



## PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP

God, you spoke and your Word became flesh, breathing a new song of joy and praise into the world. Grant that we may bear the good news of your salvation, proclaiming your promise of peace to the ends of the earth. Amen.

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in eternity appointed a time for the sending of your holy Child Jesus, grant that the glad tidings of the birth of Jesus, begotten of you from eternity, and true man, born of a woman, may be tidings borne into every home this day and that all people may know the greatest gift of all, the Child of Bethlehem. Amen.

## WORSHIP NOTES

On this Christmas morning the people of God gather to celebrate the birth of the Word made flesh, Christ our Lord. Luke recounts the familiar story of shepherds and angels; John's gospel tells of the Word that dwells among us, full of grace and truth. The meaning of Christmas is made clear: the light shines in the darkness. It is in the liturgy that we encounter the Word made flesh—in the people of God gathered together as the body of Christ, and in the meal around the holy table. We go forth to be bearers of light as we proclaim this good news to all the ends of the earth.

**Persons with impairments** - St. Michael offers to those with any type of hearing difficulty a small, remote personal speaker which provides the user an amplified, high quality audio of the entire service. We invite our guests who may have the need for such an accommodation to ask an usher for a personal speaker. (They are available upon entering the Nave.) We welcome any comments concerning St. Michael's efforts to accommodate persons with impairments or disabilities.

We extend a welcome to all who worship with us this morning. We invite you to join us in Fellowship Hall after Evening Prayer for refreshments.

Treva Attig Heathcote by Debra Cline  
Parents by Bob Gerberich  
Father-in-law, Jack Smith by Jackie Smith  
Jeremiah Smith by Erin, BJ, Maizza; Kara, Kevin; Tom; Isaac,  
Will, Karl and Caity  
Sister, Vickie Slippey, by Jackie Smith  
Barbara Thomas by The Humperdinck-L-Ettes  
Alvin and Eva Umbenhauer by Ken Umbenhauer  
Frank and Esther Wesley by John and Susan Wesley  
Don Zutlas by Lloyd and Shirley Kramer

### In honor of:

Our boys by Sue McDonald and Chris Persson  
Wynn Grace and Libby Wagner by Susan Wagner  
Grandchildren, Luke, Jordan and Anya, by Lloyd and Shirley Kramer  
Gunnert and Warner families by Clair E. Gunnert Jr.  
Nana and Pop-pop Hawkins by Amanda, Jeremy; Emily, Tristan;  
Shanna, Wes, Noah; Isaac, Will, Karl and Caity  
Grandma Ida by Sue McDonald and Chris Persson  
Life partner, Doug Warner, by Clair E. Gunnert Jr.  
Men and women serving in the military by Lennie Whitcomb  
Vera Mink (Grammie) by Scarlett and Sonya Mink  
Nan Smith by Erin, BJ, Maizza; Kara, Kevin; Tom; Isaac,  
Will, Karl and Caity  
Our St. Michael family by Sue McDonald and Chris Persson



## *FOR THIS HOLY HOUSE*

Norma Ickes  
Ken Umbenhauer

### In memory of:

Richard H. Hays and Robert L. Bosley by Earl Truckenmiller  
John H. Joseph by Marlene S. Joseph

### In honor of:

John Joseph McGettigan by Marlene S. Joseph  
Lauren Mary McGettigan by Marlene S. Joseph

Many thanks to all sponsors for the generosity of their gifts so that all may share in the beauty of their giving during this Christmas season.

## CHRISTMAS GIFTS

*All gifts are given to the glory of Almighty God.*

The Christmas Trees are sponsored in memory of our parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Libby, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Thaddeus Mesh by Ted and Carol Mesh; and by Kevin Sheets and Kevin Hancock.

The cedar roping is sponsored in memory of their parents, Loyd and Annie Price; and Samuel and Angeline Forlano by Dave and Cecilia Price.

The large wreaths are sponsored by Jim Cowden and Keith Edwards; Mary Ann Furedi and Rick May; and Mary and Lennie Whitcomb.

The white roses on the altar are sponsored in loving memory of Ken and Paul Miller by Keith Miller.

### WREATHS

#### In memory of:

William and Mary Eberly by Floyd and Nancy

Irene Lutz by Susan Wagner

Aaron and Edith Miller by family

Fred Mink, (Pap Pap) by Vera, Scarlett and Sonya Mink

Lynn Mueller by Guy Kehler and Lindsay Mills

Lynn and Charlie Mueller, and Mid Roth by Gil and Sondra Parthemore

Aunt and Uncle, Jackie and Dave Swartz by Jackie Smith

Barbie Thomas by Gil and Sondra Parthemore

Grace and Samuel Wentz by Susan Wagner

#### In honor of:

Candy makers by Norma Ickes

Pastor Hawkins by Sue McDonald and Chris Persson

Patrick and Christine Quinn by Mary Whitcomb

### POINSETTIAS

Vera Mink

Louise Palmer

#### In memory of:

Cyril and Linette Archer by the Archer family

Dan and Ruth Capp by Lloyd and Shirley Kramer

Michael P. Cline by Debra Cline

Earl and Kathryn Fackler by Lloyd and Shirley Kramer

Grandparents by Bob Gerberich

Sam, Betty and Karen Lynn Harm by John and Susan Wesley



## FESTIVAL SERVICE FOR CHRISTMAS DAY

### +++GATHERING+++

#### PRELUDE

*The First Noel* Arr. by David Huntsinger

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Maker of heaven and earth, the Word made flesh, the Lord and giver of life.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of glory, God of peace,

**we confess that we have shunned the light  
that reveals the truth about us.**

**We cling to worldly things  
rather than sharing the gifts of this earth.**

**We trust ourselves above all.**

**Save your people, O God;  
sustain the rivers and trees that sing your praise;**

**and free us to live boldly  
in the light and truth of Jesus, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

The grace of God shines upon us, bringing salvation to the whole world. We are saved, our sins are washed away, not because of anything we have done, but according to God's mercy in + Jesus Christ. Renewed by the Holy Spirit, let us live in hope and joy.

**Amen.**

#### GATHERING HYMN

*The First Noel*

ELW 300

#### GREETING

Today Christ is born: Alleluia, alleluia! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

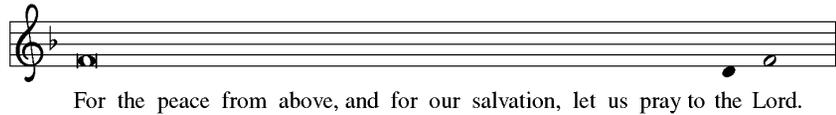
**And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

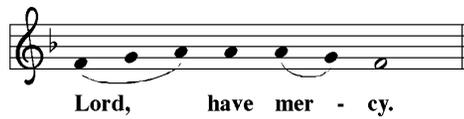
*Sung in unison.*



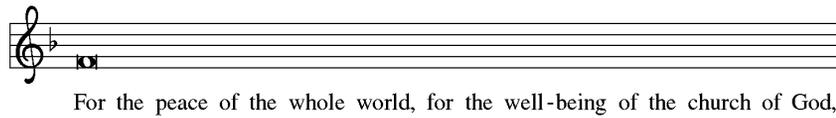
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



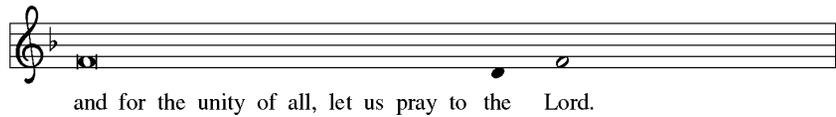
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



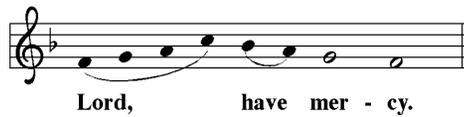
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



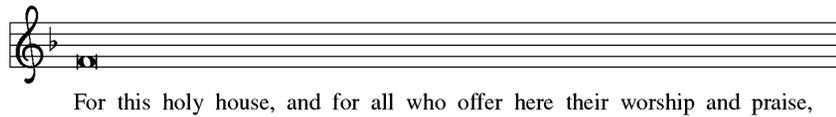
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



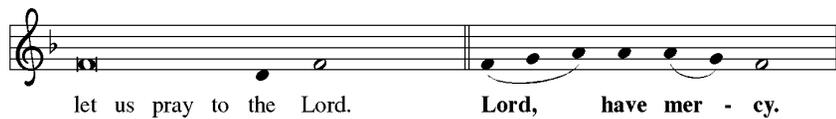
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



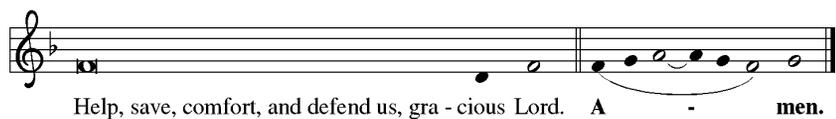
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

**PHONE AND INTERNET INFORMATION**

Church phones: Office: 234-0092 Kitchen: 234-0106  
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E-mail addresses: Church Office [churchoffice@stmikehbg.com](mailto:churchoffice@stmikehbg.com)  
Pastor Hawkins [pastor@stmikehbg.com](mailto:pastor@stmikehbg.com)  
[larryhawkins@verizon.net](mailto:larryhawkins@verizon.net)  
Web site: [www.stmikehbg.com](http://www.stmikehbg.com)



## HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

### WORSHIP LEADERS

Presiding Minister	The Reverend Larry Hawkins
Director of Music	Daniel W. Deitzel III
Assisting Minister	Les Van Dam
Eucharistic Minister	Lindsay Mills
Cantor	Mike Ennis
Acolytes and Torchbearers	Isaac and Will Hawkins
Thurifer	Guy Kehler
Lector	Janine Laurent
Greeters	Lisa Kratzer and Dan Tosheff
Ushers	Ron Hartzell and Jake Stone
Altar Guild	John and Susan Wesley
Offering Counters	Maria Archer and Wayne Noss

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, 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

ISAIAH 62:6–12

<sup>6</sup>Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,

I have posted sentinels;  
all day and all night  
they shall never be silent.  
You who remind the LORD,  
take no rest,

<sup>7</sup>and give him no rest

until he establishes Jerusalem  
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD has sworn by his right hand  
and by his mighty arm:

I will not again give your grain  
to be food for your enemies,  
and foreigners shall not drink the wine  
for which you have labored;

<sup>9</sup>but those who garner it shall eat it  
and praise the LORD,

and those who gather it shall drink it  
in my holy courts.

<sup>10</sup>Go through, go through the gates,  
prepare the way for the people;  
build up, build up the highway,  
clear it of stones,

lift up an ensign over the peoples.

<sup>11</sup>The LORD has proclaimed  
to the end of the earth:

Say to daughter Zion,  
"See, your salvation comes;  
his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him."

<sup>12</sup>They shall be called, "The Holy People,  
The Redeemed of the LORD";

## SENDING SONG

*Go Tell It on the Mountain*

ELW 290

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*The Happy Christmas Comes Once More*

Carl C. N. Balle

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## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Helping Hands

Today at 4:00 p.m.

Helping Hands

Wednesday at 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Caroling

Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.

Helping Hands

Next Sunday at 4:00 p.m.

By water and the Spirit we are baptized into the body of Christ and made members of his church. We remember and rejoice with Karl Hawkins who celebrates his baptismal anniversary today.

Readings for the *Name of Jesus, January 1, 2012*, are:

Numbers 6:22–27

Psalm 8

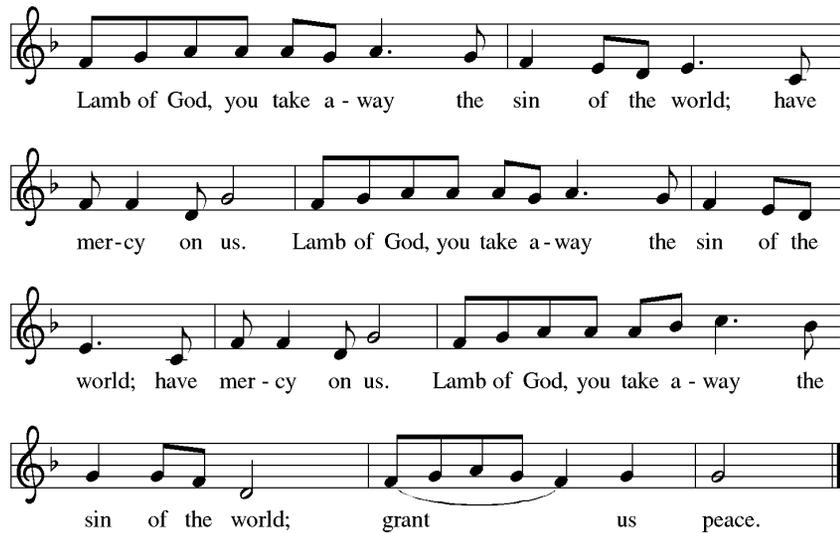
Galatians 4:4–7

Luke 2:15–21

An evening of Christmas Caroling is planned for Wednesday, December 28 at 6:30 p.m. Join in the fun as we spread Christmas cheer to members at home. Meet at St. Michael's at 6:30. After caroling, we will continue to celebrate the season back at St. Michael's with cookies and hot chocolate!

Offering envelopes for 2012 are ready for you to pick up. Please take yours and any for your family.

## COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

**COMMUNION HYMN** *Away in a Manger* ELW 277

**SONG AFTER COMMUNION**  
*It Came upon the Midnight Clear* ELW 282  
VS 3-4

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Great and saving God, you have gathered your scattered people around gifts of grain and wine, the body and blood of our Savior Christ. As we, like the shepherds, return on our way, may we proclaim all we have heard and seen, praising you in word and loving deed for the gift of Jesus, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+++SENDING+++

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Brief announcements related to our participation in God's mission for the world are made prior to our being blessed and sent as workers in the Kingdom of God.*

## BLESSING

God most high, God with us, God poured out on us, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

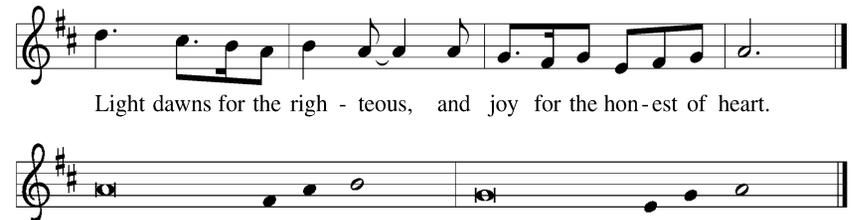
and you shall be called, "Sought Out,  
A City Not Forsaken."

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

PSALM 97

*The refrain is sung by the choir, repeated by the assembly. The psalm is sung antiphonally by the cantor and assembly, beginning with the cantor. The assembly sings the refrain where marked.*



Light dawns for the righ - teous, and joy for the hon - est of heart.

- <sup>1</sup>The LORD reigns; let the earth rejoice;  
let the multitude of the isles be glad.
- <sup>2</sup>**Clouds and darkness surround the LORD,  
righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.**
- <sup>3</sup>Fire goes before the LORD,  
burning up enemies on every side.
- <sup>4</sup>**Lightnings light up the world;  
the earth sees and trembles.**
- <sup>5</sup>The mountains melt like wax  
before the Lord of all the earth.
- <sup>6</sup>**The heavens declare your righteousness, O LORD,  
and all the peoples see your glory. R**
- <sup>7</sup>Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods!  
Bow down before the LORD, all you gods.
- <sup>8</sup>**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice,  
because of your judgments, O LORD.**
- <sup>9</sup>For you are the LORD, most high over all the earth;  
you are exalted far above all gods.
- <sup>10</sup>**You who love the LORD, hate evil!  
God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them  
from the hand of the wicked. R**
- <sup>11</sup>Light dawns for the righteous,  
and joy for the honest of heart.
- <sup>12</sup>**Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous,  
and give thanks to God's holy name. R**

## SECOND READING

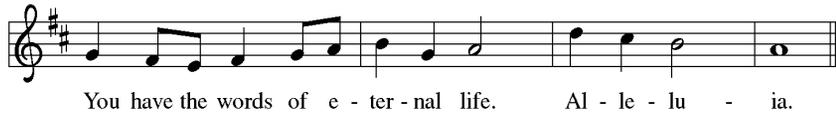
TITUS 3:4-7

<sup>4</sup>But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. <sup>6</sup>This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL

LUKE 2:[1-7] 8-20

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.



In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the

Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever.



## LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## COMMUNION

*To receive Holy Communion come to the altar as directed by an usher. The pastor will place the Host (bread) in your open hand; an assisting minister will offer you the wine. Wine is offered either from the common cup, or in your own small glass which you can pick up from a tray at the front of the center aisle. Trays for the used glasses are at the front of the side aisles on a window sill.*

*If you are in doubt about any direction, please look to an usher for assistance.*

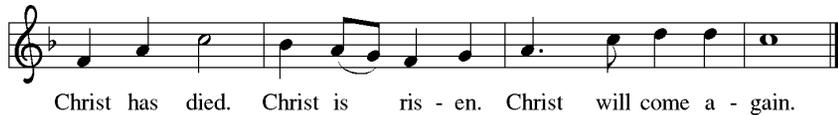
## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

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.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



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.

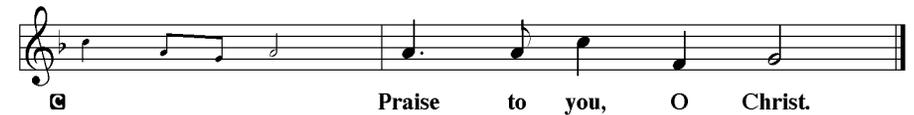
Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us.  
Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.  
All praise and glory are yours,

angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The gospel of the Lord.



## SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Angels We Have Heard on High* ELW 289

## NICENE CREED

**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**

Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The assembly shares the Lord's peace with those nearby.*

+++MEAL+++

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

*Sing the News*

Stan Pethel

**OFFERING HYMN**

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

ELW 282

VS 1-2

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
 It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en 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 who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.