



2nd Sunday after Christmas

The Gift of Wisdom

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH | Lodi, California

January 3, 2021

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news about God's grace, love, and forgiveness given to us. If you would like to learn more about our church, please speak with our pastor or one of our members after the service.

- **Bathrooms** are located in the fellowship hall. A changing table is located in the women's bathroom.
- A worship monitor is to the right as you exit. We encourage children of all ages to participate in our worship. Please bring them into the service. We have a nursery room with toys, books, and other items that you can use with your child.
- Before you leave, please sign our guest register. Located on the lectern in the entryway.

CONNECTION CARDS

Take a moment to fill out the Connection Card. If you have a private prayer request, comment, or question, write it on the back side place the completed card in the collection plate or hand it to an usher.

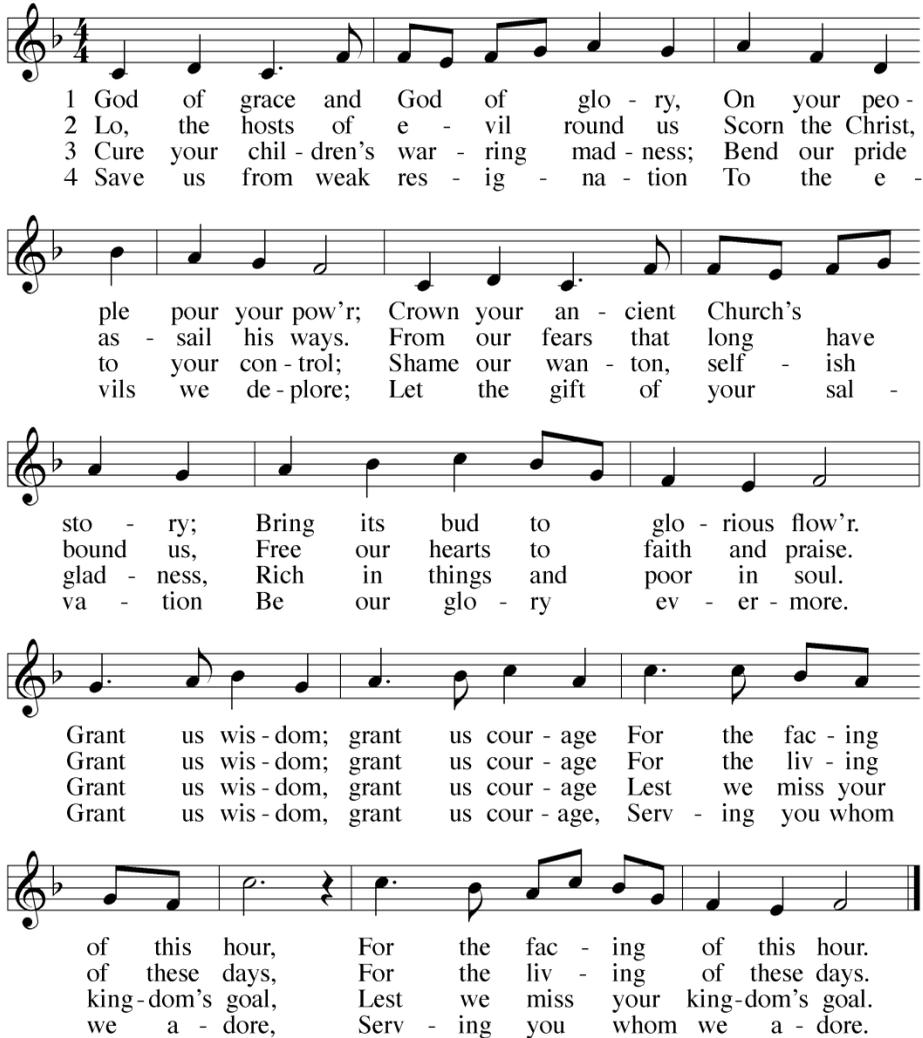
WORSHIP THEME

On the Second Sunday of Christmas, our worship looks at the only episode between Jesus' infancy and his adult ministry. Matched with the Gospel is Solomon's request for wisdom to rule God's people. The wisdom we find is in setting our priorities. What is really important in life and death?

COMMON SERVICE

OPENING HYMN

523 God of Grace and God of Glory



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On your peo -
2 Lo, the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn the Christ,
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; Bend our pride
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e -

ple pour your pow'r; Crown your an - cient Church's
as - sail his ways. From our fears that long have
to your con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish
vils we de - plore; Let the gift of your sal -

sto - ry; Bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r.
bound us, Free our hearts to faith and praise.
glad - ness, Rich in things and poor in soul.
va - tion Be our glo - ry ev - er - more.

Grant us wis - dom; grant us cour - age For the fac - ing
Grant us wis - dom; grant us cour - age For the liv - ing
Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age Lest we miss your
Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, Serv - ing you whom

of this hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.
of these days, For the liv - ing of these days.
king - dom's goal, Lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
we a - dore, Serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969, abr., alt.
Tune: CWM RHONDDA (87 87 877) John Hughes, 1873–1932.

Please stand

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: 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*



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



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

ABSOLUTION

M: 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: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

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



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

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured into our hearts the true light of your incarnate word. Grant that this light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, your son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Be seated

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 3:4-15

Solomon doesn't ask for riches or glory but wisdom to rule.

⁴The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there because it was the most famous high place. He offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask. What should I give you?"

⁶And Solomon replied, "You have shown great and faithful love to your servant, my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, righteousness, and integrity.^[a] You have continued this great and faithful love for him by giving him a son to sit on his throne, as it is today.

⁷“LORD my God, you have now made your servant king in my father David’s place. Yet I am just a youth with no experience in leadership.^[a] ⁸Your servant is among your people you have chosen, a people too many to be numbered or counted. ⁹So give your servant a receptive heart to judge your people and to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of yours?”

¹⁰Now it pleased the Lord that Solomon had requested this. ¹¹So God said to him, “Because you have requested this and did not ask for long life^[a] or riches for yourself, or the death^[a] of your enemies, but you asked discernment for yourself to administer justice, ¹²I will therefore do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has never been anyone like you before and never will be again. ¹³In addition, I will give you what you did not ask for: both riches and honor, so that no king will be your equal during your entire life. ¹⁴If you walk in my ways and keep my statutes and commands just as your father David did, I will give you a long life.”

¹⁵Then Solomon woke up and realized it had been a dream. He went to Jerusalem, stood before the ark of the Lord’s covenant, and offered burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then he held a feast for all his servants.

PSALM OF THE DAY

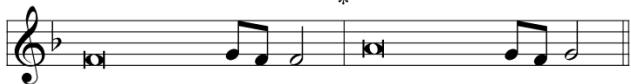
Psalm 119 / CW p.111

Refrain



Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

Psalm tone



Oh, how I love your law!
 I meditate on it all day long.
 I have more insight than all my teachers,
 for I meditate on your statutes.
 I have more understanding than the elders,
 for I obey your precepts.

Refrain

I have kept my feet from every evil path

so that I might obey your Word.
I have not departed from your laws,
for you yourself have taught me.
How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 1:3-14

God has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.

³Blessed is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavens in Christ. ⁴For he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and blameless in love before him.^[a] ⁵He predestined us to be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ for himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he lavished on us in the Beloved One.

⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he richly poured out on us with all wisdom and understanding.^[b] ⁹He made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he purposed in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the right time^[c]—to bring everything together in Christ, both things in heaven and things on earth in him.

¹¹In him we have also received an inheritance,^[d] because we were predestined according to the plan of the one who works out everything in agreement with the purpose of his will, ¹²so that we who had already put our hope in Christ might bring praise to his glory.

¹³In him you also were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and when you believed. ¹⁴The Holy Spirit is the down payment of our inheritance, until the redemption of the possession, to the praise of his glory.

VERSE OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 3:15

From infancy you have known the sacred Scriptures, which are able to give you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Stand

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2:40-52

Jesus is temple sitting among the teachers and listening to them.



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

⁴⁰The boy grew up and became strong, filled with wisdom, and God's grace was on him.

⁴¹Every year his parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. ⁴²When he was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom of the festival. ⁴³After those days were over, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents^[a] did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming he was in the traveling party, they went a day's journey. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days, they found him in the temple sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all those who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

⁴⁹"Why were you searching for me?" he asked them. "Didn't you know that it was necessary for me to be in my Father's house?"^[b] ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them.

⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them. His mother kept all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

NICENE CREED

Stand

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.

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

279 O Word of God Incarnate



1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom
 2 The Church from you, dear Mas - ter, Re - ceived the
 3 Oh, make your Church, dear Sav - ior, A lamp of



from on high, O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O
 gift di - vine, And still that light is lift - ed O'er
 bur - nished gold To bear be - fore the na - tions Your



Light of our dark sky, We praise you for the
 all the earth to shine. It is the chart and
 true light, as of old. Oh, teach your wan - d'ring



ra - diance That from the hal - lowed page, A lan - tern
 com - pass That, all life's jour - ney through, Mid mists and
 pil - grims By this their path to trace Till, clouds and



to our foot - steps, Shines on from age to age.
 rocks and quick - sands Still guides, O Christ, to you.
 dark - ness end - ed, They see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823-97, adapt., alt.
 Tune: MUNICH (76 76 D) *Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch*, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693, alt.

SERMON

1 Kings 3:4-15

What would you ask for?

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.

Be seated

OFFERING

The offerings of the members of Christ Lutheran are gathered at this time. Guests need not feel obligated to give an offering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Stand

M: I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

C: Every day I will praise you and extol your name.

M: It is fitting, O Lord, at the beginning of this year, to express our gratitude for the countless gifts of grace we have received from you.

C: You have been faithful to your promises and loving toward all you have made.

M: You clothe your creation with beauty; you feed even the birds and tell us that we are much more valuable than they.

C: You know what we need, and you give us all good things.

M: Clothing and food, safety and health, possessions and money, even life itself—all these come to us from your generous hand.

C: We thank you for these blessings, and we ask that you continue to grant them to us.

M: We thank you especially for your Word and Holy Supper, which strengthen our faith, shield us from temptation, and equip us for service.

C: Increase our commitments to these precious gifts, so that we may continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Special prayers and intercessions.

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

Silent prayer.

M: Almighty and eternal God, you have been gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and rich in love. As you led your people Israel with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, so lead us by the light of your Word that we may live our lives to your glory and be prepared to die in your peace.

**C: We ask these things in the name of Jesus. In his name we begin this year.
Amen.**

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.**

THE BLESSING

M 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.

Be seated

CLOSING HYMN

38 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
3 "This is the Christ, our God most high, Who hears your
4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by
5 "These are the signs which you shall mark: The swad - dling



news to ev - 'ry home; Glad ti - dings of great joy
cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of low -
sad and bit - ter cry; He will him - self your Sav -
God for all be - low, That in his king - dom, bright
clothes and man - ger dark. There you will find the in -



I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
ior be From all your sins to set you free.
and fair, You may with us his glo - ry share.
fant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

6 How glad we'll be to find it so!
Then with the shepherds let us go
To see what God for us has done
In sending us his own dear Son.

7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,
And see what in the manger lies.
Who is this child, so young and fair?
It is the Christchild lying there.

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

M The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

M Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

M Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is good and right so to do.

M 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,

for in the wonder and mystery of his birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love..

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 – sanctus means “holy.” Used as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians by the fourteenth century.*



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION - *The Words of institution both proclaim the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's Supper.*

M 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 Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD – *Agnus Dei*



C: 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.

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION

Participation in the Sacrament is an expression of a common faith. Our guests today who are not members of a congregation in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (or a church in fellowship with the WELS) are invited to speak with the pastor to learn how you might receive the sacrament with us in the future.

THANKSGIVING

Stand

SONG OF SIMEON – *Nunc Dimittis*



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

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

C: And his mercy endures forever.

M: 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: Amen.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,
Through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery
That you might share your joy with me.</p> | <p>9 Ah, Lord, though you created all,
How weak you are, so poor and small,
That you should choose to lay your head
Where lowly cattle lately fed!</p> |
| <p>10 Were earth a thousand times as fair
And set with gold and jewels rare,
It would be far too poor and small
A cradle for the Lord of all.</p> | <p>11 Instead of soft and silken stuff
You have but hay and straw so rough
On which as King, so rich and great,
To be enthroned in royal state.</p> |
| <p>12 And so it pleases you to see
This simple truth revealed to me:
That all the world's wealth, honor, might
Are weak and worthless in your sight.</p> | <p>13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled
Within my heart, made clean and new,
A quiet chamber kept for you.</p> |
| <p>14 My heart for very joy must leap;
My lips no more can silence keep.
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
That sweetest ancient cradle song:</p> | <p>15 Glory to God in highest heaven,
Who unto us his Son has given!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.</p> |

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: VOM HIMMEL HOCH (LM) Schumann, *Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert*, Leipzig, 1539.

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