



Worship Folder for December 18, 2022

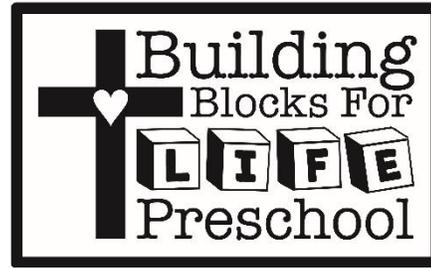
Christ Lutheran Church

32962 Vickers St, NE

Cambridge, MN

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

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Sunday Service 9:00AM

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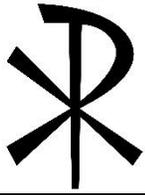
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DIVINE SERVICE I

This liturgy, found on page 15 in the blue supplement, is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church.

PASTOR'S WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

COME, O LONG EXPECTED JESUS | # 6

Please Stand.

GATHERING

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: (spoken) **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

L: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us. A - men.

ABSOLUTION

L: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: (spoken) **Amen.**

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

All Sing: **Glo-ry to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly, King, almighty God and Father,
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory,
Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father;
Receive our prayer,
Receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Glory to God, glory to God!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

C: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 7:10-14

¹⁰The LORD spoke to Ahaz again. He said, ¹¹“Ask for a sign from the LORD your God. Ask for it either in the depths below or in the heights above.” ¹²But Ahaz responded, “I will not ask. I will not test the LORD.”

¹³So Isaiah said:

Listen now, you house of David. Is it not enough for you to test the patience of men? Will you test the patience of my God as well? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give a sign for all of you. Look! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and name him Immanuel.

PSALM OF THE DAY

***Psalm 89* | pg. 98**

“Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you, who walk in the light of your presence, O LORD.”



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.

Please be seated.

YOUTH HYMN

[Light One Candle vs. 1-4](#)

Light one candle for hope,
One bright candle for hope.
He brings hope to every heart.
He comes! He comes!

Light one candle for peace,
One bright candle for peace.
He brings peace to every heart.
He comes! He comes!

Light one candle for joy,
One bright candle for joy.
Every nation will find salvation
In Beth'lem's baby boy.

Light one candle for love,
One bright candle for love.
He brings love to every heart,
He comes! He comes!
He brings love to every heart.
He comes! He comes!

SERMON **Matthew 1:18-25**
“Come, LORD Jesus! — As Immanuel”

CREATE IN ME

Psalm 51

All sing: **Create in me a pure heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit with in me.
Do not cast me away from your presence
Or take your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
And uphold, uphold me with your free Spirit.**

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. You can also make use of online giving through the VancoMobile app or by going to the church’s website (www.christcambridge.com) and selecting the “Donate” tab under “About” in the site menu.)



Stewardship involves trust—taking God at his word. God calls for that trust when asking for firstfruit offerings from his people. He also asked for it from Joseph, the husband of Mary in our lesson from Matthew 1. This wasn’t the way Joseph would have wanted to start his marriage, but he trusted the Lord to bless him as he did what the Lord asked.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Lord Jesus, we thank and praise and worship you for the great blessings you have brought to us by taking upon yourself our human flesh so that you might be our Savior. With your birth, you give us tangible proof of how much you love us – you were willing to set aside your heavenly glory so that you might rescue us from the punishment we deserve because of our sin. In your act of taking our humanity into God, you gave witness to the power and wisdom you can and will use in our lives. The truth that, even now, you retain our human nature reminds and assures us that you want to be with us in our lives, and that you want us to be with you in yours.

C: **Help us to always – whether we are experiencing times of ease, or trials and troubles – to keep a firm grip on what you have taught us that we may know and enjoy your peace and love.**

L: Dear Lord, the coming days will be filled with activity. Do not let it distract us from that which is most important. Keep our focus on the truth that the many blessings we have come because you are Immanuel – God with us. If unexpected sorrow or trouble arises in our lives or in the lives of those we know, remind us that you are Immanuel – God with us. Strengthen us. Keep us faithful to you while we witness how you fulfill your promises to us according to your eternal wisdom.

C: **Bless us with your Holy Spirit that we may live our lives as Mary and Joseph did, in humble and faithful obedience to you as your servants.**

L: O Holy Spirit, we know that there will be people who struggle with the emotions of this week. They see and hear others happy and joyful, but for them Christmas brings sadness and sorrow, or bitterness, anger and resentment because of personal losses or tragedies tied to the day.

C: Heal their pain. Soothe their spirits by leading them to see and focus on the Father's great love for them as it personified in Jesus.

L: Dear Savior, there will be many who are travelling in the days ahead, including some from our own congregation. You experienced the rigors and challenges of travel even before you were born. Send your holy angels to guard and protect all just as they also protected you.

C: We especially pray that those who are spiritually lost in this life because they do not know you will learn the pathway to heaven as they hear again the story of your birth.

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

L: With hearts thankful for the answers to our prayers you have given in the past, we bring all our thoughts and requests before you in the name of our Advent Lord who has taught us to pray:

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.

THE SACRAMENT

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

C: It is good and right so to do.

L: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
 God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -
 ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -
 ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
 na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

1Corinthians 11:23-25

L: 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."
 The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: (spoken) **AMEN**

LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



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

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

God tells us in the Bible that his Supper is for sinners who are accurately instructed in his word, who examine themselves by living in repentance, and who recognize the miraculous real presence of Jesus' body and blood. It is our joy and honor to use God's Holy Word. Therefore, we invite only current members of Christ, (and those from sister WELS and ELS congregations) come forward to receive the Sacrament at the direction of the ushers. If you have questions, please speak with Pastor before taking part in the sacrament. He welcomes the chance to study what God says with you. Thank you so much for honoring God's Word in this manner.

⇒ One option for preparation is available in the red hymnal on page 156.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

OH, COME, OH, COME, EMMANUEL | #23

Song of Simeon

Nunc Dimittis

In peace, Lord, you let your

ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my

eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for

ev - 'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the

glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

L: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures forever.

L: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (spoken) AMEN.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE LORD'S BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

L: 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: (spoken) AMEN.

CLOSING HYMN:

PEACE CAME TO EARTH | #707