

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church
December 25, 2023 — Christmas Day

The Word became
flesh and dwelt
among us.

John 1:14



Opening Hymn #60 “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing a new song to God, who has done marvelous things.
God has spoken to us through a Child; let us all worship at the manger.

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

God has given us a song to sing; let our voices soar with good tidings.

With trumpet and lyre and joyous clapping, greet the One who judges the earth with equity.

God upholds the universe with love and meets us here with unending faithfulness.

INVOCATION

Reigning God, whose rule extends to the farthest stars, come to rule within us on this glorious day when the Word becomes flesh once more to dwell among us. We open ourselves to the light and long to offer our lives as a dwelling place for your truth. Speak to us again through the Child of Bethlehem. Reach out to the child in all of us, and hold us in the warmth of love’s embrace. Amen

CALL TO CONFESSION

God who judges earth with righteousness invites us to examine ourselves once more. Our Creator, who loves virtuousness and hates lawlessness, encourages us to confess the self-centeredness in which we have lived. The Majesty on high, who has spoken to the world in the Word made flesh, summons us to the cleansing waters of confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We shrink from your judgment, Mighty God, for we have often broken your law of love. We have rejected your Word and hidden from your Light. We have not responded to your offers of salvation with clapping hands or joyous spirits. Forgive us, God, for halfhearted commitments and muted witness. Move within and among us to bring your new day in our lives. Amen

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God judges the world with equity; all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of God. There is comfort amid our sorrow, grace to cover all our brokenness, purification from all our sin. God empowers us with flames of fire to become servants of the highest and best. God anoints us with the oil of gladness and fills our hearts with song.

READINGS

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalms 2

Hebrews 1:1-6

John 1:1-14

SERMON Pastor Cindy

LBW 39 “Joy to the World”

HOLY COMMUNION

Closing Hymn #45 “Oh Come, All Ye Faithful”