



The Nativity of Our Lord 2011
“The Liturgy of the People”

Zion Lutheran Church
Wausau, Wisconsin

9:00 a.m.

*Today a new day dawns, the day of our redemption, prepared by God from ages past, the beginning of our never-ending gladness. Today the whole earth was filled with heaven's sweetness.
~The Lutheran Hymnal*

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand and turn toward the cross as it is carried into the sanctuary.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN “Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”

**Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him Born the king of angels;
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father Now in flesh appearing!
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God In the highest:
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing;
Oh, come, let us adore him, Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

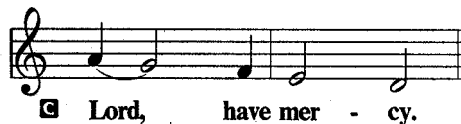
GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



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

Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the holy Church, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Lord, have mer - cy.

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

A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther: We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You

*Tell us, shepherds, what have you seen? Who has appeared on earth? We have seen a newborn infant and a choir of angels praising the Lord!
~The Lutheran Hymnal*

take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the
Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer. For you a-lone are the
Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-
lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

☐ And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray . . . Almighty God, you have made yourself known to us in your Son, Jesus, Redeemer of the world. By his birth of the Virgin Mary, set us free from the old slavery of our sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

CHORAL RESPONSE

“Beside Thy Manger Here I Stand”

Text: Paul Gerhardt

Music: J.S. Bach

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 98

Choir: Sing to the LORD 'a new song,*
for he has done 'marvelous things.
With his right hand and his 'holy arm*
has he won for him'self the victory.

C: **The LORD has made 'known his victory;*
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight 'of the nations.
He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the 'house of Israel,*
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory 'of our God.**

Choir: Shout with joy to the LORD, 'all you lands;*
lift up your voice, re'joice, and sing.
Sing to the LORD 'with the harp,*
with the harp and the 'voice of song.

C: **With trumpets and the sound 'of the horn*
shout with joy before the 'king, the LORD.
Let the sea make a noise and all 'that is in it,*
the lands and those who 'dwell therein.**

Choir: Let the rivers 'clap their hands,*
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, when he comes
to 'judge the earth.
In righteousness shall he 'judge the world*
and the peo'ples with equity.

SECOND LESSON Hebrews 1:1-6

¹Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he ap-

*I would not
have you con-
template the
deity of
Christ, the
majesty of
Christ, but
rather His
flesh. Look
upon the baby
Jesus. Divin-
ity may terrify
man. Inex-
pressible maj-
esty will
crush Him.
That is why
Christ took
on our hu-
manity, save
for sin, that
He should not
terrify us but
rather that
with love and
favor He
should con-
sole and con-
firm.
~Martin
Luther*

*Here we turn
to the human-
ity of Jesus.
The Word
became man
without ceas-
ing to be fully
God: the mys-
tery of God in
the flesh! He
assumed com-
plete human
nature, every-
thing we are,
except for sin.
As God and
man in one
Person,
Christ accom-
plishes a re-
demption that
fully heals
and saves
fallen human-
ity.
~Joseph
Allen,
1993 A.D.*

pointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son”? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

PROCESSIONAL VERSE

As the Scriptures are carried into the midst of the congregation, please turn to where the Holy Gospel will be proclaimed.

C: **Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow, And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven’s door, And we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD St. John 1:1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.

PROCESSIONAL VERSE

**C: Good Christian friends, rejoice With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all To gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for ☩ the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Once Again My Heart Rejoices” green hymnal #46

SERMON “This Baby is God”

Please kneel.

THE PRAYERS

P: Trusting in our Lord Jesus Christ, the everlasting God and Son of Mary, let us pray.

(after each prayer:)

P: . . . O King of Kings,

C: receive our prayer.

P: . . . one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Eternal Father, we have exchanged Christmas gifts for joy that our Savior has been born. Receive these offerings because we accept your inexpressible gift and help us with our eternal task to reflect your grace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Let us confess our sins. Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church, and by the authority of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

“Sing with Joy, Glad Voices Lift”

... Johann Glenetzky, 1566

Please stand.

OFFERTORY “Let Our Gladness Have No End”

**Let our gladness have no end, Hallelujah!
For to earth did Christ descend. Hallelujah!
On this day God gave us Christ, his Son, to save us;
Christ, his Son, to save us.**

**Into flesh is made the Word. Hallelujah!
He, our refuge and our Lord. Hallelujah!
On this day God gave us Christ, his Son, to save us;
Christ, his Son, to save us.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, heavenly Father, for the priceless gift of your Son, sent into our flesh to redeem the creation. Grant that we may now so eat of his flesh and drink of his blood that we may ever dwell in him, and he in us.

C: Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.



☐ And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



☐ We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



☐ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their un-
ending hymn:



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name



of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*O Lord, in this
Sacrament you
repeat the
mystery of
your birth by
taking on the
form of bread
and wine.
Help us with
daily thanks
and joy for the
love which
keeps sending
you to us. We
bless you now
and evermore.
Amen.*

THE 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

Please be seated.

ANTHEM

“In the Bleak Mid-Winter”

Text: Christina Rossetti

Music: Gustav Holst

COMMUNION HYMNS

“Go Tell It On the Mountain” green hymnal #70

“Angels We Have Heard on High” green hymnal #71

Please stand.

PRAYER

P: Let us pray. O God of wonder, we have tasted your goodness, and beheld your presence in the Word made flesh. Shine forth his light in all we say and do, and fill the earth with your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

BENEDICTION

P: 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 ✠ give you peace.



Please turn toward the cross as it is carried out of the sanctuary.

RECESSIONAL HYMN “Joy to the World”

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;
Let ev’ry heart prepare him room And heav’n and nature sing,
And heav’n and nature sing, And heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, Rocks, hills, and plains, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sin and sorrow grow Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessing flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love.**

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

“The Rejoicing”

... G.F. Handel

+ **Soli Deo Gloria** +
To God alone be glory

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BROADCAST SPONSOR Today’s broadcast is sponsored by Zion’s Christmas Tea Committee to the Glory of God.

BULLETIN SPONSOR Today’s bulletins are sponsored in loving memory of my husband, Laurin Jehn, by Marion and family.

THANK YOU to Wayne Dettmering for the trees in the chancel, and to all who gave to the Christmas Decorating Fund. See the bulletin insert for a listing.

MIDWEEK WORSHIP Wednesday matins and vespers are not held on December 28 or January 4. They will resume on January 11.

BIBLE STUDIES are not held this week. They will resume next week.

THE FEAST OF EPIPHANY Celebrate the arrival of the Wise Men with Holy Communion on Thursday, January 5, at 6:30 p.m. in Zion’s sanctuary. This service signals the beginning of the Epiphany season at sundown that evening.

**A Prayer
As You Go**
Almighty
God, you
have poured
upon us the
new light of
your incar-
nate Word:
Grant that
this light, en-
kindled in our
hearts, may
shine forth in
our lives;
through Jesus
Christ our
Lord, who
lives and
reigns with
you and the
Holy Spirit,
one God, now
and for ever.
Amen.

PARTICIPANTS:

Liturgist **Rev. Steven Gjerde**
Preacher **Rev. Ted Gulhaugen**
Organist **Virginia Giese**
Trumpeters **Mark Wendorff; Megan Cihlar**
Choir **Zion Kantorei**
Vocalists **Cynthia Reuter; Jim Speckhard**
Lector **Keith Glasel**
Radio Announcer **Dick Ames**
Head Usher **Marty Dettmering**
Elder **Marlene Kroening**
Communion Assistants **John Ahrens; Steve Zeinemann**
Acolytes **Clark Kittel; Logan Nelson; Hunter Thorn**
Altar Guild **Ruth Draeger; Kay Krall; Donna Nuernberg**

Zion Lutheran Church

Sixth and Grant Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

Church Telephone: 715-848-7286

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Theodore B. Gulhaugen, Associate Pastor
Virginia Giese, Kantor
Pam Gabriel, Office Manager
Anna Mae Zeinemann, Secretary
Michael Renken, Head Custodian
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To visit our webpage:

www.zionlutheranwausau.com

Host of the Wausau Lutheran Hour

Sundays, 9:00 am, WSAU Radio 550AM
(or click "Listen Live" at www.wsau.com)

Member Congregation of Lutheran Core

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