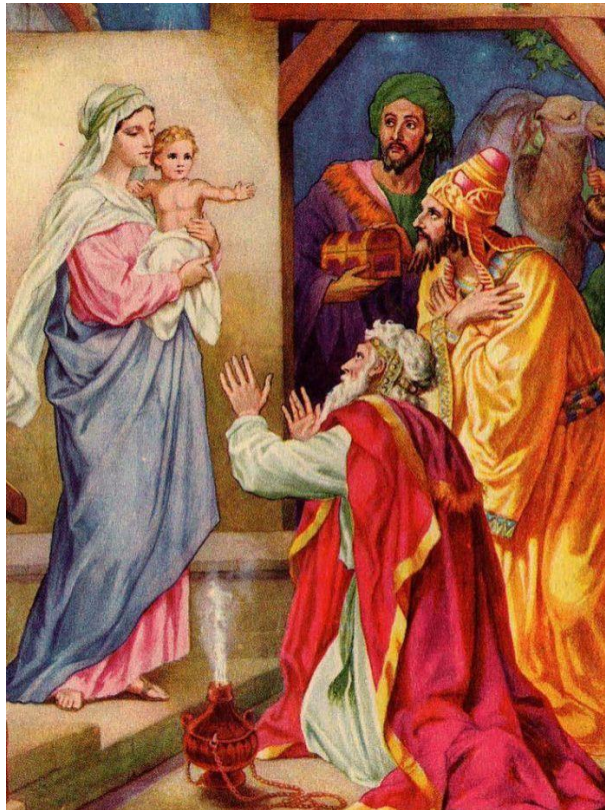




Risen Christ Lutheran Church
2nd Sunday in Christmas Worship
January 2, 2022



Rev. Rennie Kaufmann – Pastor Eileen Young – Music Leader
Karen Kaufmann – Administrator
Miss Esther Kaufmann – Youth Ministries and Worship Arts Assistant
Risen Christ Lutheran Church
46250 Ann Arbor Road Plymouth, MI 48170
734.453.5252 www.risenchrist.info

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe: that Christ’s body and blood are truly present for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above, are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the “individual” and “common” cups of wine. (Note: White Grape Juice is in the center of the tray.)

OFFERING – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. Pastor will send you a welcome card. Please indicate that you "desire" a call for any further contact.

Large Print Bulletins – Available from an usher.

Listening Assistance Devices – Available at the Sound Booth.

Parent Room – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby (“Narthex”)

For Children – Children’s Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

As We Gather

Have you tired of those Christmas gifts yet, or are you still enjoying them? God gave Solomon the gift of wisdom. God’s wisdom was a gift Solomon displayed vividly at times, but at other times, it seemed he had regifted it. In Jesus, we see the gift of God’s wisdom on full display when He is found in the temple, at age 12, asking questions and providing answers beyond His years. God continues to reveal His wisdom to us through the Bible. What is your plan for connecting with God and His wisdom this year?

Pre-service Christmas Music

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Opening Sentences

John 3:16; Titus 2:11; 1 Timothy 2:3–4; 1 John 2:2

- P** For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.
- C** **For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people.**
- P** This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.
- C** **He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.**

Confession and Absolution

Romans 3:22b–25a, 6:23

- P** For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith.
- C** **For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**
- P** Let us confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **O Giver of all good gifts, we come to You today acknowledging our foolishness and shortsightedness. As we live in this world, we succumb to the thinking of this world, which does not always align with Your thoughts. Amid the strains and stresses of life, we forget about Your unfailing love for us and for all in our world. For the sake of Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, forgive our sins and renew us by Your love.**

P Our God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, loves us dearly and blesses us with every spiritual blessing. We have redemption through Jesus' blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G **Thank You, Jesus! Amen.**

O Come All Ye Faithful

1. O come all ye faithful
Joyful and triumphant
O come ye O come ye to Bethlehem
Come and behold Him
Born the King of angels

CHORUS: O come let us adore Him

O come let us adore Him

O come let us adore Him

Christ the Lord

2. Sing choirs of angels
Sing in exultation
O sing all ye citizens of heav'n above
Glory to God
Glory in the highest **CHORUS**

3. Yea Lord we greet Thee
Born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be all glory giv'n
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing **CHORUS**

Introit

Psalm 147:1, 5, 11–12; antiphon: John 1:14

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;

his understanding is beyond measure.

But the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,

in those who hope in his steadfast love.

Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem!

Praise your God, O Zion!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory,

glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Kyrie

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

G **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the gifts of forgiveness, grace, and the heavenly inheritance that awaits us, let us pray to the Lord.

G **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for wisdom for all who lead, let us pray to the Lord.

G **Lord, have mercy.**

P For God's chosen people, gathered here and scattered throughout the earth, and for the proclamation of God's unconditional love for all and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

G **Lord, have mercy.**

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

G **Amen.**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Lord God, You are the fountain and source of all wisdom. You made Solomon a wise king. Your Son demonstrated this wisdom in the temple. Grant us Your wisdom so that we may share it in our communities and throughout the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 3:4–15

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 119:97–104; antiphon: v. 99

MEM

⁹⁷Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day.

⁹⁸**Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,
for it is ever with me.**

⁹⁹I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your testimonies are my meditation.

¹⁰⁰**I understand more than the aged,
for I keep your precepts.**

¹⁰¹I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.

¹⁰²**I do not turn aside from your just decrees,
for you have taught me.**

¹⁰³How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴**Through your precepts I get understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.**

Gradual

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

L For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

C **and the government shall be upon His shoulder.**

L And His name shall be called

C **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

L Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

Epistle

Ephesians 1:3–14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Here I Am to Worship

Light of the world
You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

***CHORUS: So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me***

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor ***CHORUS***

BRIDGE: And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

CCLI Song # 3266032

Tim Hughes

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Verse

Luke 2:40

- P** Alleluia.
- C** **The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom.**

- P** And the favor of God was upon Him.
- C** **Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:40–52

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁴⁰The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon – “Resolutions, Trusting and Seeking God”

1. Resolutions and the new, improved you are good things to work toward!
2. Resolving to sin less should be a daily goal!
3. Because of your baptism, you are God’s child. So, when you fail – God moves you to repent... hears you repent... forgives you when you repent... and empowers you to fight back against sin.
4. With your most important resolutions, who is the focus? Who do you trust most in this life? Our Old Testament and Gospel Readings today focus on trust!
 - trusting that God exists,
 - but also trusting that He knows what He is doing and that He always has the best timing, even though it seems that it is the worst way and/or the worst timing
5. In trusting in God, we are to trust God where and when He said to find Him! There are right and wrongs of where, when, how to seek God. Resolve to meet Him where He tells us to meet Him.
6. In trusting in God, we can grow in favour with God and man – an honourable resolution!
7. Ultimately, we will never know and be able to give and receive true love until and unless we know, trust and serve the Author and Source of Love through repentant faith in Jesus Christ.
8. Solomon didn’t ask for created things and stuff that would temporarily please. He trusted God and wanted to know God’s will and that he would be able to do God’s will!
9. Jesus was doing His heavenly Father’s Will by being in the temple – even if that choice displeased and worried others.
10. Primary take-home lesson today as we enter this New Year of 2022 – that we seek God’s Will first and foremost above all things and all people, desiring God’s pleasure, grace and favour above anything this world can offer.
 - Desire to live and pray “not my will, but Thy Will be done” =
 - a cruciform life (a life shaped in the form of a cross)
11. The wisdom that leads to abundant life here and into eternity only exists within the saving faith in Christ alone who has accomplished everything necessary that removes every obstacle between you and our Triune God.
12. RESOLUTIONS (Fill in below)

Apostles' Creed

- C** 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.

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us go to God in prayer for ourselves, for God's people around the world, and for all people in their various circumstances.

MEN – Lord, we pray for this New Year that is here, that You continue to bless us, Your people chosen before the foundation of the world, so that we may be a blessing to others. Fill us with the wisdom of Your Word. Lead and guide our visioning, goal setting, and planning so that we have a positive impact in our world both now and for eternity. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

WOMEN – Lord, we pray for all who lead—in government, in the public and private sectors, and in Your Church—that they lead with Your wisdom so that the decisions they make are in line with Your will for all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

MEN – Lord, we pray for all who are hurting, grieving, and struggling in their heart, soul, strength, and mind, that they experience Your dear, sweet love for them as You lead, guide, and provide for them. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

WOMEN – Lord, we pray for those who are beginning this year with goals to read the Bible and learn more about You, that You connect them with Your people so that, as with Philip and the Ethiopian, there is someone to help them understand the mystery of Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your dear love; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Offering – DURING THE OFFERING: Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a Worship Card so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

Hark The Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn king
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With angelic hosts proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn king

2. Christ by highest heaven adored
Christ the everlasting Lord
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of the virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the godhead see
Hail the incarnate deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus our Emmanuel
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn king

3. Hail the heaven born prince of peace
Hail the son of righteousness
Light and life to all he brings
Risen with healing in his wings
Mild he lay his glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the songs of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark the herald angels sing
Glory to the newborn king

Benediction

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