



*We invite, encourage, educate and empower
all people to follow God and serve others.”*

1st Sunday of Christmas

December 31, 2017

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

HYMN

“Joy to the World”

#267 vs 1-4

CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Psalm 148

Come, praise the eternal God!

All you in the heavens, angels above—praise God!

Sun, moon, and stars in the sky—praise God!

Dolphins and whales, fish in the sea—praise God!

Lighting and thunder, snow and rain—praise God!

Mountains and hills, desert and prairie—praise God!

Fruit trees and cedars, flowers and weeds—praise God!

Kings and presidents, prime ministers and judges—praise God!

Men and women, young and old—praise God!

Let them all praise the name of God!

For God’s name stands alone, above all others;

God’s glory shines over earth and heaven.

Let’s worship God together!

HYMN *“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”* #275 vs 1-4

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share a sign of God’s peace with one another.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it.

In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Galatians 4:4-7

When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

WELCOME THE CHILDREN *“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”*

#276 vs 1

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN *“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”*

#276 vs 2

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the

Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION “*The Work of Christmas*”

HYMN *“The Bells of Christmas”* #298 vs 1-4

APOSTLES CREED

**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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *“Love Has Come”* #292 vs 1-3

OFFERING PRAYER

God with us:

You came as a baby to a manger.

You slept on straw and greeted shepherds.

You come again in bread and wine.

Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things.

**And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of
others in the strength of your holy name. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas and always. Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN “Go Tell It on the Mountain” #290 vs 1-3

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

Thanks be to God!

From Sundays and Seasons.com Copyright 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #38461. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



Talon Gibson



Talon Gibson, a 12 year old from Hermosa, has recently been diagnosed with Neurological Lyme Disease. Talon's symptoms have become so debilitating that he can no longer attend school or participate in sports. There is currently no cure for Lyme. Treatment to keep infection at bay is extremely expensive, and insurance will not cover most of the treatments. Our Mission of the Month for December will help with the expenses, estimated to be well over \$200,000, to allow Talon to continue receiving treatments.

(Please write checks to Our Savior's with "Mission" in the memo line.)

To read more about the disease, and see updates on Talon's journey, go to:
[gofundme.com/talongibson](https://www.gofundme.com/talongibson).



WELCOME to our worship service

If you would like to be added to our church mailing list or have other information you would like us to know, please fill out an information card located with the hymnals.

Today, December 31

9:30 Worship/Potluck

Monday, January 1

New Year's Day
Office closed

Wednesday, January 3

No D.O.G. Night

Sunday, January 7

9:30am Worship/Communion
Fellowship follows

Thank you to the
Worship Committee for
leading the service this
morning!

SERVING TODAY:

Greeters/Ushers – Chic Schneekloth

Music – Karen Lescarboursa

Reader – Nancy Schultes

Potluck set-up/clean-up – Bill and Tammy Dennert

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY:

Greeters/ Ushers – Dennis and Kathy Thompson

Reader – Dennis Thompson

Music – Peg Tesch and Conni Virtue

Communion Preparation/Assistant – Alan Platt

Fellowship Servers – Dennis and Kathy Thompson

SERVE



PRAYER REQUESTS

Praying for one another is vital to our community of faith and part of being a member of the priesthood of all believers. If you or a family member wishes to be included in this printed prayer list, please contact Josie in the church office.



We pray for the comfort and strength for those who have recently lost loved ones.



We pray for the health and healing of those ill or hospitalized and their caregivers, including **Baby Darius** (son of Dakota and Blake Hunsaker), **Gus Erickson** (friend of Pastor Deb.)



We pray for those with ongoing concerns: **Val** (Steve & Patti Pendegrat's sister-in-law), **Bernie Quaschnick**, **Rodney Shay**, **Jon and Maryanna Hall**, **Talon Gibson** (Tenaya Gibson's son), **Kelly Edwards**, **Glenyce** (Carla's cousin) **Dennis Hempler** (Dixie Clark's brother), **Heidi** (Hunsaker's niece), and **Beverly Conrad** (Peg's sister).

January 21st

ANNUAL MEETING

Following worship



Join us Sunday
January 14th

8:30-11:15

Located at

Our Savior's

Lutheran Church

The whole community
is invited!

Delicious Menu:
Biscuits and Gravy
Scrambled Eggs
Fruit
Pastries
Drinks

Freewill Donation will go
towards sending our
community youth group
kids to camps this coming
summer



You are invited to
Jesus' Belated Birthday Party!

WHERE: Our Savior's Lutheran Church

WHEN: Wednesday, January 31st 5:30pm

HOST: The D.O.G. Night children invite you to come and
celebrate Jesus' belated birthday with a celebration program.

*Dinner will be served immediately following the program
The whole community is welcome! Tell everyone to come and
join in on the fun!