



**Worship Bulletin: Mount Calvary Lutheran Church**

**Dec. 19 (5:30 PM) and Dec. 20 (8:45AM) 2020**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: We gather in the name of our baptism, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **A: Amen.**

P: Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

P: God of all time,

**A: we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

P: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In ✠ Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news! **A: Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE:** "Now and Forever" by Anne Murray

Up until now I've learned to live without love  
Like a ship without a sail, wandering aimlessly lost  
I never knew how it felt to lose my control  
Now that I've found you, this is all so new.

You and me, we've got a destiny  
Starting tonight we'll be together  
You and me, this is what love should be  
And it's gonna be right, now and forever.

Darlin', inside your eyes I can see mysteries there  
And you're melting the ice surrounding me, I'm no longer scared  
I feel you inside my soul and I'm captured tonight  
But don't let go, this is paradise.

You and me, we've got a destiny  
Starting tonight we'll be together  
You and me, this is what love should be  
And it's gonna be right, if you tell me  
There's a heaven up above, then that's what I'll believe  
'Cause you're the one thing that I'm so sure of.

I feel you inside my soul and I'm captive tonight  
But don't let go, this is paradise.

You and me, we've got a destiny  
Starting tonight we'll be together

You and me, this is what love should be  
And it's gonna be right, now and forever.

You and me, we've got a destiny  
Starting tonight we'll be together  
You and me, this is what love should be  
And it's gonna be right.

Woo ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh-ooh...

## **GREETING**

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

**A: And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us to be channels of mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**A: Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: 2 SAMUEL 7:1-11, 16**

*Instead of David building a house (temple) for God, God promises to establish David's house (dynasty) forever. Centuries later, after the Babylonian exile, no king sat on the throne. Even then, however, the people of Israel remembered this promise and continued to hope for a king, the messiah, God's anointed.*

<sup>1</sup>Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, <sup>2</sup>the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." <sup>3</sup>Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

<sup>4</sup>But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: <sup>5</sup>Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? <sup>6</sup>I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle.

<sup>7</sup>Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" <sup>8</sup>Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; <sup>9</sup>and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your

enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, <sup>11</sup>from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. <sup>16</sup>Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

**PSALMOLDY:** "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
 4 Re - jice, re - jice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for  
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

## **SECOND READING: ROMANS 16:25-27**

*Paul closes his letter to the Romans by praising God because, in the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ, God has revealed the promised, divine plan of salvation for all humanity. Paul proclaims this gospel of Christ in order to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations.*

<sup>25</sup>Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages <sup>26</sup>but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—<sup>27</sup>to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

P: Alleluia!

**A: Here I am, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.**

P: Alleluia!

## **GOSPEL: LUKE 1:26-38**

*In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people from little known places. This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall. Here Luke highlights the role of the Spirit, a special emphasis in this gospel.*

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>Then Mary

said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

"Joy to the World" as interpreted by Dan Gresh



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

## APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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**

P: God of power and might, fulfill your promise and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

P: Gracious God, all generations call you blessed. In this holy season we pray for our neighbors of other denominations and faiths (Nearby churches, mosques, temples, and synagogues may be named). Inspire the faith of their people. Cultivate understanding among us and strengthen us in love and service to our community. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

P: Creator God, you scatter the proud. Everything we have belongs first to you. Bless and protect the seas, mountains, plains, forests, skies, and soils that surround us. Give us humility as we tend them. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

P: Righteous God, you humble the powerful and lift up the lowly. We pray for the leaders of all nations, that they amplify the voices of people in need. Guide all people entrusted with leadership, to create societies in which everyone can flourish. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

P: Compassionate God, you fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty. Nourish those who lack access to adequate food and nutrition. Bless the work of advocates, community organizers, and food pantries. Encourage others to provide for their neighbors in need. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

P: Healing God, you pour out mercy to all who cry out to you. Surround everyone in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit with your tender presence (especially). Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

P: Eternal God, you are faithful to your promises. We give thanks for the ministry of Katharina von Bora Luther and other ancestors who served you. We give thanks for bold, female leaders in our own time. Inspire others with their steadfast witness. Hear us, O God.

**A: Your mercy is great.**

P: Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**A: Amen.**

## PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**A: And also with you.**

## OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of abundance,

**A: we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

**A: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**A: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**A: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

**A: Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**A: Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**A: Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**All: 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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you. Share in the feast of salvation.

### **SHARING OF COMMUNION**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Holy One,

**A: we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow abundantly in our lives, that we may prepare your way, harvesting justice and righteousness, and bearing your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **SENDING**

"Turn, Turn, Turn" by the Byrds,

To everything turn, turn, turn  
There is a season turn, turn, turn  
And a time to every purpose under heaven

A time to be born, a time to die  
A time to plant, a time to reap  
A time to kill, a time to heal

A time to laugh, a time to weep  
To everything turn, turn, turn  
There is a season turn, turn, turn  
And a time to every purpose under heaven  
A time to build up, a time to break down  
A time to dance, a time to mourn  
A time to cast away stones  
A time to gather stones together  
To everything turn, turn, turn  
There is a season turn, turn, turn  
And a time to every purpose under heaven  
A time of love, a time of hate  
A time of war, a time of peace  
A time you may embrace  
A time to refrain from embracing  
To everything turn, turn, turn  
There is a season turn, turn, turn  
And a time to every purpose under heaven  
A time to gain, a time to lose  
A time to rend, a time to sew  
A time for love, a time for hate  
A time for peace, I swear it's not too late

### **BLESSING**

P: May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus.

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**A: Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

P: With faith renewed, hope restored, and loved revived, we go,

**A: to invite every generation on a shared journey to Christian growth.**