

<sup>12</sup>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.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Holy Gospel

John 1:1–14

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



**C** Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<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 were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has 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 bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about 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 was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>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.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Acknowledgments

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CHRISTMAS DAY  
DECEMBER 25, 2023



DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE  
LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK, PAGE 184

## Introit

Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6



For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given;\*,  
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder,  
**and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,\*,**  
**Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.**

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous  
things!\*

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.  
**The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;\*,**

**he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the |**  
**nations.**

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house  
of | Israel.\*

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.

**Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;\*,**  
**break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*,**  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\*,**  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given;\*,  
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder,  
**and his name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,\*,**  
**Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.**

*St. Mark Lutheran Church  
is a Christ-centered, Historic, Liturgical, Lutheran Congregation in the heart of Waco, Texas.  
We have been serving Waco and the surrounding communities since 1917.*

Collect of the Day

**P** Let us pray.  
Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7–10

<sup>7</sup>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.”  
<sup>8</sup>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.  
<sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing,  
you waste places of Jerusalem,  
for the LORD has comforted his people;  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
<sup>10</sup>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.

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

Gradual

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a



To us a child is born, to us a son is | given,\*  
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder.

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God,\*  
Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.  
Sing to the Lord a | new song,\*  
for he has done | marvelous things!

Epistle

Hebrews 1:1–12

<sup>1</sup>Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.  
<sup>5</sup>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”?  
<sup>6</sup>And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,  
“Let all God’s angels worship him.”  
<sup>7</sup>Of the angels he says,  
“He makes his angels winds,  
and his ministers a flame of fire.”  
<sup>8</sup>But of the Son he says,  
“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,  
the scepter of uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom.  
<sup>9</sup>You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;  
therefore God, your God, has anointed you  
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.”  
<sup>10</sup>And,  
“You, Lord, laid the foundation of the earth in the beginning,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands;  
<sup>11</sup>they will perish, but you remain;  
they will all wear out like a garment,



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December 25, 2023

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