

# The First Sunday after Christmas

January 1, 2023

Hymn of Invocation #387

Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let men their songs em -  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions



King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him  
play, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make His bless - ings  
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; Tune: George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759, adapt.; Text and tune: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

### Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### Kyrie

- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**C** Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.
-

## Exhortation

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

## Confession & Absolution

- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P** Because of Jesus, God has forgiven all our sin. Hear the gospel of Christ from Psalm 103:  
"Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits - who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagles."

## Reflection on God's Forgiveness

*Psalm 40:1-3*

- P** I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry.
  - C** **He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog,**
  - P** and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.
  - C** **He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.**
  - P** Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.
-

# Service of the Word

Psalm

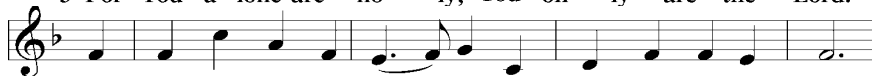
Psalm 111

- P** Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- C** Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.
- P** Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.
- C** He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and merciful.
- P** He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.
- C** He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations.
- P** The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy;
- C** They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
- P** He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name!
- C** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!
- C** 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.
-

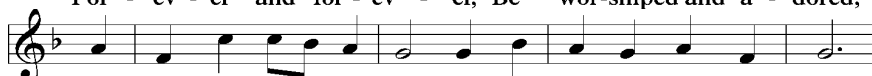
## Gloria in Excelsis



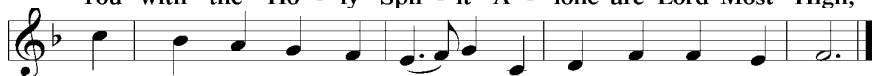
- C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good - will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 63:7–14*

<sup>7</sup>I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD, the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD has granted us, and the great goodness to the house of Israel that he has granted them according to his compassion, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. <sup>8</sup>For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely." And he became their Savior. <sup>9</sup>In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. <sup>10</sup>But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit; therefore he turned to be their enemy, and himself fought against them. <sup>11</sup>Then he remembered the days of old, of Moses and his people. Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is he who put in the midst of them his Holy Spirit, <sup>12</sup>who caused his glorious arm to go at the right hand of Moses, who divided the waters before them to make for himself an everlasting name, <sup>13</sup>who led them through the depths? Like a horse in the desert, they did not stumble. <sup>14</sup>Like livestock that go down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest. So you led your people, to make for yourself a glorious name.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

<sup>1</sup>The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, <sup>2</sup>who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. <sup>3</sup>Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

<sup>4</sup>John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood <sup>6</sup>and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup>Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

<sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

<sup>9</sup>I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. <sup>10</sup>I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet <sup>11</sup>saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

<sup>12</sup>Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup>and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup>The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, <sup>15</sup>his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. <sup>16</sup>In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

<sup>17</sup>When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, <sup>18</sup>and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. <sup>19</sup>Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. <sup>20</sup>As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup>When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” <sup>14</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt <sup>15</sup>and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

<sup>16</sup>Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. <sup>17</sup>Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

<sup>18</sup>“A voice was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and loud lamentation,  
Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”


<sup>19</sup>But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, <sup>20</sup>saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” <sup>21</sup>And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

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## Nicene Creed

- C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  of the world to come. Amen.
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## Sermon Hymn

## Christ Our Hope in Life and Death



What is our hope in life and death? Christ a - lone,  
What truth can calm the trou - bled soul? God is good,  
Un - to the grave, what will we sing? "Christ, He lives;  
Christ, He lives!" And what re - ward will heav - en  
dence? That our souls to Him be - long. Who holds our days with - in His  
known? In our great Re - deem - er's blood. Who holds our faith when fears a -  
bring? Ev - er - last - ing life with Him. Then we will rise to meet the  
hand? What comes, a - part from His com - mand? And what will  
rise? Who stands a - bove the storm - y trial? Who sends the  
Lord, Then sin and death will be de - stroyed, And we will  
keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.  
waves that bring us night un - to the shore, the rock of Christ?  
feast in end - less joy, When Christ is ours for - ev - er - more.  
O sing ha - le - lu - jah! Our hope springs e -  
ter - nal; O sing ha - le - lu - jah! Now and  
ev - er we con - fess Christ our hope in life and death.

Tune: Matthew Merker; Jordan Kauflin; Matt Papa; Matt Boswell; Keith Getty; Tune: © Messenger Hymns; © Matthew Merker Music; © Love Your Enemies Publishing; © Jordan Kauflin Music; © 2020 Getty Music. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734

## Sermon

### Offering

### Prayer Response

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.

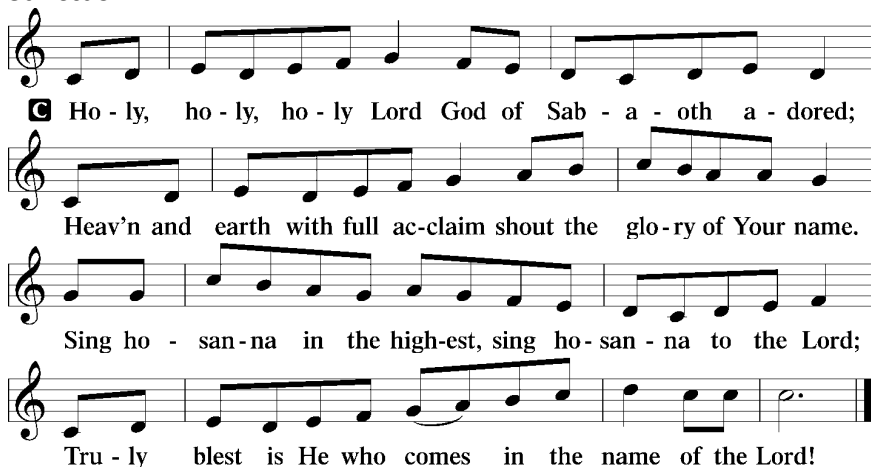


# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** We lift them to the Lord.  
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.  
**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

## Sanctus



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

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## Lord's Prayer

- C** 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 Words of Our Lord

### Agnus Dei

**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

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## Distribution Hymn

## Ancient of Days



Though the na - tions rage, king - doms rise and fall, there is  
Though the dread of night o - ver - whelms my soul, He is  
Though I may not see what the fu - ture brings, I will



still one King reign - ing o - ver all. So, I will not  
here with me. I am not a - lone. O, His love is  
watch and wait for the Sav - iour King. Then, my joy com -



fear for this truth re - mains: that my God is the An - cient of Days.  
sure and He knows my name. For my God is the An - cient of Days.  
plete, stand - ing face to face in the pres - ence of the An - cient of Days.



None a - bove Him, none be - fore Him. All of time in His hands. For His



throne, it shall re - main and ev - er stand. All the pow - er, all the glo - ry, I will



trust in His name. For my God is the An - cient of Days.

Tune: Jesse Reeves; Michael Farren; Rich Thompson; Jonny Robinson; Tune: © 2018 CityAlight Music. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734



# Distribution Hymn

# Before the Throne of God Above



Be - fore the throne of God ab - ove I have a strong and per - fect  
When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair, and tells me of the guilt with -  
Be - hold Him there, the ris - en Lamb, my per - fect spot - less right - eous -



plea, a great High Priest whose name is love, who ev - er lives and pleads for  
in, up - ward I look and see Him there, who made an end to all my  
ness, the great un - change - a - ble "I Am", the King of glo - ry and of



me. My name is grav - en on His hands, my name is writ - ten on His  
sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sav - iour died my sin - ful soul is count - ed  
grace. One with Him - self I can - not die, my soul is pur - chased with His



heart; I know that while in heav'n He stands, no tongue can  
free, for God the Just is sat - is - fied to look on  
blood; my life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ, my



bid me thence de - part, no tongue can bid me thence de - part.  
Him and par - don me, to look on Him and par - don me.  
Sav - iour and my God, with Christ, my Sav - iour and my God.

Text: Vikki Cook; Charitie Lees Bancroft; Tune: Vikki Cook; Text and tune: © 1997 Sovereign Grace Worship. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11373734

# Distribution Hymn # 411

# I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

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

I want to fol - low Je - sus.  
 I want to look at Je - sus.  
 I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.  
 Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,  
 When we have run with pa - tience the race,

The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

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 and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934; Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001220

## The Dismissal

## Nunc Dimittis

**C** 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## Benediction

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
  - C** **Thanks be to God.**
  - P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
  - C** **Amen.**
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# January 2023 Announcements

## Sundays

- **Worship Service** – 9:00 AM
- [Adult Bible Study and Sunday School](#) - 10:30 AM Downstairs

## Tuesdays

- [Youth Group](#) 6:30 - 8:00 PM

## Wednesdays

- [Men's Bible Study](#) 6:30 – 7:30 AM

**New Year – New Opportunities:** We still have a great need for adult volunteers to help with Youth Group. Please contact Stacey Staae or Cheryl in the church office for more information.

2023 Member Giving Envelopes are available on the credenza in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl in the church office 618-288-6120 or [cheryl@stjamesglencarbon.org](mailto:cheryl@stjamesglencarbon.org)

If you are interested in learning more about Christianity or are interested in joining St. James Lutheran Church, or maybe you just want to hang out and talk about the Story of the Bible, please see Pastor Aaron or contact the church office about joining the [new member class](#) beginning January 15th. Babysitting is available upon request.

**Youth Confirmation** - Youth confirmation classes begin January 15th. They will be held on Sundays following Sunday school/Bible study. Please contact Pastor Mueller if your child will be attending.

Registration is open for the [“Art of Marriage” retreat](#) March 10-11 to be held at the Four Points by Sheridan in Fairview Heights. Register online or with a form available on the church bulletin board. Registration is limited. Please register ASAP.

**Save the Date – Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup> @ 5:00 PM**

## [Chili Cook-off and Family Game Night](#)

Bring the family, your favorite pot of chili and game for a night of fun and fellowship! If chili isn't your forte, bring a dessert to share! Drinks and sides will be provided. Prizes will be awarded!! For more information or questions call Tina Enke 618-795-0102, Jen Weber 618-407-5322, or the church office.

The January 2023 Newsletter will be distributed via email the first week in January. Please contact Cheryl in the church office if you would like to be added to the digital news group to receive the newsletters and bulletins.

2022 Member Giving Statements will be distributed via email by January 15<sup>th</sup>. If you do not receive your statement, or if you have questions/concerns, please contact Cheryl in the church office.



December 25<sup>th</sup> has come and gone, but the Christmas season continues. In our most recent episode of **Craving Answers, Craving God** Aaron and Chuck discuss the meaning of Christmas and how to keep that meaning from being obscured by the world. We're still celebrating Christmas!

OUR CHOSEN TO SHINE (501c3) HONDURAS MISSION... is set for 2023! Dates are: May 27 – June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Missions are a life changing opportunity for those we serve and our team. We are a medical mission serving in the areas of dental, optical, medical, children and evangelism! (You do not need to have a medical background to join us.) In January of 2020, our Chosen to Shine team of 10 adults and 12 college students served 211 people in dental care, 969 in medical, 345 received new and sometimes their first pair of glasses! In Evangelism we shared the gospel with 753 people in a week's time! We placed water filters in the homes of two families, offering them water for 10 years and the ability to sell clean water for income. We offer partial scholarships to students in high school or college. Students 16-17 must be accompanied by a parent. Our team will be set by January 15, 2023. If you would like more information or to donate, please contact Lauri Cunningham (Trinity Edwardsville) 618-978-9700.



[St. James Attendance](#)



SAINT JAMES  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
— GLEN CARBON —

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