



**WHAT CHILD IS THIS?
OUR SUBSTITUTE AND SACRIFICE**

9:30am December 26, 2021



ROCK OF AGES

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ancient Faith for Today's World

Welcome! May you be filled with peace and joy from Jesus who lived, died, and rose again to be your Savior. He is forever our living Rock of Ages.

Our Mission is to share the rock-solid hope of Jesus with today's world through timeless truths found in the Holy Scriptures.

Our Message centers around the forgiveness, freedom, and fellowship we have in Jesus.

Membership: We are part of a church family and together we reach out with the amazing gospel message. We'd love to have you join with us in our mission!

Children's activity bags, quiet toys, and a changing table are available from the nursery in entry area.

Large Print service folders and **hearing assistance** devices are available.

Restrooms are located at the far ends of the entry area.

We Support the world-wide gospel ministry of the WELS. We'd love to share more with you. Contact our pastor today. You can also visit wels.net



WELS

Christ's Love, Our Calling.



The Service

Greeting

Hymn

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

Christian Worship 356

All hymn numbers today are for the blue hymnals

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

Amen.

Confession

(1 John 1:9, John 20:23)

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection.

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

Glory Be to God

Gloria in Excelsis

Music can be found on page 157, blue hymnal

♪ **Glory be to God on high and on earth peace, good will toward men.**

We praise you, we bless, we worship you,

We glorify you, we give thanks to you, for your great glory,

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer.

You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.

For you only are holy; you only are the Lord.

You only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

Are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9

The servant of the Lord spoke through the prophet Isaiah. While we have not always trusted God, Jesus demonstrated perfect obedience and trust, even when his Father asked him to be the sacrifice for our sin.

The Lord God gave me a tongue like the learned, an instructed tongue, so I know how to sustain the weary with a word. He wakes me up morning by morning. He wakes up my ears so that I listen like the learned. ⁵The Lord God opened my ear, and I myself was not rebellious. I did not turn back. ⁶I submitted my back to those who beat me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard. I did not hide my face from disgrace and from spit.

⁷The Lord God will help me, so I will not be disgraced. Therefore I have made my face hard like flint. I know that I will not be put to shame. ⁸The one who will acquit me is near! Who can accuse me? Let us take our stand. Who can pass judgment on me? Let him approach me. ⁹Look, the Lord God will help me. Who then can declare me guilty? Look, all of them will wear out like a garment. A moth will consume them.

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 84

Christian Worship [blue hymnal]

Second Reading

Hebrews 2:10-18

Through his suffering and sacrifice, Jesus has made us holy. He now calls us his brothers and sisters.

Certainly it was fitting for God (the one for whom and through whom everything exists), in leading many sons to glory, to bring the author of their salvation to his goal through sufferings. ¹¹For he who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified all have one Father. For that reason, he is not ashamed to call them brothers. ¹²He says:

I will declare your name to my brothers. Within the congregation I will sing your praise.

¹³And again: I will trust in him.

And again: Here I am and the children God has given me.

¹⁴Therefore, since the children share flesh and blood, he also shared the same flesh and blood, so that through death he could destroy the one who had the power of death (that is, the Devil) ¹⁵and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. ¹⁶For surely he was not concerned with helping angels but with helping Abraham's offspring. ¹⁷For this reason, he had to become like his brothers in every way, in order that he would be a merciful and faithful high priest in the things pertaining to God, so that he could pay for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Indeed, because he suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation

Come to us, Emanuel; come and set your people free.

Glory, praise, and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

Even as a boy, Jesus was acting as our substitute, demonstrating obedience to the heavenly Father and respect for God's holy Word.

Every year his parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. ⁴²When he was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom of the Festival. ⁴³When the days had ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Since they thought he was in their group, they went a day's journey. Then they began to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.

⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us this way? See, your father and I have been anxiously looking for you."

⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be taking care of my Father's business?" ⁵⁰They did not understand what he was telling them.

⁵¹He went down with them and came to Nazareth. He was always obedient to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. ⁵²Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

After the reading of the Gospel:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day

Let All Together Praise Our God

Christian Worship 355

Sermon

Hebrews 2:10-18

WHAT CHILD IS THIS? OUR SUBSTITUTE AND SACRIFICE

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

Prayer of the Church

I Stand beside Your Manger Here

Christian Worship 334

Offering

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. Our offerings go to support the gospel ministry of our congregation and our national church body, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Today you may place your offering on the table by the entryway as you enter or exit.

THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our

Lord by whose wonderful and mysterious birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus

Music can be found in blue hymnal, page 167

♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my \dagger body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my \dagger blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

* \dagger *the sign of the cross is used as a symbol to remember Christ's sacrifice*

O Christ, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei

Music can be found in blue hymnal, page 167

♪ **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**O Christ, Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. Amen.**

Distribution

Welcome guests! We kindly ask that you speak with our pastor prior to partaking in the Lord's Supper with us.

As he dismisses the communicants, the minister says:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go + in peace.

Amen.

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn

A Great and Mighty Wonder

Christian Worship 349

Acknowledgments

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember with Prayer

- Brianna, a friend of the Friestad family; she lost her mother earlier this month; that God comforts all who grieve with the message of Christ, who took on flesh to be our Redeemer.
- The family of Sarah, daughter of Greg and Sherry Friestad, Sarah's mother-in-law died earlier this month; that God bring comfort for all who grieve with the message of Christ, born to save.
- Thanks to God for the answered prayers for healing for Veronica, granddaughter of Lois Metikos; that God brings joy and new life through his gospel.
- Thanks to God for answering prayer and bringing Dorothy Stickles safe through her surgery; that he continues to provide strength.
- Jeff and Verda Reeves who joined our congregation as newly confirmed members; that God would build us all up in Christ.
- *Share your requests and thanksgiving.*

Received in December \$10,719.82 (to date)
Monthly budgeted for 2021 \$12,324/month

Attendance

12/16 Midweek Bible Study: 13
12/19 Sunday Service: 53
12/19 Youth & Adult Bible Study: 48

Serving This Week

Altar Guild: Masha Wentze, Joan Williams
Music: Keyboard, Jeni Strickland; 4 For Christ
Presiding Minister: Tom Barthel
Ushers: Creig Solomon, Jerry Zuvich

God's Creation Calendars

Contact Jeni Strickland to obtain an encouraging 2022 calendar. Proceeds will go to support a special ministry effort.

CALENDAR

rockofages-payson.com/calendar

Sunday, December 26 *Christmas 1*
9:30am Service with Lord's Supper
10:30am Bible Study (all ages)

Thursday, December 30
9:00am Midweek Bible Class
10:00am Choir
5:00pm Youth Catechism

Saturday, January 1, 2022
9:30am New Year's Service with Lord's Supper

Sunday, January 2, 2022 *Christmas 2*
9:30am Service
10:30am Bible Study (all ages)

Tuesday, January 4, 2022
6:00pm Special council meeting

Wednesday, January 5, 2022
9:00am Elders Meeting
10:00am Church De-Decorating Day

Thursday, January 6, 2022 *Epiphany*
9:00am Midweek Bible Class
10:00am Choir
5:00pm Youth Catechism

Perfume Allergies

Thank you for your ongoing consideration for those who join us for worship and have allergies to perfume and cologne.



RockOfAges-Payson.com

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