

Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

December 27, 2020, 9:00 am

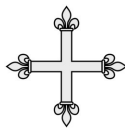


Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

The appointed texts for St. John's day enunciate the intentions of the first letter of John: to declare "what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen . . . what we have looked at and touched . . . concerning the word of life." The apostle John was an intimate of the Christ of Christmas, the Word made flesh, the Word of life. John's gospel invites us to enter into the Christ-life. In the proclamation of this Word and in the holy meal we are invited to look at and touch what those who first followed Jesus had seen: Jesus.



Gathering

Prelude

Four Variations on "Kuortane"

arr. Sulo Salonen (1899-1976)

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who was in the beginning,
who makes a dwelling among us,
who covers us with justice and mercy.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of goodness and lovingkindness,
we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have turned away from your invitation to new life. We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins, those we know and those known only to you, for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Hear the good news of peace and salvation!
God forgives us all our sins,
not through our own work,
but through ☩ Jesus Christ, made known to all people.
With all who come to the manger,
rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

ELW 292



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*, 1856

Text © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

Greeting

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

Hymn of Praise



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Refrain



Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -



- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

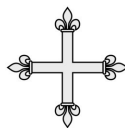
Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
Music: GLORIA, French carol

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Merciful God, through John the apostle and evangelist you have revealed the mysteries of your Word made flesh. Let the brightness of your light shine on your church, so that all your people, instructed in the holy gospel, may walk in the light of your truth and attain eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



Word

First Reading

Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31

When the world was brought into being through the voice of God, God created humankind in his own image.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth." God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

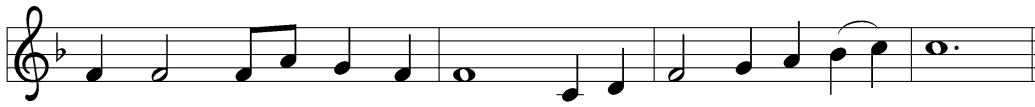
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 116:12-19

*Refrain is first sung by the cantor, then by all. Verses are sung by the cantor. Please sing the refrain where indicated by an **R**.*



Pre-cious in your sight, O LORD, is the death of your ser - vants.

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalm Settings for the Church Year: Revised Common Lectionary*
© 2008 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

¹²How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things God has | done for me?

¹³I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵Precious in your sight, O LORD,
is the death of your servants. **R**

¹⁶O LORD, truly I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the LORD.

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹in the courts of the LORD's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah! **R**

Second Reading

1 John 1:1--2:2

Though no one is without sin, in Jesus Christ we have an advocate who speaks on our behalf.

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Reproduced from *Gospel Acclamations: Advent–Transfiguration*,
© 2006 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

Cantor Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**
Choir The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have beheld his glory. (John 1:14)
All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel

John 21:20-25

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the twenty-first chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus performed many signs—so great that not all could be recorded in scripture.

Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them; he was the one who had reclined next to Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?” When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about him?” Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow me!” So the rumor spread in the community that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?”

This is the disciple who is testifying to these things and has written them, and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things that Jesus did; if every one of them were written down, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

ELW 421

Please sing verse 5 between verse 1 and the last verse.



1 By all your saints still striv - ing, for all your saints at rest,
Insert appointed stanza or this general stanza 2:
 2 A - pos - tles, proph - ets, mar - tyrs, and all the no - ble throug
Last Give praise to God Al - might - y, and wor - ship God the Son,



your ho - ly name, O Je - sus, for - ev - er - more be blessed!
 who wear the spot - less rai - ment and raise the cease - less song—
 and sing to God the Spir - it, e - ter - nal Three in One,



For you a - rose vic - to - rious that they might wear the crown
 for these passed on be - fore us, we sing our praise a - new
 till all the ran - somed num - ber fall down be - fore the throne,



and share the light of glo - ry re - flect - ed from your throne.
 and, walk - ing in their foot - steps, would live our lives for you.
 and hon - or, pow'r, and glo - ry as - cribe to God a - lone.

5 For John, belov'd disciple,
 exiled on Patmos' shore,
 and for John's holy gospel,
 we praise you evermore.
 Praise for the mystic vision
 these words to us unfold.
 Instill in us the longing
 your glory to behold.

Text: Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt.; hymnal version, sts. 13, 16, 18
 Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune
 Text sts. 13,16,18 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Nicene Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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 truly 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
with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

Hear us, O God,
Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

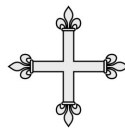
God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the
name of Jesus.

Amen

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.



Thanksgiving

Offering

We invite you to give your offering online at saintlukegive.us then click *Giving* or on the Give Plus app. You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Music at the offering

Chorale Prelude on "Houston"

Rebecca Groom Te Velde (b. 1956)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of goodness, you open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. We open our hands and return to you what you have first given us. Accept our offering as a token of our abiding devotion and love. Use these gifts to bring peace, justice and comfort to the world; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

Let us pray.

Holy One, Jesus Christ, we know that you are as truly present in our reaching out to one another as in the sacrament of the table. We love you at the heart of all things, and long for you in our souls. Since we cannot gather together to receive you in that sacrament, come and abide spiritually in our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace. Never let us fear that we are ever separated from you, from one another, from your creation. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and the life to come. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Please pray in your own preferred language.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Padre Nuestro Que estas en los cielos
Santificado sea tu Nombre
Venga a nosotros tu Reino
Hagase tu voluntad asi en la tierra como en el cielo
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia
Perdona nuestras ofensas
Como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden
Y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion mas libranos del mal
Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la Gloria
Por los siglos de los siglos. Amen**

Sending

Blessing

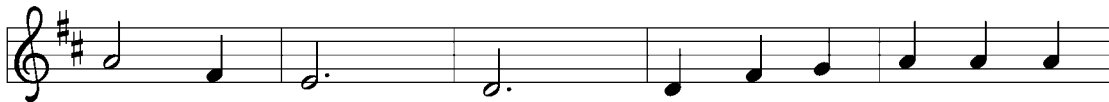
Grace from God's own heart,
peace from the ✠ Child in the manger,
and strength from the Spirit of life
be blessings for you today and forever.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

ELW 815



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

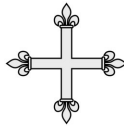
Dismissal

Christ is born!
Go tell it on the mountain
and everywhere.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

Denis Bédard (b. 1950)



WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTER

The Rev. Connie A. Miller, *Senior Pastor*

PREACHING MINISTER

The Rev. Gary Nuss, *Support Pastor*

ASSISTING MINISTERS

The Rev. Franklin Morales, *Associate Pastor*

Deacon Kyle Warfield, *Director of Discipleship and Senior High Ministries*

MUSICIANS

Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music and Organist*

Deacon Kyle Warfield, *Cantor*

Reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, copyright © 2006, administered by Augsburg Fortress.

Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license # 3174-W.

Reprinted from Sundays and Seasons, Year C 2018-2019, copyright © 2018 Augsburg Fortress.

Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license # 4182-C.