

*Baptism of Our Lord, January 9, 2022*  
*Zoar Church, Tofte, MN*

**Gathering Hymn: Once in Royal David's City** - WOV #643 (v.1,2,4)

**V1** Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child

**V2** He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all  
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and meek and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

**V4** Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;  
There his children gather 'round, bright like stars, with glory crowned.

**Welcome and Announcements**

*January's Mission - Teach Beyond*

**Invocation**

**Kyrie Eleison and Gloria in Excelsis** - Reclaim p.22-24

Lord Have Mercy, Christ Have Mercy  
Lord Have Mercy (**Repeat**)

**Pastor:** Glory be to God on high  
And on earth peace, good will to all.

**V1** Lord, we praise your name on high,  
Worship you and glorify.  
To the Lamb of God we cry  
And join the angel's song.

**V2** You have borne the sins of all.  
Mercy, Lord, and hear our call.  
Ev'ryone, both great and small,  
Come join the angel's song.

**V3** You, alone, the Holy One,  
You, alone, God's only Son,  
In your name we've just begun  
To join the angel's song.

**Ending:** Gloria! Let the music flow  
Gloria! To the earth below  
Gloria! Feel our hearts aglow  
With the joyful angel's song.

**Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4** (NIV)

"Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen one in whom I delight;  
I will put my Spirit on him,  
and he will bring justice to the nations.  
He will not shout or cry out,  
or raise his voice in the streets.

A bruised reed he will not break,  
and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.  
In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;  
he will not falter or be discouraged  
till he establishes justice on earth.  
In his teaching the islands will put their hope."

**Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 10:1-14, 19-22**(NIV)

The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. Otherwise, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins. But those sacrifices are an annual reminder of sins. It is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.

Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. Then I said, 'Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll— I have come to do your will, my God.'"

First he said, "Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them"—though they were offered in accordance with the law. Then he said, "Here I am, I have come to do your will." He sets aside the first to establish the second. And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

### **Gospel: Luke 2:21-38** (NIV)

On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,  
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.  
For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people Israel."

The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

*P: The word of God for the People of God*

**C: Thanks be to God**

**Message: “The Journey: From Heaven to Earth”**

*Pastor Daren Blanck*

**Prayers & 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.*

**Apostle’s Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy  
Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
Was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the  
right hand of the Father. He will come again  
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

**Communion Hymn: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence** - Reclaim #80 (v.1-3)

**V1** Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
And with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly minded,  
For with blessing in his hand  
Christ Our God to earth descending  
Comes our homage to demand.

**V2** King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
As of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords in human vesture,  
In the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heav'nly food.

**V3** Rank on rank the host of heaven  
Spreads its vanguard on the way;  
As the Light of light, descending  
From the realms of endless day,  
Comes, the pow'rs of hell to vanquish,  
As the darkness clears away.

**Words of Institution & Communion**

Observing appropriate social distancing, please proceed to either the table at the front or rear of the sanctuary for a wafer and a cup of wine. If you are joining us at home, please use your own bread or crackers and wine or juice. We believe the Lord's Supper is a "means of grace" offered freely to all who seek Him.

**Closing Hymn: I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day** - Reclaim #111 (v.1-4)

**V1** I heard the bells on Christmas day  
Their old familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet the words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good will to men

**V2** I thought how, as the day had come,  
The belfries of all Christendom  
Had rolled along th'unbroken song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men

**V3** And in despair I bowed my head:  
"There is no peace on earth," I said,  
"For hate is strong, and mocks the song  
Of peace on earth, good will to men."

**V4** Then pealed the bells more loud and deep  
"God is not dead, nor doth he sleep;  
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,  
With peace on earth, good will to men."

**Benediction**

**Sending Hymn: Angels From the Realms of Glory** - Reclaim #126 (v.1,2,4)

**V1** Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye, who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

**V2** Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with man is now residing,  
Yonder shines the heav'nly light:

**Refrain**  
Come and worship, Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

**V4** Saints, before the altar bending,  
Watching long in hope and fear,  
Suddenly the Lord, descending,  
In his temple shall appear:

**Sending**

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God. We Will! Alleluia.**

**Have a Blessed Week!**

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Daren Blanck, Pastor • Music provided this morning by Lavona Czaplicki