



Mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
which thou hast prepared  
before the face of all people;  
a light to lighten the Gentiles,  
and the glory of thy people Israel.

Luke 2:30-32 (King James Version)

**Sunday, December 31, 2023**

**First Sunday of Christmas**

*Pastor, Randall Questad*

**Baltic & East Nidaros Lutheran Parish**

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Office Hours: Tues-Wed 9am-3pm.



## **Worship Plan for Sunday, December 31, 2023**

First Sunday of Christmas

LBW Holy Communion Setting Two

Sunday, December 31, 2023

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (LBW p. 77)**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

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.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are in bondage 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**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

#### **OPENING HYMN *Your Little Ones, Dear Lord* (ELW 286) pg. 3**

**GREETING (LBW p. 78)**

**KYRIE (LBW p. 78)**

**HYMN OF PRAISE (LBW p. 79)**

This is the feast.

## Your Little Ones, Dear Lord

1 Your lit - tle ones, dear Lord, are we, and  
 2 With songs we has - ten you to greet, and  
 3 Oh, draw us whol - ly to you, Lord, and  
 4 Un - til at last we too pro - claim, with

come your low - ly bed to see; en - light - en ev - 'ry  
 kiss the ground be - fore your feet. Oh, bless - ed hour, oh,  
 to us all your grace ac - cord; true faith and love to  
 all your saints, your glo - rious name; in par - a - dise our

soul and mind, that we the way to you may find.  
 sweet - est night that gave you birth, our soul's de - light.  
 us im - part, that we may hold you in our heart.  
 songs re - new, and praise you as the an - gels do.

Text: Hans A. Brorson, 1694–1764; tr. Harriet Krauth Spaeth, 1845–1925, alt.  
 Music: HER KOMMER DINE ARME SMÅ, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800

### PRAYER OF THE DAY (LBW p. 82)

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. . . .

Almighty God, you have made yourself known in your Son, Jesus, redeemer of the world. We pray that his birth as a human child will set us free from the old slavery of our sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

### **FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 61:10—62:3**

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. <sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. <sup>62:1</sup>For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. <sup>2</sup>The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. <sup>3</sup>You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

L The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 148**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights.

<sup>2</sup>**Praise him, all you angels of his; praise him, all his host.**

<sup>3</sup>Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars.

<sup>4</sup>**Praise him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD; for he commanded, and they were created.

<sup>6</sup>**He made them stand fast forever and ever; he gave them a law which shall not pass away.**

<sup>7</sup>Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

<sup>8</sup>**fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing his will;**

<sup>9</sup>mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

<sup>10</sup>**wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and winged birds;**

<sup>11</sup>kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

<sup>12</sup>**young men and maidens, old and young together.**

<sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name only is exalted, his splendor is over earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup>**He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his loyal servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Hallelujah!**

## **SECOND LESSON: Galatians 4:4-7**

<sup>4</sup>When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. <sup>6</sup>And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Here ends the reading.

## **SING JESUS LOVES ME AND CHILDREN'S SERMON**

### **ALLELUIA VERSE (LBW p. 83)**

### **GOSPEL: Luke 2:22-40**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

#### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), <sup>24</sup>and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." <sup>25</sup>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. <sup>26</sup>It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. <sup>27</sup>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, <sup>28</sup>Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, <sup>29</sup>"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; <sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation, <sup>31</sup>which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." <sup>33</sup>And the child's father and mother

were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup>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 <sup>35</sup>so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.” <sup>36</sup>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, <sup>37</sup> 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. <sup>38</sup>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. <sup>39</sup>When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **SERMON “Dismissed in Peace”**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY *Once in Royal David's City* (WOV 643)**

### **APOSTLE’S CREED (LBW p. 85)**

### **THE PRAYERS**

### **SHARING OF GOD’S PEACE**

### **OFFERING**

### **OFFERING HYMN *Away in a Manger* WOV 644 Verses 1&3**

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER (LBW p. 87)**

Let us pray.

Merciful Father,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, 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**

### **DIALOGUE (LBW p. 87)**

### **PREFACE (LBW p. 88)**

### **SANCTUS (LBW p. 89)**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

**1- LAMB OF GOD (LBW p. 92)**

**2-What Feast of Love WOV 701**

**POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (LBW p. 92)**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (LBW p. 94)**

**BLESSING (LBW p. 94)**

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.

**Three Fold Amen (Sung)**

**SENDING HYMN *Joy to the World* LBW 39**

**DISMISSAL (LBW p. 94)**

Go in peace and serve your neighbor.

**Yes we will. Thanks be to God.**

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**MEMBERS**

Betty Jean Benjamin

Donna Lee Boyd - Rhoda Wold

Kelly LaValliere

Dale Thompson— Gary Kocmick

Harry Laue

**FRIENDS & FAMILY OF OUR MEMBERS**

Dennis Riswold—Friend of the Community

Jay Vogt— Friend of the Community

Keith Fawcett—Kyla Fawcett's (Nesheim) father-in-law

Anita (Ana) Reategui—Friend of Jeff and Joan Boldt

Carolyn Koopman—Aunt of Kim Questad

James Langloss—Kim Questad's Uncle

Mattias Warne—Friend of the Community

Carol, Billy, Nicole, Chad, Dane, Noah, Brian & Lisa—Family of Eric & Lindsey Comes

Becky Berg—Sister-in-law of Dick Berg

Family of Bud Skancke

## Sunday, December 31, 2023

**Baltic** 9:00 Worship and Live streamed on Facebook @  
BalticLutheranChurch  
**East Nidaros** 10:30 Worship

## Things Happening Week of December 31st

Wed Jan 3 –4 8:30am Quilting at East Nidaros  
Wed Jan 3 5:30pm 6th gr Intro to Confirmation @ Baltic  
6:30pm 8th gr Confirmation @ Baltic  
7:30pm 7th gr Confirmation @ Baltic

## Sunday, January 7, 2023

**Baltic** Joint Service at 10am at East Nidaros Lutheran  
Church. Livestreamed on Facebook  
**East Nidaros** @ EastNidarosLutheranChurch

## Fellowship Coffee and Treats

### East Nidaros

Dec 31 Keith & Paula Harvey and Rob & Katie Siemonsma

## Our Response to God's Love

**Baltic: Dec 24:** Attendance 111; General Fund \$1384.00 Noisy Can \$  
43.56 Christmas Offering \$205.00

**East: Dec 24:** Attendance N/A; General Fund \$N/A Noisy Can \$N/A

## DECEMBER NOISY CAN

**Baltic:** Honor Flight  
**East:** Shetek Ministry