

**Worship Plan**  
**Sunday, January 2, 2022**

**St. Matthew New Life**  
Second Sunday of Christmas

**Introduction to the day**

*Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.*

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**GATHERING SONG**

**Light Of The World**

Verse 1

The world waits for a miracle  
The heart longs for a little bit of hope  
O come O come Emmanuel  
A child prays for peace on earth  
And she's calling out from a sea of hurt  
O come O come Emmanuel  
And can you hear the angels singing

Chorus 1

Glory to the Light of the world  
Glory the Light of the world is here

Verse 2

The drought breaks with the tears of a mother  
A baby's cry is the sound of love come down  
Come down Emmanuel woh  
He is the song for the suffering  
He is Messiah the Prince of peace has come  
He has come Emmanuel oh

Chorus 2

Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world

Bridge

For all who wait for all who hunger  
For all who've prayed for all who wonder  
Behold your King behold Messiah  
Emmanuel Emmanuel

### Chorus 3

Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Behold your King behold Messiah  
Emmanuel Emmanuel

### Ending

The world waits for a miracle  
The heart longs for a little bit of hope  
O come O come Emmanuel

### WELCOME

*(We stand as we are able)*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth.

**Amen.**

In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**we confess our sin before you. We replace compassion with competition. We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek. We are quick to anger but slow to forgive. We have not put on love in harmony with you. Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word. Swaddle our hearts with your peace, that all we do, in word or deed, may reflect your love born among us. Amen.**

I bring you good news of great joy for all people:

God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. ✝ In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace.

**Amen.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

ELW #275

- 1 Angels, from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
once you sang creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

- 2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
yonder shines the infant light.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

### **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.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. Almighty God,  
**you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**  
*(We are seated)*

### **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

L: A reading from Jeremiah.

#### **FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14**

*God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.*

<sup>7</sup>Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
proclaim, give praise, and say,  
"Save, O LORD, your people,  
the remnant of Israel."

<sup>8</sup>See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.

<sup>9</sup>With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

<sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away;  
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

<sup>11</sup>For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

<sup>12</sup>They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd;

their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.

<sup>13</sup>Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry.

I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.  
<sup>14</sup>I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,  
says the LORD.

Word of God, word of life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 147:12-20** (*We read responsively by whole verse*)

- <sup>12</sup>Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem;  
praise your God, O Zion,  
<sup>13</sup>**who has strengthened the bars of your gates  
and has blessed your children within you.**  
<sup>14</sup>God has established peace on your borders  
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.  
<sup>15</sup>**God sends out a command to the earth,  
a word that runs very swiftly.**  
<sup>16</sup>God gives snow like wool,  
scattering frost like ashes.  
<sup>17</sup>**God scatters hail like bread crumbs.  
Who can stand against God's cold?**  
<sup>18</sup>The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the waters flow.  
<sup>19</sup>**God declares the word to Jacob,  
statutes and judgments to Israel.**  
<sup>20</sup>The LORD has not done so to any other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

L: A reading from Ephesians.

**SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14**

*In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made know as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.*

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(We stand for the reading of the gospel)*

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

P: The holy gospel according to John.

**GOSPEL: John 1:[1-9] 10-18**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.*

[<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And 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. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'")

<sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

*(We stand as we are able)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Love Has Come**

**ELW # 292**

- 1 Love has come—a light in the darkness!  
Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.  
See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;  
hear how their song of joy arises:  
Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!  
Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

- 2 Love is born! Come, share in the wonder.  
Love is God now asleep in the hay.  
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;  
what is the name her heart is saying?  
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers;  
Love! Love! Jesus, Immanuel.
- 3 Love has come and never will leave us!  
Love is life everlasting and free.  
Love is Jesus within and among us.  
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.  
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas;  
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

A: We confess our common faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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.**

*(We are seated)*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*After each petition:*

Leader: Merciful God,

**All: receive our prayer.**

*(We stand as we are able)*

**Peace** *(We share the blessing of Christ's peace. Some worshipers may prefer to maintain social distancing)*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*(We are seated)*

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING** *(Responding to God's grace, we offer our gifts and our tithes)*

*(We stand and sing as the gifts are brought forward)*

**Offering Song**

**As with Gladness Men of Old**

**ELW #302**

- 1 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.
  
- 3 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 heav'nly king.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us Pray. Gracious God,

**your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy.... and join their unending hymn:

### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**ELW #190**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God,

Creator of all and Source of life,  
at the birth of time your word brought light into the world.

In the fullness of time,  
you sent your Word, born of Mary,  
to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,  
his birth and life among us,  
his death and resurrection,  
we await his coming again  
when all things will be restored in him.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup,  
that, held and nourished by you,  
we may live as your children,  
shining with the light of your Son.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

In Christ's manger, at Christ's table,  
come, see what God makes known for you.

**Communion Distribution** (*We receive the sacrament by intinction. Individual cups/servings are available*)

### **SONG DURING COMMUNION**

### **He Has Come For Us**

God rest ye merry gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ, our Savior  
Was born on Christmas day  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray  
O, tidings of comfort and joy  
Comfort and joy  
O, tidings of comfort and joy

He has come for us  
This Jesus  
He's the hope for all  
Mankind  
He has come for us  
The Messiah  
Born to give us life

From God, our heavenly Father  
A blessed angel came

And unto certain shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same  
How that in Bethlehem was born  
The Son of God by name  
O, tidings of comfort and joy  
Comfort and joy  
O, tidings of comfort and joy

He has come for us  
This Jesus  
He's the hope for all Mankind  
He has come for us  
The Messiah  
Born to give us life

All the angels sing "Hallelujah!  
"Jesus Christ is born!"  
All the children sing "Hallelujah!  
"He is Christ the Lord!"

He has come for us  
This Jesus  
He's the hope for all Mankind  
He has come for us  
The Messiah  
Born to give us life  
He is born to give us life

"Jesus Christ is Lord!"  
All the children sing "Hallelujah!  
"He is Christ the Lord!"

*(We stand when all who desire have received the sacrament)*

### **Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

A: Let us pray.

**We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus,+ the Word made flesh.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**

**Arise, Shine / Beautiful Saviour**

*Refrain 1:*

Arise shine for your light has come  
Arise shine for your light has come  
Arise shine for your light has come  
Arise shine for your light has come

All my days I will sing this song of gladness  
Give my praise to the Fountain of delights  
For in my helplessness You heard my cry  
And waves of mercy Poured down on my life. *Refrain 1*

Nations will come and kings will bow  
As the glory of God shines on you  
Lift up your hearts, lift up your voice  
See the King of kings, the Lord of lords  
See the Prince of Peace  
Shine on you. *Refrain 1*

I will trust in the cross of my Redeemer  
I will sing of the blood that never fails  
Of sins forgiven, of conscience cleansed  
Of death defeated and life without end

*Refrain 2:*

Beautiful Savior, Wonderful Counselor  
Clothed in majesty, Lord of history  
You're the Way, the Truth, the Life  
Star of the Morning, glorious in holiness  
You're the Risen One, heaven's Champion  
And You reign, You reign over all

*Repeat Refrain 2*

*Tag:*

Arise shine, Beautiful Savior  
Arise shine, Beautiful Savior  
Arise!

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior.  
**Thanks be to God.**