

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Please rise)*

C: Our Father, who are 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. *(Please be seated)*

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

GUITAR HYMN: "Silent Night," LBW 65
AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES



BLESSING P: May you always pray in the Spirit to discern the will of God. Keep alert as you walk in faith. Speak as boldly as the apostles so that all might know the Good News. Remember that you too are a missionary in a vast creation, and that God, the God who came to us even as a tiny baby, is with you always. May the Lord bless you and keep you, now and forever, in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

HYMN: "Joy to the World," LBW 39

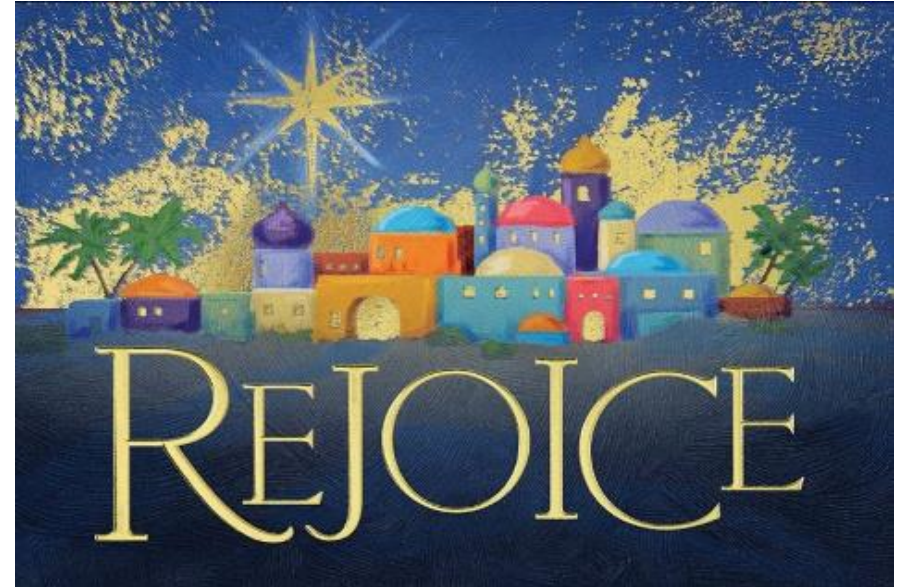
DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THANK YOU: *Reader:* Danita Smith *Acolyte:* Stewart Hervey
Ushers: Mark Richardson, Steven Scott, and Judson Gold
Altar Guild: Danita Smith and Jan Perry *Musicians:* Stewart Hervey, Audrey Kubena, Virginia Shows, Joe Leavengood

Sunday Readings: Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 111; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40



*St John's Lutheran Church, Dime Box, Texas
December 24th, 2019, Christmas Eve
Pastor Joe Leavengood*

GOD GATHERS THE BODY OF CHRIST

PRELUDE, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: We gather today and worship in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Blessed be the Triune God, who blesses us in every way. We come before God to confess our sins, known and unknown, trusting in God's gracious word of forgiveness for all whom he has called and chosen. *(a time of silence for reflection)*. Most merciful God,

C: 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.

P: Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake, forgives us all our sins. By the command and authority of Christ, I declare the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We were once dead in our sins, but are now forgiven and renewed by God's great love for us in Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

GREETING P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who calls us to come and follow, the love of the Father who created us and calls us His own, and the power of the Holy Spirit, who forgives and renews our lives, be with you all.

C: And also with you.

HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful," LBW 45

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: O God, you have made this most holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Grant that as we have known on earth the mysteries of that Light, we may also come to the fullness of his joys in heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (Gelasian Sacramentary, 7th Century)



WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING **Isaiah 7:10-14** (Pew Bible, p. 591-2)

PSALM: **110:1-4** (Pew Bible, p. 524, we read responsively)

SECOND READING: **I John 4:7-16** (Pew Bible, p. 1056)

P: A reading from the Gospel of Matthew

C: Praise to you O Christ!

GOSPEL: **Matthew 1:18-25** (Pew Bible, page 827, please stand)



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND SERMON

HYMN: "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem," BOB 41

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

C: 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.

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share God's peace with one another. *(then be seated)*

OFFERING AND HYMN: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly," LBW 44C: **Amen.** *(please be seated.)*