

# CHRISTMAS SUNDAY

December 25th, 2022



## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 Russell Avenue  
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1  
Church: 905-685-8294  
[www.christlutheransc.ca](http://www.christlutheransc.ca)

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**Office Hours:** Tuesday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon  
**Bulletin Announcements:** Please send to [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca).  
Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

**Pastor:** Pastor Todd Hoeffs (289-362-0113) [pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com](mailto:pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com)  
**Parish Assistant:** Louise Gondosch (905-329-8579) [parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca)  
**Business Manager:** Karen McCumber [business.manager@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:business.manager@christlutheransc.ca)  
**Secretary:** Pat Kimpel [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca)  
**Facebook:** Lisa Gall [www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC](http://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC)  
**Bulletin by email:** Judy Mason [chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca)

A recording of Sunday's service will be uploaded to YouTube at:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING\\_TKTi9c\\_OIBbMqGwLw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING_TKTi9c_OIBbMqGwLw)

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**Prayer:** We pray Thee, O Lord, to purify our hearts that they may be worthy to become Thy dwelling place. Let us never fail to find room for Thee, but come and abide with us that we also may abide in Thee, who at this time was born into the world for us, and dost live and reign, King of kings and Lord of lords, now for forevermore. Amen.

**DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:**

Monday: Titus 2: 11-14                      Wednesday: 1 John 1: 1-10                      Friday: Matt. 2: 13-18  
Tuesday: Acts 7: 54-60                      Thursday: Rev. 12: 1-6                      Saturday: Jer. 31: 15-17

**Musician:** 10 a.m. – Louise Gondosch  
**Reader:** 10 a.m. – Chris Mason  
**Greeter:** 10 a.m. –

**CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

Dec. 31, 7 pm: New Year's Eve Service

**January 2023 Worship Schedule**

January 1: Christmas 1/New Years Day – Carol Service of the Word  
January 8: Epiphany/Jesus Baptism – Creative Communion  
January 15: Epiphany 2 – Divine Service Setting Three  
January 21: Epiphany 3 – Divine Service Setting One – Communion  
January 29: Epiphany 4 – Morning Praise

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Please note we will **not** meet during the Christmas holidays, however, we will meet for **Sunday School Sunday January 15th at 9:00 a.m.** and then in February resume our schedule of the first 2 Sundays of each month.

**PRECIOUS MOMENTS:** We will take a break during the Christmas Holidays and resume Tuesday, January 10th.

**A MEMORIAL DONATION** has been given to SOUL in loving memory of Steve Gall by his wife, Twila Gall and children and grandchildren.

**YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS** will take a break for the Christmas season. We meet again Sunday, January 29th. Please look on the Pastor Todd Youth Catechism Google Classroom for any and all communications.

**SOUL CHRISTMAS/HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:**

Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup> & Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>— NO SOUL  
Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>,–2023: SOUL resumes

**YOUTH LOCK IN:** Monday, January 2nd at 7:00 p.m. until Tuesday, January 3rd at 9:00 a.m. is lock-in date. Be sure to speak with Louise if you are interested. Friends are welcome!

**Baking help:** We are looking for a few people to bake...a banana bread, cinnamon coffee cake, soft pretzel bites or other for our Youth lock in. If you can help please speak with Louise.



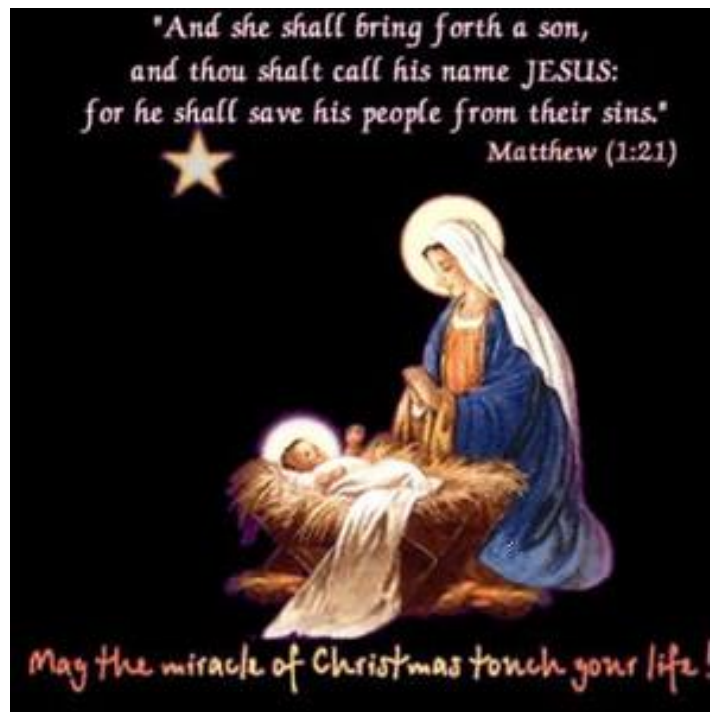
**Last Sunday Attendance:** December 18th, 2022 Attn: 10 a.m. – 92

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Weekly Need</u>	<u>Last Sunday</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>	<u>+ or - (--)</u>
Current:	283,291.00	5,554.73	5,055.00	202,452.26	(64,495.03)
LCC Missions	20,000.00	392.16	343.00	14,622.50	( 4,223.65)
Property Improvement:			87.00	6,170.50	

**FLOWERS** have been placed on the altar this morning to the Glory of God by Nick Moskaluk and family in loving memory of their mother, Ida Moskaluk.

**NOTE FROM JUDY MASON:** After several years of emailing the bulletin I would like to find a replacement. Please contact Judy if you would like to take over emailing her list of weekly bulletins to: [chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca) or 905-641-7546

**Notice to Church Extension Fund Depositors:** The Church Extension Fund (CEF) is winding down its operations and as of now all depositors with current addresses have received their deposited funds plus the interest owing. However, we have a number of unclaimed savings accounts and savings certificates as we do not have current contact information for these. If you or someone you know thinks they may have a CEF account which has not been redeemed, please contact Darryl Holland at: 800-465-8179 ext4 or [dholland@lcceast.ca](mailto:dholland@lcceast.ca). Also if you are in possession of God Bank Savings Stamps or Tracky Stamps, these too can be redeemed by returning the books or stamps to: Lutheran East District, 275 Lawrence Ave., Kitchener, ON N2M 1Y3.



# THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

## CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 2022 – 10 AM

## CHRISTMAS CAROL LITURGY

*Wheatridge Lutheran Ministries © 1975 Services*

**OPENING HYMN:** "O Come All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;

**Refrain:**

*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this Happy Morning;  
Jesus, to Thee—be glo—ry giv`n;  
Word of the Fath-er, now in Flesh ap-pearin;

**Refrain:**

*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

*Words: J. Francis Wade, trans. 1841 Public Domain*

### **INVOCATION, CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World!

**In Him was life, and that life was the Light of all people!**

For unto us a Child is born; to us, a Son is given!

**Oh, come, let us worship Him!**

Let us confess our sins to God our Father, seeking His mercy: *(Silence for reflection)*

**I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of Heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in my thoughts, words and deeds by my own most sorrowful fault; and now I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**SPOKEN KYRIE:**

**Lord, have mercy on us; Christ, have mercy on us; Lord, have mercy on us.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE:**

**Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the new-born King.  
Peace on earth and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled  
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies  
With the-angelic host proclaim  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King!**

*Felix Mendelsson, 1739*

## **GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY** *(spoken)*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

O Almighty God, as You make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of Your only Son Jesus Christ, illuminate us, we pray, who joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer that we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes at the Last in all glory and majesty; for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **The Old Testament:** *Isaiah 52: 7-10*

How 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." The 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. Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The 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.

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

### **The Epistle:** *Hebrews 1:1-12*

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He 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, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For 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"? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire." But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions." And, "You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment, like a robe you will roll them up, like a garment they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will have no end."

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

## **CHRISTMAS GOSPEL VERSE:**

**The fir-st No-el, the ang-el did say,  
was to cert-ain poor shep-herd in fields where they lay,  
in fie-lds where they, lay keep-ing their sheep,  
on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep:  
No-el, no-el, no-el, no—el, born is the King of Is—rael!**

### **The Holy Gospel:** *St. John 1: 1-14*

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter:

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He

came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And 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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

#### **HYMN RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL: "Joy To The World"**

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And Heaven and nature sing, and Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven, and Heaven, 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.**

**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.**

*Words: Isaac Watts, 1719, public domain*

#### **CHRISTMAS MESSAGE**

#### **CREEDAL HYMN**

*Tune: "From Heav'n Above"*

**God's gift des-cends from Heav'n on High.  
The Baby in the Manger lies.  
Our Father sent us His own Son  
That we with Him might now be one.**

**Christ Jesus is our Holy King!  
To Him glad praises we shall sing!  
Upon a cross deep sorrows bring;  
He lives, so death has lost its sting!**

**The Spirit comes, the Church's seal!  
Christ comes, in Water, Word and Meal!  
With angels let us now proclaim  
We do believe God's Saving Name!**

*Arden Meade © 1975 Wheatridge*

#### **THE OFFERINGS *are gathered.***

#### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

As we worship the newborn Son of God, let us also pray that he may bring healing, salvation and peace to the church, the world, and all people:

O Word made flesh, who dwells among us, bless the Church with a glimpse of your glory. Conform her worship to the adoration of the angels, the bliss of Mother Mary, the quiet goodness of Joseph, and the faithful reverence of the shepherds. Give the church words to proclaim your glory and your love, especially to those who do not know you, so that through their witness, the whole world may join the song first sung at your birth: "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth!"

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**



O Prince of Peace, silence the taunts and break the spears of persecution against your servants, especially during this season of light. Turn their suffering for the sake of your Name into great joy. And transform their tormentors into confessors of your undeserved mercy.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Even the feet of your servants are beautiful when they speed to announce your strong saving love to those who despair of your existence, your power, or your goodness. Bless, therefore, all missionaries of the Gospel of Peace; all Christian relief organizations throughout the world; every soup kitchen, homeless shelter, and hospice; and every herald of your Kingdom who gladdens the hearts of any that sit in darkness and sorrow.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Sun of Righteousness, arise with healing in your wings and bestow the glorious light of your salvation upon all who sit in the darkness of suffering and the shadow of death. Be with those we know to be in any pain or who see this time of joy as a time of hurt. Restore them to life and hope; encourage all who care for them; and let the great good news of your birth among us adorn their suffering with unconquerable joy.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In you, dear Jesus Christ, we see the eternal love of your Father's heart, and the eternal glory of his Kingdom. We thank you for drawing into that loving heart and glorious Kingdom, all those who died trusting in your goodness. Wipe away the tears from everyone whose grief runs deep. May all seekers of your mercy find hope and may our hearts open wide in welcome as we grow in patience and faith, knowing you have all these things in your capable hands. Hear and mercifully grant us, dear Lord, all that we ask that conforms to your good and perfect will for us, for your Name's sake. **Amen.**

### **SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**

#### **PROPER PREFACE:**

*Sung responsive: Tune "Angels with Have Heard on High"*

May the Lord be with you.

**May the Lord remain with you.**

Lift your hearts to God in praise

**To the Lord our hearts we raise.**

**Gloria in Excelsis Deo! Gloria in Excelsis Deo!**

In the Word of God made flesh — Great and wondrous mystery — With the Church in Heav'n and earth, celebrate Christ's Holy Birth:

**Gloria in Excelsis Deo! Gloria in Excelsis Deo!**

#### **SANCTUS**

*Tune "Angels with Have Heard on High"*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, Mighty God of Sabb-aoth.**

**Heav'n and earth Your glory fills, blest hosannas in Your name:**

**Gloria in Excelsis Deo! Gloria in Excelsis Deo!**

#### **THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

Blessed are You, Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, blessed are You. Before the foundation of the world You chose us to be Your children. You have liberated us from the power of darkness and brought us into the Kingdom of Your dear Son, the very image and reflection of Your glory. In Him we have received redemption and forgiveness of sins. We thank You for the whole of creation, for all the works of Your hands, for all that You have done in our midst, therefore we bow before You and adore You and remember Him Who comes to us in this holy meal.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## 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. 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**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

*Tune – "I Heard The Bells"*

The night Lord Jesus was betrayed He took the bread and when He'd prayed, and given to His disciples, said: "Now take and eat all from this bread."

"This is My + Body given for you", and ev'ry time that this you do, remember that I died to free; all men that they may come to Me."

And after that when He had supped and given thanks He took the cup, and then to His disciples said:

"This is My + Blood; for you it's shed."

"Now drink the Cup, for this is new, My Testament, poured out for you; your sins are gone! Now this shall be fore'er a meal rememb'ring Me."

## LORD'S PEACE:

*Sung responsive: Tune – "I Heard The Bells"*

The Lord's peace now be with you,

**Amen. His peace so be with you.**

Eat of this Bread and drink this Cup.

**Proclaim Christ's death until He comes.**

## LAMB OF GOD:

*Tune – "I Heard The Bells"*

**O Lamb of God, You take away the sin of all;  
now hear us pray,  
And grant us from our sin release;  
Have mercy on us! Grant us peace!**

## HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

### COMMUNION HYMN:

*"What Child Is This?"*

**What child is this, who, laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!**

**Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians fear for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through  
The Cross be borne for me, for you  
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!**



So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him  
The King of kings salvation brings  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him  
Raise, raise the song on high  
The Virgin sings a lullaby  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

*William Dix, 1837-1898*

**SONG OF SIMEON:**

*Tune – “God Rest Ye Merry”*

Lord, let Your servant go in peace, Your Word has been fulfilled.  
My eyes have seen Your saving work  
Which for the world You willed;  
The glory of Your Israel as Light for all revealed.  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy.  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy.

Oh, praise to God the Father and praise to God the Son  
And praise to God the Spirit, most blessed Three in One  
As 'twas, is now, and e'er shall be while endless ages run  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy.  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy!

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER:** *(spoken)*

**We pray:** Help us and work in us, Great Lord, that what we have received with our lips in Your holy bread and cup we may keep with pure hearts, and that through this Holy Communion gift given to us in this present life we may hereafter receive life everlasting with You in Heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**BENEDICTION:**

*Sung responsive: Tune – “Good Christian Friends Rejoice”*

Now may the Lord be with you.

**And be with you, His servant true.**

The Lord now bless and keep you; Shine His face upon you; Lift His favour upon you, and + grant You true, abiding peace.

**Christ is born today! Christ is born! Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN VERSE:**

*“Good Christian Friends!”*

**Good Christian friends rejoice! With heart and soul and voice!  
Now you need not fear the grave, Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all  
Into His lavish Banquet hall!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

**THE CHRISTMAS CAROL LITURGY** is from the LC-MS Wheatridge © 1975 Ministries Song book, reprinted with limited permission (as song books are out of print) & from Lutheran Church of Australia's Christmas worship resources, 2004. Other hymn lyrics are public domain, reprinted from [www.hymnary.org](http://www.hymnary.org).

***BLESSED CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO ALL! Thank you for joining us in Worship this morning!  
We are sincerely thrilled that you came to worship Christ the newborn King of all nations!***

*On behalf of all who serve us, our musicians, choir director, PowerPoint volunteers, ushers, office administrator, financial administrator and lay leadership, from our hearts to yours, may you have a wondrous joy-filled Christmas season blessed with peace and hope bringing you contentment well into the new year.*

*In Christian love, Pastor Todd, Jennifer, Jonah, Nick and Georgia Hoeffs*

