



West Middleton Lutheran Church

God's work. Our hands.

# Welcome to Worship

## First Sunday after Christmas

December 31, 2017

9:00 a.m.

**Join WMLC!** If you have been worshipping with us and are interested in formally becoming an active member here at WMLC, please see a member following one of our worship services or indicate your intention on our Welcome cards.

**Hearing Devices & Large Print Bulletins Available:** If you would like to use either of these aids, please speak with an usher.

**Restrooms** are located beyond the Sanctuary doors and across from the coat racks.

**The Nursery** is located next to the restrooms. It is staffed by Red Cross certified babysitters for your use on Sundays during the service.



**Join us on Facebook!** Our page is public so you don't need your own Facebook account to join in the fun. See pictures of events and stay current on things that are happening at church!

## Prelude

## Welcome & Announcements

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## Confession and Forgiveness

**P** Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High, † one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

**P** Gracious God,

**C** **in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

**P** I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in † Jesus' name.

**C** **Amen.**



1 'Twas in the moon of win - ter - time when all the birds had fled, that  
 2 With - in a lodge of bro - ken bark the ten - der babe was found; a  
 4 O chil - dren of the for - est free, the an - gel - song is true; the



\*God the Lord of all the earth sent an - gel choirs in - stead; be -  
 rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en - wrapped his beau - ty round; but  
 ho - ly child of earth and heav'n is born to - day for you. Come,



fore their light the stars grew dim, and wan - d'ring hunt - ers heard the hymn:  
 as the hunt - er braves drew nigh, the an - gel song rang loud and high:  
 kneel be - fore the ra - diant boy, who brings you beau - ty, peace, and joy.

*Refrain*



Je - sus your king is born! Je - sus is born, in ex - cel - sis glo - ri - a!

## 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.**

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

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C** **Amen.**

# You Are Holy

ELW 525

1

You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more  
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.  
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here  
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2

You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,  
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!  
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!  
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of four staves each. The first system is marked with a '1' and the second with a '2'. The lyrics are placed below the notes on each staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

## Prayer of the Day

- ☐ Glorious God, help us to hear when your chosen voices proclaim the work of your son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns in this world and the next.
- ☑ Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## Children's Sermon

### Blessing of the Lector

*Please stand, as you are able.*

### Gospel Acclamation

ELW Setting 8

Al - le - lu - ia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of ev - er - last - ing

life! Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia!

### Luke 2:22-40

- L** The holy gospel according to Luke.
- C** Glory to you, O Lord.

*The reading concludes:*

- L** The gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Please be seated.*

## **Sermon**

## Wisdom of Waiting & Witness

*Please stand, as you are able.*

## **Open our Eyes, Lord**

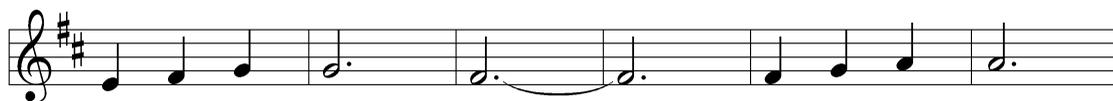
CCLI 1572



O - pen our eyes, Lord; we want to see Je -



sus, to reach out and touch him, and



say that we love him. O - pen our ears,



Lord, and help us to lis - ten. O - pen our



eyes, Lord, we want to see Je - sus.

## **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 into hell. 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 again 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.**

## **The Prayers of Intercession**

*Please be seated.*

### **Offering**

**Offering Hymn**

Do You Hear What I Hear?

WMLC Choir

*Please stand, as you are able.*

### **Offering Prayer**

## The Great Thanksgiving

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**
- P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## Sanctus

ELW Setting Six

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en 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

## 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.

*Please be seated.*

### Distribution

*As a community that believes in the real presence of Christ, all are welcome and invited to receive communion.*

*Please come forward by the center aisle to receive communion and return to your place by the side aisle. Grape juice is available for those requesting it from the distributing ministers. Gluten-free communion wafers are also available. Please indicate to Pastor that you need one and help yourself.*

### Lamb of God

Do This, p. 15

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world: have mer - cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world: grant us your peace, grant us your peace.



## Jesus, What a Wonderful Child

ELW 297



Je - sus, Je - sus, oh, what a won - der - ful child.



Je - sus, Je - sus, so ho - ly, meek, and



mild; new life, new hope the child will bring.



Lis - ten to the an - gels sing: "Glo - ry, glo - ry,



glo - ry," let the heav - ens ring!

## Peace

**A** Almighty God, you have made yourself known in your Son, Jesus, redeemer of the world. We pray that his birth as a human child will 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. It's God's work. Our hands.

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us greet each other as a sign of that peace.

## Postlude