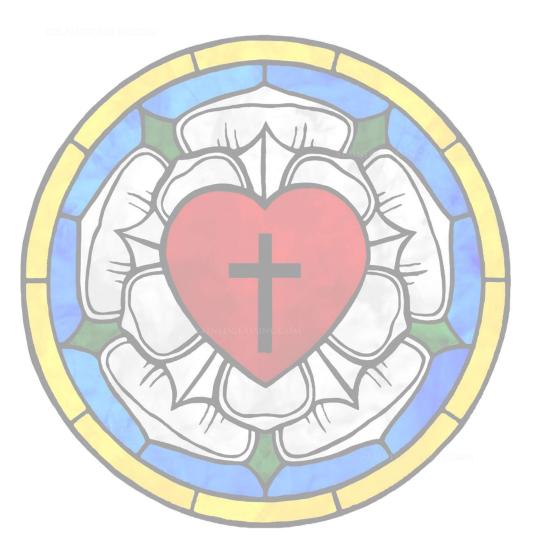
## INCARNATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

# 



GET CONNECTED, STAY CONNECTED!

Like and follow us on Facebook and Subscribe to us on YouTube!



Incarnation Lutheran Church
3005 Devine Street, Columbia, SC 29205
Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. • 803-256-2381 • office@incarnationlutheran.com
www.incarnationlutheran.com







#### **GATHERING**

#### **VOLUNTARY**

Hymn Prelude on "Stuttgart" (Eastern Sages to His Cradle)

Winfred Douglas

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **GATHERING HYMN: ELW 300**

The First Noel



Text: English traditional Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose voice is upon the waters, whose mercy is poured out upon all people, whose goodness cascades over all creation.

#### Amen.

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

## Holy God,

you search us and know us. You are acquainted with all our ways. We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin. Our own sins and the broken systems that bind us. We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love. We distrust those who are not like us. We exploit the earth and its resources and fail to consider generations to come. Forgive us, gracious God, for all we have done and left undone. Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them; receive them in your divine mercy.

Amen.

How vast is God's grace!

Through the power and promise of + Christ Jesus, our sins are washed away and we are claimed as God's own beloved. Indeed, we are forgiven. In the wake of God's forgiveness, we are called to be the beloved community living out Christ's justice and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

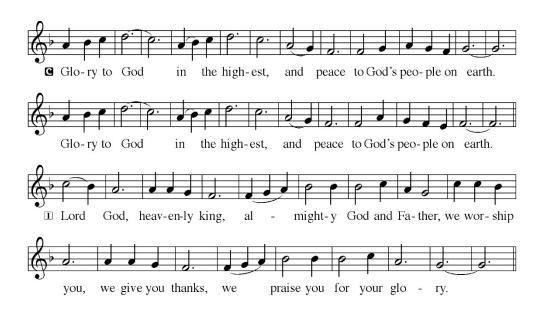
Amen.

#### **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

## GLORY TO GOD: S167 (Setting 6)





#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### WORD

#### **CHILDREN'S TIME**

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1-5

'In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, 'the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. 'Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 'And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 'God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

After the Reading: The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

### PSALM: Psalm 29

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup>the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD

bursts forth in lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup>The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup>The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;

the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

<sup>n</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

#### SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7

'While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." <sup>3</sup>Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." <sup>4</sup>Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." <sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—<sup>7</sup>altogether there were about twelve of them.

After the Reading: The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLIMATION: S171a



GOSPEL READING: Mark 1: 4-11

Before the Reading: The Holy Gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." <sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

After the Reading: The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON** 

Pastor Emily Willhide



Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984, alt.
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561
Text © 1985 The Church Pension Fund, admin. Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition concludes "Hear us, O God." We respond: Your mercy is great.

For the church throughout the world and its leaders, that guided by the Holy Spirit they proclaim the forgiveness of sins, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God's goodness is revealed through creation and faithful stewards care for all God has made, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the nations of the world and their leaders, for laborers busy both day and night, and for peacemakers amid strife, that God inspire all people to use their strength wisely, let us pray. Have mercy, O God.

For the sick and those who provide medical care, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer (*especially*), that God shower compassion, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the congregation gathered here, for students returning to school, for those seeking renewal in their daily work, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, that their witness inspire us in our baptismal vocations, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

#### SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.



From Songs for the Cycle ©2004 Michael Hudson Church Publishing Inc.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music: ©2014 Thurlow Weed

Epiphany 1B The Baptism of Jesus Matt. 2:13-15, 19-23

#### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein. Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord. (Psalm 98:7-8)

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

(Romans 6:3-5)

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism:

We give you thanks, holy and gracious God,

for you created the waters of the earth:

wide oceans, rushing streams, clear lakes, mighty rivers.

You led your people through the sea and called them to life in covenant with you. Your Son was baptized in the river Jordan to begin his mission among us. You pour out your Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth.

Through this water remind us of the gift of baptism.
Renew us in your promise so that we may serve this world in all its need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

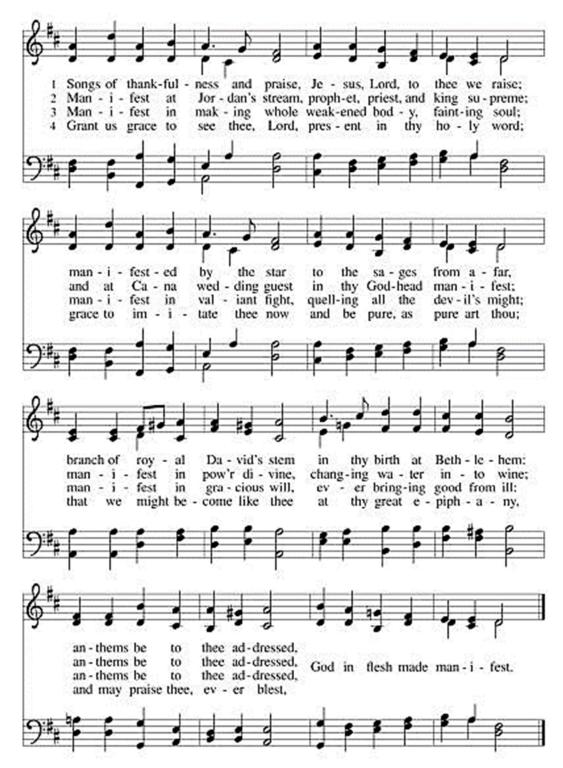
#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

#### **SENDING**

#### **BLESSING**

God the creator strengthen you; Jesus the beloved fill you; and the Holy Spirit the comforter + keep you in peace. Amen.



Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt. Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; am Johann Sebustian Bach, 1685–1750

#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** 

Lobt Gott, Ihr Christen all'zugleich



## Worship Note

Did you know our faithful quilters designed and stitched the quilts lining the pews of our sanctuary? For years, they have met weekly to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief, a ministry sponsored by the ELCA.

Right now, the quilters cannot meet during the pandemic, but the quilts are serving to help with the acoustics in the sanctuary as we continue to work with our new sound system. When that is resolved, all of these quilts will be dedicated and then shipped to LWR and sent to people in need around the world. Quilts serve as bedding, as tents, as floor coverings and in many other ways. We thank our faithful quilters!



#### Announcements

Our office is closed except by appointment due to the massive rise in case numbers in our county. You can email or call us, and our mailbox is a safe place to drop things off.

**Faith Formation** will be having an interest meeting via Zoom on Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 via Zoom. A link will be emailed to you.

Self-directed Worship is suspended but will be revamped to an online offering.

Wednesdays at noon, Incarnation will be hosting a short devotional Bible study. Bible study will be held over Zoom and the office will email out the link for the meeting each Wednesday morning.

Do you want to join Incarnation? If so, please contact the office at office@incarnationlutheran.com so that we can gather your contact information and reach out to you.

Do you know any former members of Incarnations' email addresses? We would love to send them an invite to the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary!

#### Prayer List

Current: Sarah Sutton, Mady Smith, Grace Garber, Ed Skinner, Lily Hoffman, Ivey Smith, Diane Smith, Sam Hall, The Norton Family, The Family of Mary Thompson, The Family of Carrie Brown, The Family of Debbie Campbell, all those caring for elderly parents, and all those that are home bound.

Continuing: Jesse, Emily Prince, Emily Wright, Gary Todd, Linda Blazek, Maren Milbourne, Ann Ford, Judy Moody, and Jenny Gantt.

Military: Michael Willhide, Mike Turner, (Mavis Turner's son), Hilary Compton, (Kim Yerrick's niece), Tyler Owens, (Kim Yerrick's nephew).

## **Online Giving!**

We look forward to the day when we can worship together as a family again, but until then, please continue to support the mission of the church. You can use this image below by scanning the QR Code with your smart phone's camera which will lead you to our Website for Online Giving or look for our new Paypal button on our Facebook page!



## Financial Update -

	Actual	Plan	Difference
Last Week	\$14,061	\$4,808	\$9,253+
December	\$21,950	\$19,232	\$2,718+
2020 Final	\$206,991	\$250,000	\$43,009-





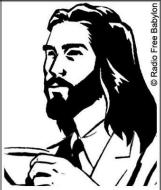
I sometimes feel like I need a Doctorate in Theology to understand this faith, Jesus.



Plenty of degreed people don't understand a lot of this faith, Kevin. And many others with no formal schooling have a whole lot of wisdom.



Riddles, Jesus! C'mon! How do I get to be one of the ones with wisdom?



It's simple, really. You get yourself an education, Kevin.

From the Teacher.

#### **MUSIC NOTES**

This morning's opening voluntary was composed by American composer Winfred Douglas (1867-1944) and is based upon the 17th century hymn tune *Stuttgart*. In the ELW Hymnal, the tune is associated with #455 "Crashing Waters at Creation." In other Protestant denominations the tune is also married to Advent and Epiphany texts. Douglas, who was not only a musician but was also a Priest, clearly crafted this organ prelude based upon the Epiphany hymn "Earth has many a noble city" with the third verse giving reference to the special visitation: "Eastern sages at his cradle make oblations rich and rare; see them give in deep devotion, gold and frankincense and myrrh." For more information about this composer, please find a detailed history here:

https://www.episcopalarchives.org/cgi-

bin/the\_living\_church/TLCarticle.pl?volume=219&issue=3&article\_id=2

The text of the offertory hymn, "Let rain come down today" was written by North Carolinian, Rev. Michael Hudson. The poetry beautifully speaks of the cleansing waters of baptism and is fitting for the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord.

The concluding voluntary is a chorale prelude on the German tune Lobt Gott, ihr Christen. A popular tune in the ELW Hymnal, it appears four times as numbers 287, 304, 441, and 604. The tune was originally penned by Nikolaus Herman (1480-1561) and became a popular vehicle for German organists to fashion chorale-based organ preludes. The setting heard today was composed by Andreas Nicolaus Vetter (1666-1734), a pupil of the famous Johann Pachelbel in Erfurt. Later in his life, Vetter served as castle organist in Rudlostadt. Tragically, during the bombings that took place during World War II, many of his compositions were destroyed. Very few of his known compositions survive to this day.

-Dr. Patrick Hawkins, Music Director



