



A SAVIOR IS BORN

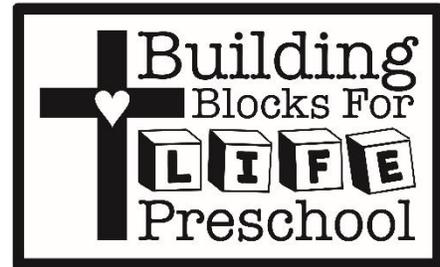
Worship Folder for January 8, 2023

Christ Lutheran Church

32962 Vickers St, NE

Cambridge, MN

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

Pastor Sam Biebert

Church: 763.689.5333

Cell: 701.471.0341

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Sunday Service 9:00AM

Preschool Director Cliss Loescher

School: 763.689.2230

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COMMON SERVICE

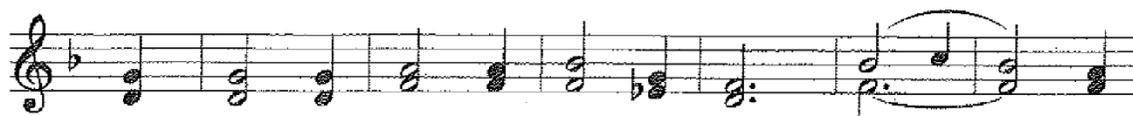
This liturgy, found on page 15 in the red hymnal, is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church.

PASTOR'S WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

A CHILD IS BORN IN BETHLEHEM

Soloist will sing verse 1. Congregation joins in on verses 2-8.



1 A child is born in Beth - le - hem, Beth - le -
2 His moth - er is the vir - gin maid, vir - gin
3 The kings from She - ba jour - ney there, jour - ney
4 With - in the house they greet the child, greet the



hem, the joy of all Je - ru - sa - lem.
maid, who gave him birth with no man's aid.
there, gold, frank - in - cense, and myrrh they bear.
child, at - tend - ed by his moth - er mild.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

5 Then low they kneel in rev'rent fear, rev'rent fear,
exclaiming, "God and man is here!"
Alleluia, alleluia!

6 For such a season, rich in grace, rich in grace,
to God forevermore be praise!
Alleluia, alleluia!

7 All filled with joy at Jesus' birth, Jesus' birth,
we bless the Lord who came to earth.
Alleluia, alleluia!

8 All praise the Holy Trinity, Trinity,
from now unto eternity!
Alleluia, alleluia!

Please Stand.

GATHERING

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

C: (sings) **Amen.**

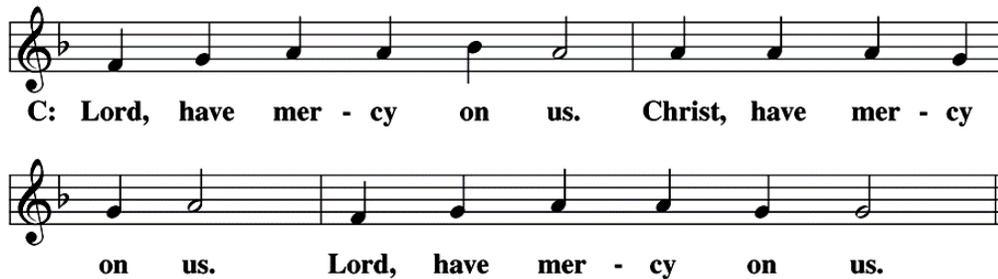
CONFESSION OF SINS

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



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

ABSOLUTION

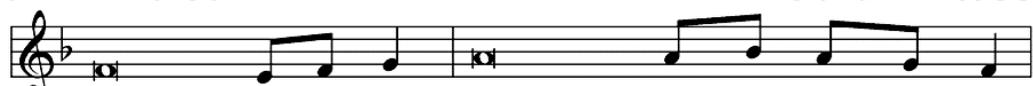
L: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: (sings) **Amen.**

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

GLORY BE TO GOD

Gloria in Excelsis



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;



you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,



are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you.

C: (sings) *And also with you.*

L: Let us pray.

C: Lord God, by the leading of a star you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith, to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (sings) *Amen.*

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD is dawning upon you.

² Look, darkness covers the earth,
and deep darkness covers the peoples,
but the LORD will dawn upon you,
and his glory will be seen over you.

³ Nations will walk to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ Look up. Look all around and see!
All of them have been gathered. They are coming to you.

Your sons will come from far away,
and people will carry your daughters on their side.

⁵ Then you will look and be radiant.
Your heart will race with excitement and burst with joy.
For great riches from the sea will be delivered to you.

The wealth of the nations will come to you.

⁶ Caravans of camels will cover your land,
young camels from Midian and Ephah.

All those from Sheba will come.

They will carry gold and incense,
and they will announce the good news of the praise of the LORD.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 72 | pg. 93

“All nations will be blessed through him, and they will call him blessed.”



SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:2-12

² Surely you have heard of the administration of God’s grace given to me for you, ³ namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation (as I have already written briefly). ⁴ When you read this, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ. ⁵ This mystery was not made known to people in past generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This mystery is that in Christ Jesus the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and people who also share in the promise through the gospel. ⁷ I became a servant of this gospel, in keeping with the gift of God’s grace that was given to me by the working of his power. ⁸ To me—even though I am the very least of all the saints—was given this grace: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ ⁹ and to enlighten everyone about the administration of this mystery. In past ages this mystery remained hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰ He did this so that, through the church, the multifaceted wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹ This was done according to the eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹² In him we can freely approach God with confidence through faith in him.

Alleluia. We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him. Alleluia.

Please stand.

L: Our Savior meets us in the Gospel according to Matthew 2.



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:1-12

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, when Herod was king, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, ²“Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³When King Herod heard this, he was alarmed, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴He gathered together all the people’s chief priests and experts in the law. He asked them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, because this was written through the prophet: ⁶You, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are certainly not least among the rulers of Judah: because out of you will come a ruler, who will shepherd my people, Israel.” ⁷Then Herod secretly summoned the Wise Men and found out from them exactly when the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. When you find him, report to me, so that I may also go and worship him.” ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. Then the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them, until it stood still over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced with overwhelming joy. ¹¹After they went into the house and saw the child with Mary, his mother, they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²Since they had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

APOSTLE’S 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

Please be seated.

HYMN

[Joy Has Dawned](#)

Joy has dawned upon the world
Promised from creation
God's salvation now unfurled
Hope for ev'ry nation
Not with fanfares from above
Not with scenes of glory
But a humble gift of love
Jesus born of Mary

Sounds of wonder fill the sky
With the songs of angels
As the Mighty Prince of Life
Shelters in a stable
Hands that set each star in place
Shaped the earth in darkness
Cling now to a mother's breast
Vuln'rable and helpless

Shepherds bow before the Lamb
Gazing at the glory
Gifts of men from distant lands
Prophecy the story
Gold, a King is born today
Incense, God is with us
Myrrh, His death will make a way
And by His blood He'll win us

Son of Adam, Son of heaven
Given as a ransom
Reconciling God and man
Christ, our mighty champion
What a Savior! What a Friend!
What a glorious myst'ry!
Once a babe in Bethlehem
Now the Lord of hist'ry
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Behlehem and see
He whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King
Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

SERMON Matthew 2:1-12
"A Savior is Born for All the Nations"

CREATE IN ME

Psalm 51

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

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.)



Matthew 2:1-12

Guided by God's Word and led by a star, Magi came to worship the child Jesus, the King of the Jews. What a contrast we see: Jerusalem in great fear, the Magi returning home with great joy. The difference is grace. By grace the Magi believed God's Word and that faith moved them to seek out the child and worship him with gifts. Grace makes the difference in our lives, too. Without God's grace, we live in fear of the future. With God's grace, we have the joy of salvation. May that faith move us to seek Christ in the Word and to worship him with our gifts of love.

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

L: Lord Jesus, our Savior, today we have worshiped you again as the God we know. This is a blessing beyond our comprehension. Our human minds are unable to fathom the divine. Our sinful natures have no real understanding of the holy. We mortals are incapable of grasping your eternal being. But you in your great love have clothed yourself in our flesh and lived among us so that we might see you and take hold of our salvation.

C: For this we praise you, O Lord.

L: Word made flesh, although you no longer show your physical presence among us, we know you are still with us. Comfort and instruct us through your Word. Give us hearts that are always seeking to know you better and searching for you where you may be found.

C: Cause us to hear your voice and give us faith to put into practice what you have said. When we are distressed, let us know your comfort. Send your holy angels to guard and protect us.

L: O Holy Spirit, you have caused the glory of the Lord to shine on us that we might reflect that glory in the world and bring others to the Savior. We thank you for your blessings upon our labors in the past. Be with us as a congregation and as a synod in the coming year. Fill us with a love for the lost so that we work to bring back those who have strayed from the flock and to bring into the fold those who have never been part of it.

C: Keep us strong in the faith. Cause us to grow in wisdom, knowledge, understanding, and Christian love. Let the fruits of faith be evident in our lives that others may be led to praise our God.

L: Heavenly Father, you used a star to guide the wise men to the Savior and protected them on their journeys.

C: Remind us daily that you will be guiding and directing our lives in the coming year. We do not know the path on which you will take us. Whatever course you set for us, give us the ability to trust that you will cause all things to serve our eternal good.

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

L: O Lord, you are always more willing to hear than we are to pray and are able to grant far more than we can ask or imagine. Hear our supplications and thanksgivings as we also join in the prayer that your Son has 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

HOW LOVELY SHINES THE MORNING STAR | # 79

PRAYER

L: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (sings) 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: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

AS WITH GLADNESS ME OF OLD | #83

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Treasurer Mitch Morehouse

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Youth Discipleship Michael Gunderson

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