

# THE ORDER OF SERVICE

## CHRISTMAS DAY 2016

### THE OPENING HYMN

### OH, COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

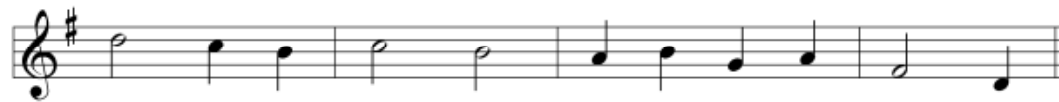
Christian Worship #55



1 Oh, come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant, Oh,  
2 God from true God, and Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion;  
4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, oh, come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
Born of a vir - gin, to earth he comes,  
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove.  
Je - sus, to thee be all glo - ry giv'n,



Come and be - hold him, Born the King of an - gels.  
On - ly be - got - ten Son of God the Fa - ther.  
Glo - ry to God, all Glo - ry in the high - est.  
Word of the Fa - ther, Now in flesh ap - pear - ing.



*Refrain*  
Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Oh, come, let us a - dore him,



Oh, come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

*Please stand*

### THE INVOCATION

**Pastor:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**Congregation:** And also with you.

### RESPONSIVE READING FROM ISAIAH 9

**P:** The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;

**C:** **On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.**

**P:** You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy;

**C:** **They rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest.**

**P:** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders;

**C:** **And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

**P:** Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end;

**C:** **The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P:** It is with great joy that we gather this morning to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Yet on this occasion we remember that it was for our sin that he came into this world. With humble hearts let us come before our God in repentance, acknowledging our sinfulness and seeking his forgiveness.

**C:** **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am a sinner from birth and that I have offended you in what I think, what I say and what I do. Forgive me for my lack of love toward you and others. Throughout my life and especially at this Christmas season, I have often failed to truly appreciate the gift of salvation won for me by the life and death of your Son, Jesus. Forgive my many sins and have mercy on me, a sinner.**

**P:** God our Heavenly Father has been merciful to us. We have redemption and forgiveness through the blood of his Son, Jesus, in accordance with the riches of God's grace. We are the people on whom God's favor rests.

**C:** **Glory to God in the highest! Amen.**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

**P:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



1 Let us all with glad - some voice Praise the  
2 To this vale of tears he comes, Here to  
3 We are rich, for he was poor; Is not  
4 O Lord Christ, our Sav - ior dear, Bless us



God of heav - en, Who, to bid our  
serve in sad - ness, That with him in  
this a won - der? There - fore praise God  
and be near us. Grant us now a



hearts re - joice, His own Son has giv - en.  
heav'n's fair homes We may reign in glad - ness.  
ev - er - more Here on earth and yon - der.  
glad new year. A - men, Je - sus, hear us!

(CW #64)

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Son of God, we praise you for coming to earth on the first Christmas to live the life we could not live and to die the death we were doomed to die. As we celebrate your coming to earth to be one of us, help us rejoice also that you continually come to us in your Word and Sacrament. Strengthen our faith. Cause our love to increase and our hope to grow. Bless all we say and do to the glory of your Name.

**C:** (Spoken) Amen.

*Please be seated*

## THE FIRST LESSON

## ISAIAH 52:7-10

<sup>7</sup> How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" <sup>8</sup> Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the Lord returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. <sup>9</sup> Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup> The Lord will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our  
2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to



voice; He from whom joy stream - eth Poor  
thee. Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O



in a man - ger lies; Not so bright - ly  
pure and ho - ly Child; Through thy grace and



beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.  
mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!  
Draw me un - to thee! Draw me un - to thee!

(CW #34, verses 1 & 2)

## SECOND LESSON

## HEBREWS 1:1-9

<sup>1:1</sup> In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways,

<sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.

<sup>3</sup> The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. <sup>4</sup> So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.

<sup>5</sup> For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father"?

Or again,

"I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?

<sup>6</sup> And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says,

"Let all God's angels worship him."

<sup>7</sup> In speaking of the angels he says,

"He makes his angels spirits, and his servants flames of fire."

<sup>8</sup> But about the Son he says,

"Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.

<sup>9</sup> You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy."

3 Now through his Son doth shine The Fa-ther's grace di-  
4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n-ly  
vine. Death o'er us had reign-ed Through  
ground? Where the an-gels sing-ing With  
sin and van-i-ty; He for us ob-  
all his saints u-nite, Sweet-est prais-es  
tain-ed E-ter-nal joy on high.  
bring-ing In heav'n-ly joy and light.  
May we praise him there! May we praise him there!  
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

(CW #34, verses 3-4)

*Please stand*

## GOSPEL LESSON

## JOHN 1:1-14

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

<sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — <sup>13</sup> children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**P:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** *(Spoken)* **Thanks be to God!**

### THE APOSTLE'S 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.**

*Please be seated*

### CONGREGATION HYMN

### LET ALL TOGETHER PRAISE OUR GOD

Christian Worship #41, verses 1-4



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore his  
2 He leaves his heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an  
3 He veils in flesh his pow'r di - vine A ser - vant's  
4 A won - drous change which he does make: He takes our



high - est throne; To - day he o - pens heav'n a - gain And  
in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies  
form to take; In want and low - li - ness must die Who  
flesh and blood, And he con - ceals for sin - ners' sake His



gives us his own Son, And gives us his own Son.  
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.  
heav'n and earth did make, Who heav'n and earth did make.  
maj - es - ty as God, His maj - es - ty as God.

### SERMON

**JOHN 1:14**

### CONGREGATION HYMN

### LET ALL TOGETHER PRAISE OUR GOD

Christian Worship #41, verses 5-6



5 He serves that I a lord may be— A great ex -



change in - deed! Could Je - sus' love do more for me To

*Hymn continues on next page*

help me in my need, To help me in my need?

6 For us he opens wide the door  
Of paradise today.  
The angel guards the gate no more;  
To God our thanks we pay,  
To God our thanks we pay.

### THE OFFERING & OFFERING PRAYER

*Please stand*

### PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

**P:** Precious Savior Christ Jesus, Eternal Word, you became flesh and dwelt among us because of your great love for mankind. Though you were God, you humbled yourself out of love for your creation, and came to earth as one of us. We stand in reverent awe before your manger bed, contemplating the mystery of your incarnation. You are the Light of all the earth.

*(Special prayers may be added)*

The message of salvation through faith in you is meant to gladden every heart. Send out your light and your truth to nations everywhere, that every knee may bow before you, and every heart worship you as true God incarnate, who came to earth to save mankind from sin. May we join the angels in singing your praise:

3 Hail, the heav'n - ly Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of  
Right - eous - ness! Light and life to all he brings,

*Hymn continues on next page*

Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings. Mild he lays his  
glo - ry by, Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to  
give us sec - ond birth. Hark! The her - ald  
an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

*(CW #61, vs. 3)*

**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.**

### THE BLESSING

**P:** 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.  
**C: (Spoken) Amen.**

## THE CLOSING HYMN

## JOY TO THE WORLD Christian Worship #62



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And



earth re - ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry  
all their songs em - ploy, While fields and  
thorns in - fest the ground; He comes to  
makes the na - tions prove The glo - ries



heart pre - pare him room And heav'n and  
floods, rocks, hills, and plains Re - peat the  
make his bless - ings flow Far as the  
of his right - eous - ness And won - ders



na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And  
sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -  
curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far  
of his love, And won - ders of his love, And



heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
as, far as the curse is found.  
won - ders, won - ders of his love.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** This weekend's altar flowers are given by Lyle & Christie Timm in thanksgiving for their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

### ADVENT & CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Christmas Day Worship - December 25th - 10:00 am (Please note only 1 service)

December 26th - No Worship Service - 6:30 pm

New Year's Eve - December 31 - 6:30 pm

New Year's Day - January 1 - 10:00 am (Please note only 1 service)

January 2nd - No Worship Service - 6:30 pm

**NEW BIBLE CLASS ON THE LORD'S PRAYER:** The Lord's Prayer has been a part of the Christian Church for the past 2,000 years. Christians know it well. Many a Christian have begun their day or ended their day with the words of the Lord's Prayer. It is a part of nearly every worship service at St. Paul's. Yet, do we always focus on the wonderful things that we are asking God in each of the petitions of the Lord's Prayer? We continue our new Bible Class on The Lord's Prayer, meeting each Sunday morning at 9:15am. Please come and join us!

**"THE STORY" BIBLE CLASS:** Our next bible class will be Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup>. As we continue to look at God's story in the Bible, our lesson focuses on the theme: "The Beginning of the End".

**GREETERS:** Thank you to everyone who greeted before worship services this year. Please let Cory in the office know if you no longer wish to greet, otherwise you will be placed on the schedule for the new year. If you have not greeted before, please consider signing up to greet a couple times this year. We especially need people to greet at the 10:30 a.m. and Monday evening services. If you are interested in signing up to greet, please place your completed form on the narthex counter by the end of December.

**SAVE THE DATE:** Mark your calendars for next summer's Vacation Bible Camp, July 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>. More details will come later!

**REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE:** We are still in need of a few more members for our Refreshment Committee to help out in both services. The sign-up sheet is on the narthex counter, or you may can contact Tony Tripoli at (414) 232-5817 if you would like to help!

**PRESCHOOL POWER HOUR:** Join us at Power Hour two Thursdays a month! Open to children ages 0-4 with their caregivers. Meet us in the church narthex from 10:45-11:45 AM on the following dates: January 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, February 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, March 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>.

**2017 MEN OF HIS WORD CONFERENCE:** Have you seen the news lately? It's crazy out there. The world attacks our Christian values from every direction on a daily basis. To counter these attacks, the MOHW Conference uses God's Word to empower and equip men to carry out their God-given mission in their homes, churches, communities and the world with the theme, "BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS." Whether you attend for the keynote speaker (Pastor Mike Novotny from The Core in Appleton), the relevant, thought-provoking sessions (20 to choose from) or the worship experience with 600 other men (with Koine', the worship band), God's Word will speak to you. The 8th annual MOHW Conference will be held at the Oshkosh Best Western Premier Waterfront Convention Center on Saturday, February 11, 2017. Additional details and online registration are available at [www.menofhisword.org](http://www.menofhisword.org) for the first 650 men (\$40 by January 29th; \$50 from January 30th - February 5th). Please join us for a day in God's Word that you will not soon forget!

### **VOLUNTEERS**

**GREETERS CHRISTMAS DAY (December 25)**  
10:00 AM – Lyle & Christie Timm

**GREETERS NEW YEAR'S EVE (December 31)**  
6:30 PM – Don & Marge Gebert

**GREETERS NEW YEAR'S DAY (January 1)**  
10:00 AM –

### **GREETERS (January 8 & 9)**

8:00 AM – Josh & Allison Ebeling; Henry  
10:30 AM – Marilyn Krueger  
6:30 PM – Donna LaBlanc

### **USHERS FOR JANUARY**

8:00 AM – TEAM #1 – Bob Hille, Larry Stujenske, Josh Ebeling, Philip Becker  
10:30 AM – TEAM #5 – Mark Klein, Chris Klein, Bob Dittrich, Gary Eickhorst, Todd Grunze, Dan Mertz, Brett Abramowski  
6:30 PM – TEAM #9 – Dave Long

### **USHERS FOR UPCOMING SPECIAL DECEMBER SERVICES:**

**CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE 10:00 AM TEAM #3** – Donn Johnson, John Migacz, Brad Johnson, Frank Krajewski

**NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE 6:30 PM TEAM #1** – Bob Hille, Larry Stujenske, Josh Ebeling, Philip Becker

### **ALTAR GUILD**

Dec 21-27 – TEAM #1 – Sherry Kosovich, Beverly Garves, Connie Myer  
Dec 28-Jan 3 – TEAM #1 – Sherry Kosovich, Beverly Garves, Connie Myer

### **REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE**

Jan. 8: Set-up – Don & Marge Gebert, Clean-up – Tony Tripoli  
Jan. 15: Set-up – Jerry & Alyce Lehtinen, Clean-up – Connie Myer

### **THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

#### **Sunday, December 25**

Christmas Day Worship Service .....10:00 AM  
NO Adult Bible Study/Sunday School

#### **Monday, December 26**

NO Worship Service

**Tuesday, December 27**

NO Public School Confirmation Class

**Saturday, December 31**

New Year's Eve Service ..... 6:30 PM

**Sunday, January 1**

New Year's Day Worship Service ..... 10:00 AM

NO Adult Bible Study/Sunday School

**Statistics – Last Week**

Attendance: 8:00 AM – 82, Communed – 69

10:30 AM – 100, Communed – 70

6:30 PM – 42 , Communed – 36

Total Attendance – 224

Total Communed – 175

Sunday Bible Class – 25, Sunday School – 10