

# **THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

**Saturday, January 1, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, January 2, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.**

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church**

**4101 Washington Street NE**

**Columbia Heights, MN 55421**

*Welcome to worship at St. Matthew! To friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to visitors, we extend it sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with a living Redeemer. Come again!*

*We ask that all guests sign a yellow attendance card located in the pew rack, and then please hand the card to the pastor as you leave the worship service.*

*Assisted hearing devices and large print hymnals and orders of service are available from the ushers.*

*If you have a prayer request, please write it out on one of the green prayer cards located in the pew rack, and then submit it to Pastor Hugo or the lay minister before the service begins. Other prayer requests can be made by calling the church office at 763-788-9427.*

*Parents with small children are encouraged to sit near the front in order to better see and participate during the service. If you desire other facilities, a cry room is located in the back of the worship area and bathrooms with changing tables (including back-up supplies) and infant seats are located behind the worship area (two right turns as you pass the double doors out of the worship area – just past the water fountain).*

*Thank you for turning off all electronic equipment (cell phones, items that receive internet signal, etc.). These items interfere with our sound system.*

**+ CONNECT +**

## **CHRISTMAS MEDLEY:**

**“Once In Royal David’s City” – Blue Hymnal #58**

**Once in royal David’s city Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for his bed;  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.**

**He came down to earth from heaven Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable, And his cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and mean and low Lived our Savior long ago.**

**But our eyes in truth should see him Through his own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heav’n above,  
As he leads his children on To the place where he is gone.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable With the oxen standing by  
Shall we see him, but in heaven, Set at God’s right hand on high.  
Then like stars his children, crowned, All in white, his praise will sound!**

*(“Once in Royal David’s City”, setting copyright 1982 Concordia Publishing House, used with permission, Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014518.)*

## “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, For His bed a cat - tle stall;  
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shepherds keep - ing Vig - il till the morn - ing, new



Ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
Saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a Gos - pel true.



Swift - ly winging, an - gels sing - ing, Bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:  
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, Prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

### INVOCATION:

L: Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

### CONFESSION OF OUR SINS:

L: We recognize that none of us here are perfect, or even anywhere close to perfect. We all need forgiveness. Let's confess that now.

C: **All-powerful and all-knowing God, we try to put our faith in Jesus Christ and we try to show love towards your people, yet we are definitely not without blemish in your sight, not full of love, wisdom, and other spiritual blessings you still have available for us.**

L: Our love is not as inclusive as yours, and there is much we need to learn.

C: **Forgive us, Lord and give us wisdom to ask the right questions. Give us clearer vision of all that we are meant to be, so that by becoming more like Jesus, more loving, and more full of grace, people might see Jesus in us. Amen.**

### FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED

#### SONG OF PRAISE:

P: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,

C: **And we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

P: Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

C: **Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; His understanding is beyond measure.**

P: Oh, how I love your law!

C: **It is my meditation all the day,**

P: For you taught me.  
C: **How sweet are your words to my taste,**  
P: Sweeter than honey to my mouth!  
C: **Through your precepts I get understanding.**  
P: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;  
C: **And the government shall be upon his shoulder.**

P: And his name shall be called  
C: **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

P: Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

**“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” – Blue Hymnal #49, st. 3**  
**Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!**  
**Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with healing in his wings.**  
**Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,**  
**Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.**  
**Hark! The Herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king!”**

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

L: The Lord be with you.  
C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.  
C: **Lord, our gospel today reflects that moment in Jesus' life when he is found in the Temple learning from and teaching the Elders. We haven't really gotten over the mystique of Christmas, the birth and angels and shepherds, and suddenly we are cast, just for this moment, into this scene.**

L: We too have come to the Father’s house. We come to this building, for this time of worship, and we say we are in our Father’s house. And for this time we feel a sense of the spirit; of the presence of God. But then we go back "into the world", and lose that feeling.  
C: **Help us realize that your house is our very selves; that you make your home in each of our lives; that the gathering time we have and call worship is a time to remind ourselves of your abiding love and to celebrate with each other your infinite presence and challenge to be your community. Open our hearts this day, Lord, to understand your loving presence and your challenge to us. Make us ready to serve you in this world. Amen.**

#### **GREETING TIME**

**+ NURTURE +**

#### **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

#### **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 Kings 3:4-15**

L: The king went to Gibeon to offer sacrifices, for that was the most important high place, and Solomon offered a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon during the night in a dream, and God said, “Ask for whatever you want me to give you.” Solomon answered,

**C:** “You have shown great kindness to your servant, my father David, because he was faithful to you and righteous and upright in heart.

**L:** You have continued this great kindness to him and have given him a son to sit on his throne this very day.

**C:** **Now, LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David.**

**L:** But I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties. Your servant is here among the people you have chosen, a great people, too numerous to count or number.

**C:** **So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of yours?”**

**L:** The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for this. So God said to him, “Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be. Moreover, I will give you what you have not asked for—both wealth and honor—so that in your lifetime you will have no equal among kings. And if you walk in obedience to me and keep my decrees and commands as David your father did, I will give you a long life.” Then Solomon awoke—and he realized it had been a dream. He returned to Jerusalem, stood before the ark of the Lord’s covenant and sacrificed burnt offerings and fellowship offerings. Then he gave a feast for all his court.

**L:** The Word of the newborn King.

**C:** **Thanks be to God!**

#### **EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 1:3-14**

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ. In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.

**L:** The Word of the newborn King.

**C:** **Thanks be to God!**

#### **HOLY GOSPEL:**

**L:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, chapter two.

**C:** **Glory to You, O Lord!**

And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him. Every year Jesus’ parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them

questions. Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he was saying to them. Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

**L:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C:** Praise to You, O Christ!

**HYMN OF THE DAY: "Within the Father's House" – Blue Hymnal #80**

**Within the Father's house The Son has found his home,  
And to his temple suddenly The Lord of life has come.**

**The doctors of the Law Gaze on the wondrous child  
And marvel at his gracious words Of wisdom undefiled.**

**Yet not to them is giv'n The mighty truth to know,  
To lift the earthly veil which hides Incarnate God below.**

**The secret of the Lord Escapes each human eye,  
And faithful pond'ring hearts await The full epiphany.**

**Lord, enter now our souls And teach us by your grace  
Each dim revealing of yourself With loving awe to trace.**

**Till we behold your face And know as we are known  
You, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Coequal Three in One.**

**MESSAGE: "They Grow Up Fast" – Pastor Bill Hugo**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**10:00 a.m. only -**

**GATHERING OF THE OFFERINGS**

**+ EMPOWER +**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:**

*(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)*

**P:** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING HYMN: "Let Us All With Gladsome Voice" – Blue Hymnal #42**

**Let us all with gladsome voice Praise the God of heaven,  
Who, to make our hearts rejoice, His own Son has given.**

**To this place of fears he came, Servant, healer, mender;  
Through his death we heaven claim, There to reign in splendor.**

**We are rich, for he was poor; Is not this a wonder?  
Therefore praise God evermore Here on earth and yonder.**

**Christ, our Lord and Savior dear, Oh, be ever near us.  
Be our joy throughout each year. Amen, Jesus, hear us.**

**+ + +**

## **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:**

**5:30 p.m. -**

**Lay Minister:** Jim Geslin

**10:00 a.m. -**

**Lay Minister:** Lisa Neaderhiser

**Ushers:** Davis Team

**Power Point:** Aidan Neaderhiser

**Acolyte:** Josh Neaderhiser

**Lector:** Cheryl Fristad