

**8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**January 5, 2025**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

**PRELUDE: “Word of God, Come Down on Earth” – G. F. Walther**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

*During the Confession you may either stand or kneel as you are able.*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart: we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

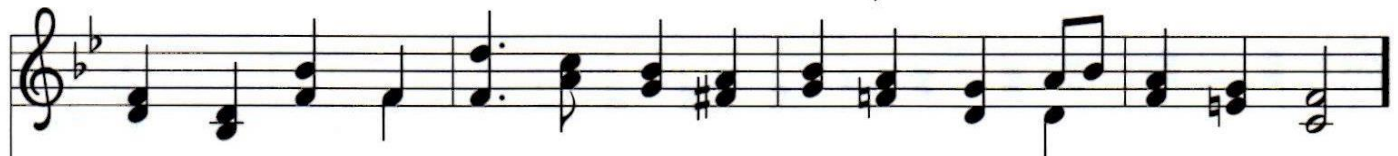
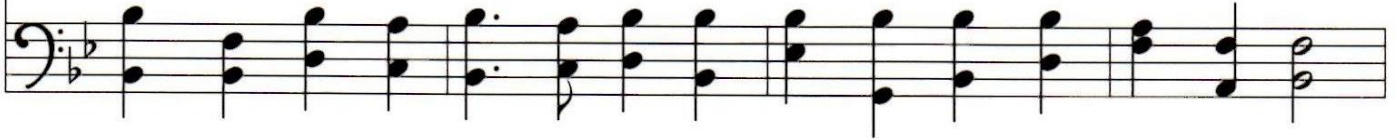
P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: AMEN.**

## GATHERING HYMN: "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"



1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.



Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4  
 Music: Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

REGENT SQUARE  
 87 87 87

**APOSTOLIC GREETING:**

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. And also with you.

**HYMN OF PRAISE:**

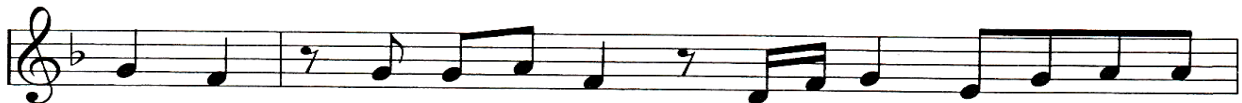
**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.



**B** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



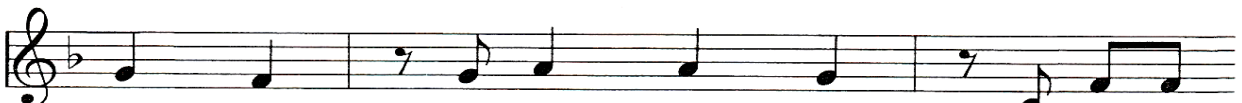
glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther,



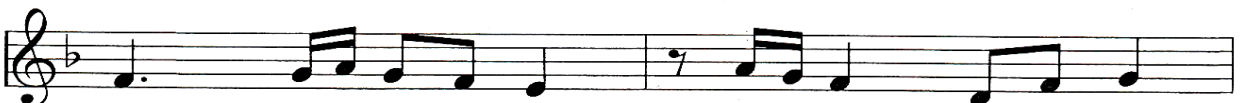
Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For you a -



lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P. The Lord be with you.

**C. And also with you.**

P. Let us pray.

**Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**READINGS FOR TODAY**

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14**

*see back of bulletin*

**PSALM: 147:12-20** *Spoken responsively, the Lector speaks the verses in regular print and congregation speaks the verses in **bold print**.*

<sup>12</sup> Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem;  
praise your God, O Zion,

<sup>13</sup> **who has strengthened the bars of your gates  
and has blessed your children within you.**

<sup>14</sup> God has established peace on your borders  
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

<sup>15</sup> **God sends out a command to the earth,  
a word that runs very swiftly.**

<sup>16</sup> God gives snow like wool,  
scattering frost like ashes.

<sup>17</sup> **God scatters hail like bread crumbs.  
Who can stand against God's cold?**

<sup>18</sup> The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the waters flow.

<sup>19</sup> **God declares the word to Jacob,  
statutes and judgments to Israel.**

<sup>20</sup> The LORD has not done so to any other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

**SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14**

*see below*

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup> He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on

earth. <sup>11</sup> In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the**  
**words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.**

**GOSPEL:** The Holy Gospel according to **St. John 1:[1-9] 10-18**

*see back of bulletin*

**Glo - ry to you, O Lord.**

*After the reading the minister says: "The Gospel of the Lord"*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

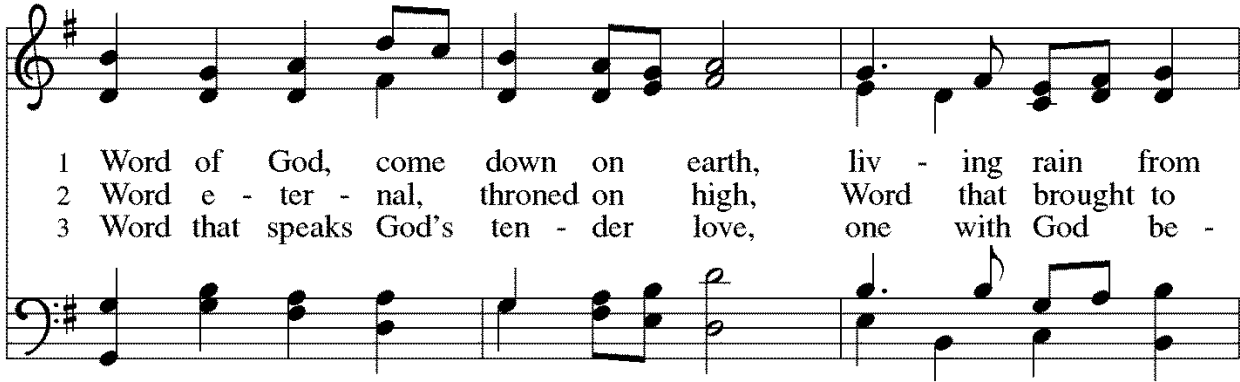
*Please be seated*

**SERMON**

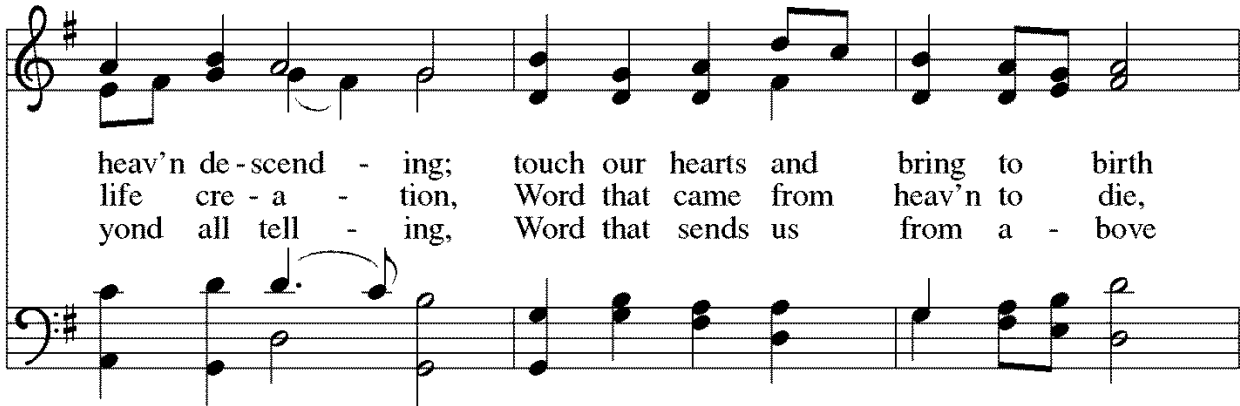
**Pastor Marjorie McDaniel**

Please stand as you are able.

**HYMN OF THE DAY: "Word of God, Come Down on Earth"**




1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from  
 2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to  
 3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth  
 life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,  
 yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove



faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,  
 cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the  
 God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.  
 world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.  
 all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, sr, b. 1919

Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625-1673

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**APOSTLES' CREED:**

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

A. Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

*A brief silence.*

A: God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**SHARING OF THE PEACE:**

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

**C: And also with you.**

*Please share the PEACE of the Lord with one another.*

**CHOIR ANTHEM: “Baptism of Jesus” – Peter Hallock**

Jesus autem hódie regrésus est a Jórdane. (*And Jesus returned this day from Jordan.*)

When Jesus Christ baptised was, the Holy Ghost descended with grade;  
the Father’s voice was heard in the place:

Hic est fílius meus, ipsum inténde. (*This is my son, focus on him.*)

There were Three Persons and one Lord, the Son baptised with one accord,  
the Father said this blessed word:

Hic est fílius meus, ipsum inténde. (*This is my son, focus on him.*)

Now, Jesus, as thou art both God and Man, and were baptised in from Jordan,  
at our last end, we pray thee, say then:

Hic est fílius meus, ipsum inténde. (*This is my son, focus on him.*)

## PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING:



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the  
hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and  
give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER:

A. Merciful Father,

**C. we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## COMMUNION LITURGY

P. You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world  
to fulfill for us your holy will  
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



**THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

**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.**

*Sit*

**HOLY COMMUNION:**

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We trust and teach the "real presence" of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine.*

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

*Please stand as you are able*

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**C: Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

**P.** Let us pray. We give you thanks almighty God that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift – in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen**

**BENEDICTION:**

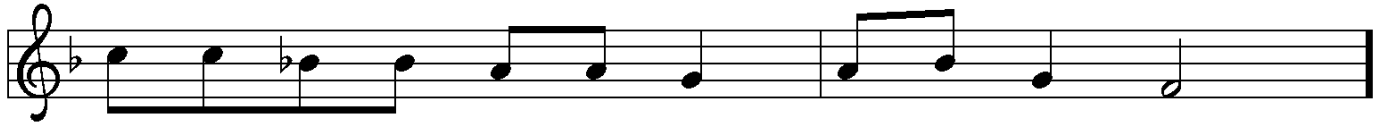
**P.** Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C. Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN: "Let Our Gladness Have No End"



1 Let our glad - ness have no end, Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 2 Proph-e - sies in days of old, Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 3 See the love - liest bloom - ing rose, Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 4 In - to flesh is made the Word, Hal - le - lu - jah!



for to earth did Christ de - scend. Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 God has sent the one fore - told. Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 from the branch of Jes - se grows. Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 our true ref - uge and our Lord. Hal - le - lu - jah!

*Refrain*

On this day God gave us Christ, the Son, to



save us; Christ, the Son, to save us.

Text: Bohemian carol, 15th cent.; tr. unknown

Music: NARODIL SE KRISTUS PÁN, Bohemian carol, 15th cent.

**DISMISSAL:**

- A. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
- C. Thanks be to God!

**POSTLUDE: "He Whom Shepherds Once Came Praising" – H. Schroeder**

Today's altar flowers are given by Steve & Christi Tam in honor of their wedding anniversary,  
 and by Jenny Boggs in honor of Sarah's birthday.