

# 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas

December 28, 2025 – 9:30 AM

## PRELUDE MUSIC

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*GREETING** P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

**\*HYMN #275 “ANGELS, FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY”** PD

## \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

A: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

A: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Time of silence for reflection*

A: Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. **Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

**HYMN #282 “IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR”** PD

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**DISMISSAL FOR CHILDREN’S CHURCH** *Children from ages 4 to 8 are invited to go to the children’s church program for an age-appropriate bible lesson. They will*

*return after the sermon.*

## Word

## READING – JOHN 1:19-34

And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

## SERMON BY PASTOR MIKE

**\*SERMON HYMN #288 “GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE”** PD

## \*APOSTLES CREED

A: *“Let us celebrate our common faith, using the words of the 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.

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**OFFERING & REFLECTION MUSIC**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us: ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**\*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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

**SHARING THE MEAL**

Our Lord Jesus is the host of this communion meal. We welcome all baptized Christians to join us.

**HYMN #276** "INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY" PD

**HYMN #300** v.v. 1-4 "THE FIRST NOEL" PD

**COMMUNION BLESSING**

*Sending*

**BENEDICTION**

**\*HYMN #270** "HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING" PD

**\*DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! C: Thanks be to God!

**Postlude Music**

**Offerings can be placed in the basket in the narthex on your way out.**

**You can also Give Online, see our website at**  
[www.shepherd-hills.com/give](http://www.shepherd-hills.com/give)

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**Our Mission:**

**"We are called to build a community that lives by and for the Gospel of Christ."**

**Our Lutheran Teaching Emphasis:**

**Grace Alone, Faith Alone, God's Word Alone**

*Grace:* We teach that "while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8

*Faith:* We teach that "you are saved by grace, through faith, apart from doing good works." Eph. 2:8-10

*Word:* We teach that God's Word is the only norm and authority in our church. 2 Timothy 3:16-17