

Worship Leader Edition

December 26, 2021

8:30 AM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“In the Bleak Midwinter”
Bells of Praise

Jason Krug

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS {*Front Center*} (*Pastor Rob*)

+GREETING {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*)

L: 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.

+OPENING HYMN

“Cold December Flies Away”

ELW #299

Verse 1

Cold December flies away
At the rose red splendor.
April’s crowning glory breaks
While the whole world wonders
At the holy unseen pow’r
Of the tree which bears the flow’r.
On the blessed tree
Blooms the reddest flow’r.
On the tree blooms the rose
Here in love’s own garden,
Full and strong in glory.

Came the sun whose golden light
Brings unending joy,
Brings the endless joy
Of our hope, highest hope,
Of our hope’s bright dawning,
Son below’d of heaven.

Verse 3

Now the bud has come to bloom,
And the world awakens.
In the lily’s purest flow’r
Dwells a wondrous fragrance.
And it spreads to all the earth
From the moment of its birth;
And its beauty lives.
In the flow’r it lives,
In the flow’r and it spreads
In its heav’nly brightness
Sweet perfume delightful.

Verse 2

In the hopeless time of sin
Shadows deep had fallen.
All the world lay under death.
Eyes were closed in sleeping.
But, when all seemed lost in night,

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Baptized: Macklin Jon Thorsland

Parent: Alissa Thorsland

Sponsors: Traci Kennedy, Kyle Kennedy and Tricia O’Hara

+THE APOSTLES’ CREED

L: Do you believe in God, the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

L: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: 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.

BAPTISMAL WELCOME

C: We welcome Macklin into the body of Christ. Amen!

(music played while child walks down the aisle)

L: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: 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.

C: Lord have mercy.

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

L: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lam of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

L: Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WORD

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt

down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, 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.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

+HYMN OF THE DAY

“There’s a Star in the East”
(Hymn attached on back page)

WOV #645

Verse 1

There’s a star in the East on Christmas morn,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
It will lead to the place where the Christ was born,
Rise up shepherd, and follow.

Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Verse 2

If you take good heed to the angel’s words,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
You’ll forget your flocks, you’ll forget your herds,
Rise up, shepherd and follow.

Refrain

Follow, follow, rise up, shepherd, and follow,
Follow the star of Bethlehem,

Refrain

+THE PRAYERS *{Front Center}* (Britt Halaas)

Screen

After each petition:

L: Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

+THE LORD’S PRAYER *{Front Center}* (Britt Halaas)

Screen

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.

TIME OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE *{Front Center}* (Britt Halaas)

L: We invite you to take this time of reflection and response to complete your Welcome Card, share any interests or prayer concerns and prepare your offering. Cards and offering can be put in the collection plate as you leave worship out the main doors or by the exit on your left side (motion to offering plate).

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”
Bells of Praise

Jason Krug

SENDING

+SHARING OF THE PEACE *{Front Center}* (Pastor Rob)

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Please share of wave of peace with one another.

+BENEDICTION {*Front Center*} (*Pastor Rob*)

L: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen and lead us, to live graciously as your people. In the name of the Father, the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

+SENDING HYMN

“Jesus, What a Wonderful Child”

ELW #297

Verse 1

Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child.

Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek, and mild;

New life, new hope the child will bring.

Listen to the angels sing:

"Glory, glory, glory," let the heavens ring!

+DISMISSAL {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*)

L: Follow the Light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE