



# Risen Christ Lutheran Church

## Sunday Worship

### January 3, 2021

*(Shhhhh... Please, keep visiting conversations outside the sanctuary as God's people are preparing their hearts and minds for worship...)*



Christ in the Temple, by Heinrich Hofmann, courtesy C. Harroson Conroy Co., Inc.

**Rev. Rennie Kaufmann – Pastor      Eileen Young – Music Leader      Karen Kaufmann – Administrator**

**Risen Christ Lutheran Church**  
**46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170**  
**734.453.5252      [www.risenchrist.info](http://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 wine and diluted red wine are 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](http://www.RisenChrist.info)

**A WORD TO OUR GUESTS** – Welcome and thank you for coming. Brochures can be found at each door. 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.

**Thoughts on Today’s Readings** – Most people long to be wanted and chosen. Children get picked for teams in gym class; adults get chosen for promotions at work. Society sometimes revolves around being chosen and wanted. Today, we are assured that God has chosen each of us, that we may all receive the greatest gift in the Savior Jesus Christ. Through Christ, God now sees us as His adopted people. Through the Holy Spirit working in us, we are able to know the “guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory” (*Ephesians 1:14*).

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Call to Worship – Christ Be All Around Me**

1. As I rise, strength of God  
Go before, lift me up  
As I wake, eyes of God  
Look upon, be my sight

2. As I wait, heart of God  
Satisfy and sustain  
As I hear, voice of God  
Lead me on, be my guide  
Oh, be my guide

3. As I go, hand of God  
My defense, by my side  
As I rest, breath of God  
Fall upon, bring me peace

***CHORUS: Above and below me, before and behind me  
In every eye that sees me, Christ be all around me  
Above and below me, Before and behind me  
In every eye that sees me, Christ be all around me  
Christ be all around me***

Bring me peace Chorus  
David Leonard/Jack Mooring/Leeland Mooring/Leslie Jordan CCLI Song # 7016414 CCLI License # 140952  
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**Invocation and Opening Sentences**

*Psalm 124:8; Ephesians 1:3–4*

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

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**  
**P** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
**C** **who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.**  
**P** He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,  
**C** **that we should be holy and blameless before Him.**

**Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

**1.** Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty victorious, Thy great name we raise.

**2.** Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
Thy clouds which are fountains  
of goodness and love.

**3.** To all life Thou givest-  
to both great and small-  
In all life Thou livest, the true Life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree  
And wither and perish- but naught changes Thee.

**4.** Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;  
All laud we would render: O help us to see  
Tis only the splendor of light that hides Thee.

**Confession and Absolution**

- P** Dear friends, our own sin and our inability to free ourselves are the reasons a Savior was born. We now confess our sins to God, confident that He has first chosen and loved us, giving us forgiveness for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

*Silence for reflection.*

- C** **Almighty God, I confess to You all my sins in thought, word, and deed. Some of my sin I know; some is known only to You. I am by nature sinful. My works do not show a life of faith and repentance, nor do they glorify you.**  
**P** We have not lived according to the purpose of God's will, but have neglected the richness of His grace with indifference and disobedience.

**G** Have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

**P** Upon this your confession and through the Holy Spirit working in us, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**G** Amen.

## 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.**

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** And also with you.

**P** *Let us pray.*

God our Father, our Creator and Redeemer, when the time was right, You sent forth Your Son into this world. Through Him, You chose us for salvation that we might live to the praise of Your glory. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we ever remain firm in faith and bear fruit, until we possess the eternal inheritance prepared for us before the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

*1 Kings 3:4–15*

<sup>4</sup> 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.

<sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." <sup>6</sup>And 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." <sup>7</sup>And 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. <sup>8</sup>And 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. <sup>9</sup>Give 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?"

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>And 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, <sup>12</sup>behold, 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. <sup>13</sup>I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. <sup>14</sup>And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

<sup>15</sup>And 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 119

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

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

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

**<sup>100</sup>I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.**

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

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

<sup>103</sup>How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**<sup>104</sup>Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.**

## Epistle

*Ephesians 3:1–12 (The Epiphany of our Lord)*

<sup>1</sup>For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— <sup>2</sup>assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup>how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. <sup>4</sup>When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, <sup>5</sup>which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

<sup>7</sup>Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. <sup>8</sup>To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,

<sup>9</sup>and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, <sup>10</sup>so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. <sup>11</sup>This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, <sup>12</sup>in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.      **C** Thanks be to God.

## As with Gladness men of Old

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;  
As with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright;  
So, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led by Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed,  
There to bend the knee before Thee, whom heaven and earth adore;  
So may we with willing feet ever seek Thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at Thy cradle, rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heavenly King.

Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way;  
And when earthly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds Thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright need they no created light;  
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;  
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King.

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 2:40–52*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

<sup>41</sup>Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. <sup>43</sup>And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, <sup>44</sup>but 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, <sup>45</sup>and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>And 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." <sup>49</sup>And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. <sup>51</sup>And 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.

<sup>52</sup>And 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.**

## Message by Pastor Rennie

### 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** Blessed are You, O God our Father, for in Your great wisdom, mercy, and love You have chosen us to be Your own children. We praise, glorify, and give thanks to You for the forgiveness of sins and adoption into Your family through Christ our Lord. Grant peace to Your whole Church. Lord, to the praise of Your glory,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**MEN** – Almighty Father, we offer our worship and praise here in Your house. When we depart from this place, we pray we may continue to be centered in Your mercy and grace through Your Word and Sacraments. Bless the homes of Your people. Grant patience, strength, and wisdom to parents and every member of every household. Lord, to the praise of Your glory,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**WOMEN** – Let Your Holy Spirit seek out and reveal Your salvation that all may hear and believe Your saving Gospel. Cast away all doubt. Strengthen the faith of Your people everywhere. Work peace among the conflicted nations of the world. Protect all who are persecuted and suffer hardship and death for the sake of Your Word. Guide those who make and administer laws to rule wisely, act justly, and protect the weak. Lord, to the praise of Your glory,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**MEN** – Bring Your healing and comfort to all who are sick, injured, or in need. Assure them of Your mercy and give them comfort, restoration of health, and the peace to accept trials and tribulations. Lord, to the praise of Your glory,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Into Your hands, O Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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.**

## Great Is the Lord

Great is the Lord,  
He is holy and just  
By His power we trust in His love

Great is the Lord  
He is faithful and true  
By His mercy He proves He is love

***Great is the Lord and worthy of glory  
Great is the Lord and worthy of praise  
Great is the Lord  
Now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice  
Great is the Lord***

Great is the Lord,  
He is holy and just  
By His power we trust in His love

Great is the Lord  
He is faithful and true  
By His mercy He proves He is love

***Great are You Lord, and worthy of glory  
Great are You Lord, and worthy of praise  
Great are You Lord  
I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice  
Great are You Lord  
Great are You Lord***

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## Benediction

*Based on Ephesians 1:13–14*

**P** When you heard the Word of truth and believed in Christ, you were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit. As you have heard His Word, and give thanks for the power of His Spirit, go as His chosen people in praise of His name.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace in the “guarantee of our inheritance.”

**C** Amen.

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