting most comfortable for you, and can always find time that will work for anyone and everyone. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Henning, whose contact info can be found on the final page of this bulletin, underneath the church calendar.

## Celebrating God's Blessings This Week

### BIRTHDAYS

Aalee Buslaff	1/7	Brody Kral	1/10
Richard Kuehl	1/8	Cooper Schmidt	1/10
Robert Wilson	1/8	Coralee Henning	1/11
Keith Belger	1/9		



# CALENDAR



Readings for January 5th - January 12th 2025

JAN 5	JAN 6	JAN 7	JAN 8
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
Isaiah 65:8-25 Luke 3:1-20	Isaiah 66:1-20 Luke 3:21-38	Ezekiel 1:1-14, 22-28 Habakkuk 1:1-3:19 Romans 1:1-17	Ezekiel 2:1-3:11 Romans 1:18-32
<b>Worship 8 am</b> Sunday School 9:15 am Bible Study 9:15 am <b>Worship 10:30 am</b>			Catechism Instruction 6th-8th Grade 3:30 pm
JAN 9	JAN 10	JAN 11	JAN 12
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
Ezekiel 3:12-27 Ezekiel 4:1-11:25 Romans 2:1-16	Ezekiel 18:1-14, 19-32 Ezekiel 19:1-24:27 Romans 2:17-29	Ezekiel 33:1-20 Romans 3:1-18	Ezekiel 34:1-23 Romans 3:19-31
Fuel for Moms 7:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am		<b>Worship 6:00 pm</b>	<b>Worship w/Communion 8 am</b> Sunday School 9:15 am Bible Study 9:15 am <b>Worship w/Communion 10:30 am</b>

St. Lucas Lutheran Church strives to be a congregation that is always inviting, always edifying, and always equipping.  
[www.stlucaswels.org](http://www.stlucaswels.org)

**Contact Information**

**Pastor Timothy Henning**  
(262) 707-6984 - [thenning@stlucaswels.org](mailto:thenning@stlucaswels.org)  
**Principal Mark Hesse**  
(920) 915-1130 - [mhesse@stlucaswels.org](mailto:mhesse@stlucaswels.org)  
**School/Church Office**  
(262) 626-2680 - [church@stlucaswels.org](mailto:church@stlucaswels.org)