



*Worship Folder for December 26, 2021*

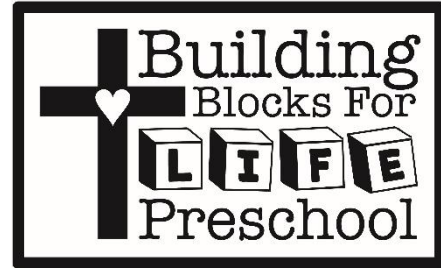
Christ Lutheran Church

32962 Vickers St, NE

Cambridge, MN

[www.christcambridge.com](http://www.christcambridge.com)

Find us on Facebook @ Christ Lutheran Church – Cambridge, MN



## **WELCOME TO CHRIST!**

We are so glad that you joined us to worship our Lord Jesus today, and welcome to our church! Christ is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). We have been gathering around Word and sacrament since 1976. Our pastor would be happy to answer your questions about our service, our beliefs, or communicant membership in our congregation. Please join us again soon!

## **INFORMATION**

**Our restrooms** are located by going to the right out of the sanctuary doors and proceeding down the hallway. They are at the end of the hallway on the right. There is also a **family restroom** with a changing station out the sanctuary doors to the left and around the corner.

**We love** hearing little ones in God's house but if you feel like your child needs a moment there are speakers to hear the service as well as books and toys in the entryway

**Our guest register** is located in the entryway. Please leave us a record of your visit and we will be glad to supply you with more information about our church.

**[www.christcambridge.com](http://www.christcambridge.com)**

**Pastor Sam Biebert**

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**Sunday Service 9:00AM**

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# SERVICE OF THE WORD

*This liturgy, found on page 38 in the red hymnal, offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God's Word. Believers respond to this divine gift with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.*

## PASTOR'S WELCOME

## OPENING HYMN

**TO YOUR TEMPLE I DRAW NEAR | #226**

*Please Stand.*

## GATHERING

**L:** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**L:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

## ABSOLUTION

**L:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

## PRAISE & PRAYER

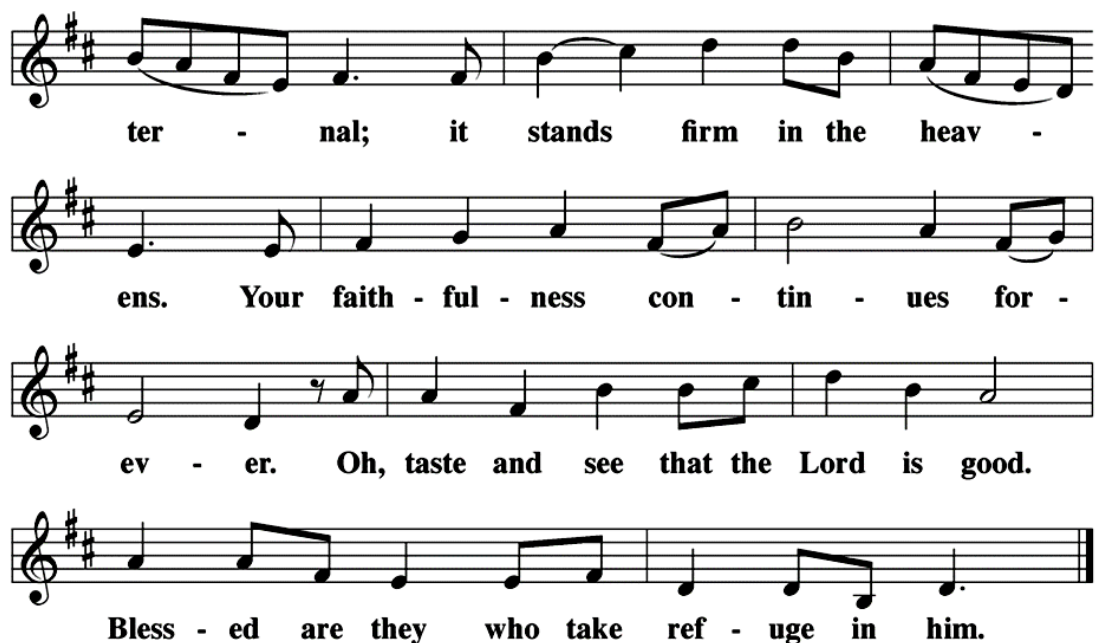
**L:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



**C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are**



**they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -**



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
 ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
 ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
 Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L: Let us pray.

**C: Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**



C: A - men.

*Please be seated.*



**FIRST READING**

**Isaiah 50:4-9**

<sup>4</sup>The LORD God gave me a tongue like the learned, an instructed tongue, so I know how to sustain the weary with a word. He wakes me up morning by morning. He wakes up my ears so that I listen like the learned. <sup>5</sup>The LORD God opened my ear, and I myself was not rebellious. I did not turn back. <sup>6</sup>I submitted my back to those who beat me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard. I did not hide my face from disgrace and from spit. <sup>7</sup>The LORD God will help me, so I will not be disgraced. Therefore I have made my face hard like flint. I know that I will not be put to shame. <sup>8</sup>The one who will acquit me is near! Who can accuse me? Let us take our stand. Who can pass judgment on me? Let him approach me. <sup>9</sup>Look, the LORD God will help me. Who then can

declare me guilty? Look, all of them will wear out like a garment. A moth will consume them.

**PSALM OF THE DAY**

**Psalm 111 | pg. 106**

*"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding."*



**SECOND READING**

**Hebrews 2:10-18**

<sup>10</sup>Certainly it was fitting for God (the one for whom and through whom everything exists), in leading many sons to glory, to bring the author of their salvation to his goal through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For he who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified all have one Father. For that reason, he is not ashamed to call them brothers. <sup>12</sup>He says: I will declare your name to my brothers. Within the congregation I will sing your praise. <sup>13</sup>And again: I will trust in him. And again: Here I am and the children God has given me. <sup>14</sup>Therefore, since the children share flesh and blood, he also shared the same flesh and blood, so that through death he could destroy the one who had the power of death (that is, the Devil) <sup>15</sup>and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup>For surely he was not concerned with helping angels but with helping Abraham's offspring. <sup>17</sup>For this reason, he had to become like his brothers in every way, in order that he would be a merciful and faithful high priest in the things pertaining to God, so that he could pay for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>Indeed, because he suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

**Colossians 3:15a**

Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Alleluia.

*Please stand.*

**GOSPEL**

**Luke 2:41-52**

<sup>41</sup>Every year his parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. <sup>42</sup>When he was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom of the Festival. <sup>43</sup>When the days had ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Since they thought he was in their group, they went a day's journey. Then they began to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us this way? See, your father and I have been anxiously looking for you." <sup>49</sup>He said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be taking care of my Father's business?" <sup>50</sup>They did not understand what he was telling them. <sup>51</sup>He went down with them and came to Nazareth. He was always obedient to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.



Please be seated.

YOUTH HYMN

["Joy to the World"](#)

SERMON Luke 2:41-52

Theme: "Reflect on the Young Scholar"

APOSTLES' CREED

**C: 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.**

THANK OFFERING

1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

*The members of Christ Lutheran join together to do the Lord's work in Cambridge and throughout the world in our church body, the WELS. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry. (Due to COVID19 the offering plate will not be passed around. If you would like to make a donation please place your offering in the basket by the doors to the sanctuary. You can also make use of online giving through the VancoMobile app or by going to the church's website ([www.christcambridge.com](http://www.christcambridge.com)) and selecting the "Donate" tab under "About" in the site menu.)*



**What was it like to experience Jesus growing up, to raise a perfect child, to have a perfect friend, to enjoy a perfect student? Our Gospel lesson from Luke 2 tells us that everyone was amazed at him. He even understood his purpose for being on this earth. How astounding! And yet he was just like any other Jewish boy: "he grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." He was just the Savior we need: true God and true man. Because he perfectly carried out his Father's plan of salvation, we now have the power and motivation to use our gifts and abilities to carry out his kingdom work. God grant this truth to empower us in our stewardship of all the blessings God has lavished on us.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**L:** Lord Jesus, we have come into your house today still basking in the joy and peace of the Christmas message: that you have shown your great love for us by taking upon yourself our human nature; that you have honored us by calling us to be your brothers and sisters and accomplishing the means by which we are declared to be like you in holiness; that you have become our peace, giving us the calm and certainty that, as ones forgiven by you, you will be with us in every circumstance in life.

**C:** We thank you for your great love for us. Unlike the decorations of Christmas which will soon be put away, keep that message of Christmas as part of our lives, every day of our lives.

L: Lord Jesus, even as a child it was your desire to be about your Father's work and in your Father's house. Maintain and renew in us, especially as we anticipate entering a new year, that attitude which sees us being about our Father's work as we fulfill those roles and responsibilities into which you have placed us. Let that mindset be present whether we are serving in the home, the workplace, the church, or any other setting.

**C: As you have blessed us in the past year, so bless us in the year to come. And if your blessings come in forms that we do not expect, help us to see those situations also as ones that you have given to us for our good.**

L: Dear Savior, it was your desire to grow in your knowledge and understanding of that Word which revealed your Father's will. You took advantage of the opportunities offered to learn more fully that which had been revealed to your people of old.

**C: Keep alive in us the desire to be in your Word that our knowledge of you may increase, our understanding of your ways may be deepened, that we might grow in true wisdom, and that we might be equipped to share what we know with others. Enable us to put into practice in our daily lives that which we have learned.**

L: Heavenly Father, the celebration of Christmas has once again revealed how richly you have blessed us with material goods. Some of us have so much we didn't want anything more. There are many who are not so blessed: those in living where homes and lives were devastated by natural disasters; those who have been uprooted by war and left all that they had behind; those in our own country who have lost everything because of circumstances over which they had no control.

**C: Be with them in their distress. Supply their needs according to your mercy, generosity and goodness that they may know the One who takes care of the birds of the air and the lilies of the field. Fill our hearts with your compassion so that we may help them as we are able.**

L: Hear us, Lord, as we now bring you our private petitions.

L: With hearts thankful for the answers to our prayers you have given in the past, we pray as you have taught us:

#### LORD'S PRAYER

*Luke 11:1-4; Matthew 6:9-13*

**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.**

#### HYMN

**LET ALL TOGETHER PRAISE OUR GOD | #41**

## PRAYER

L: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### THE LORD'S BLESSING

L: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



Numbers 6:24-26



### CLOSING HYMN:

**PEACE CAME TO EARTH | #707**

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