



OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRAND PRAIRIE

You are welcome here!
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing
in Faith, Hope, and Love.**

Address

4729 S. Carrier Parkway
Grand Prairie, TX 75052



Phone

972-642-5683



Website

www.OurRedeemerGP.org



Facebook

[www.facebook.com/
OurRedeemerLutheranGP](http://www.facebook.com/OurRedeemerLutheranGP)



Worship Times

Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm



Pastor

Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal



January 3, 2021
Second Sunday
of Christmas

Gathering

✠INTRODUCTION

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.

✠CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who was in the beginning, who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mercy.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

C **God of goodness and lovingkindness, we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have turned away from your invitation to new life. We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins, those we know and those known only to you, for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P Hear the good news of peace and salvation! God forgives us all our sins, not through our own work, but through † Jesus Christ, made known to all people. With all who come to the manger, rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.

C **Amen.**

✠HYMN OF REFLECTION – In a Lowly Manger Born (ELW #718)

To the tune of Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

1 In a lowly manger born,
humble life begun in scorn;
under Joseph's watchful eye,
Jesus grew as you and I;
knew the suff'rings of the weak,
knew the patience of the meek,
hungered as but poor folk can;
this is he. Behold the man!

2 Visiting the lone and lost,
steadyng the tempest-tossed,
giving of himself in love,
calling minds to things above.
Sinners gladly hear his call;
publicans before him fall,
for in him new life began;
this is he. Behold the man!

3 Then, to rescue you and me,
Jesus died upon the tree.
See in him God's love revealed;
by his passion we are healed.
Now he lives in glory bright,
lives again in pow'r and might;
come and take the path he trod,
son of Mary, Son of God.

Text: Kō Yūki © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A. All rights reserved.

✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

A 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.

C **Amen.**

Word

✠ FIRST LESSON – Ephesians 1:3-14

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

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

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

✠ **GOSPEL – John 1:1-18**

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.

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

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

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

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

¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵(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.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

✠SERMON

✠HYMN OF THE DAY – Drawn to the Light (ELW #593)

- 1 People who walk in darkness have sought
a light in the heart of the darkest night.
Just when we thought all would be lost,
we were drawn to the light of God.

Refrain

Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night,
drawn to the light and the morning.
Glorious and bright, oh, what a sight
to be drawn to the light of God.

- 2 How can we tell a heaven from hell
if ev'ryone dwells in the dark of night?
Morning dispels, gently compels,
and we're drawn to the light of God. *Refrain*

- 3 Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none!
The Lamb is the one who is shining bright,
bids us to come! Life has begun
when we're drawn to the light of God. *Refrain*

Text and Music: John C. Ylvisaker © 1990 John C. Ylvisaker. All rights reserved.
Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A. All rights reserved.

✠PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P As we near the conclusion of the Christmas season, let us pray for God's mercy
throughout this new year.

A brief silence.

- P All through 2021, O redeeming God, bless your church. Renew the strength of
bishops, pastors, deacons, musicians, and all servants of the church. Assist
congregations in paying their bills. Give us hope in your goodness and joy in your
salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

- P All through 2021, O bountiful God, bless your earth. Hold the ecosystems of this
earth in the balance you intend, from coastlands to farmlands, forests to wetlands,
deserts to rainforests. Reveal new ways for us to live in harmony with your creation.
Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P All through 2021, O ruling God, bless the nations of the world. Bring peace and justice where there is violence and abuse of power. Inspire those in authority to serve the common good, and preserve stability in the United States. Protect those who risk danger for the sake of others. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P All through 2021, O reconciling God, lead us out of patterns of prejudice and into reconciliation with one another. Help us to honor all persons as members of your family and our siblings under your care. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P All through 2021, O loving God, give us wisdom in our resolutions and strength during hardships. Console those who are afraid or lonely. Give jobs to the unemployed. Direct us toward the solution to the world's problems, to feed the hungry, to house the homeless, to serve the neighbor. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P All through 2021, O compassionate God, attend to those who suffer. End the pandemic. Restore health care workers. Heal the sick. Accompany those living with chronic and invisible illness. Visit those for whom we pray now, silently or aloud . . . Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P All through 2021, O precious God, pour over us and into us your Holy Spirit, that we may live as your own, and accept the silent petitions we offer. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P At this beginning of 2021, O eternal God, hear our praise for all those whose lives proclaimed your praise, especially those who died during 2020. At our end, bring us with them into the garden watered by your mercy. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P O God, you are the Beginning and the Ending of all. Receive our prayers for the sake of one who made known to us the mystery of your will, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

✠PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

Meal

✠ 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.

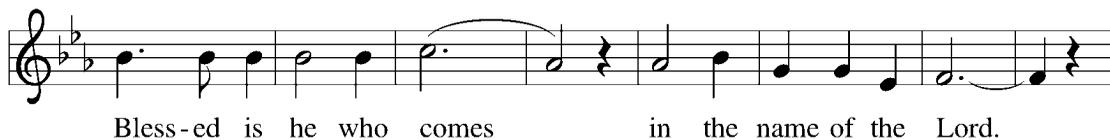
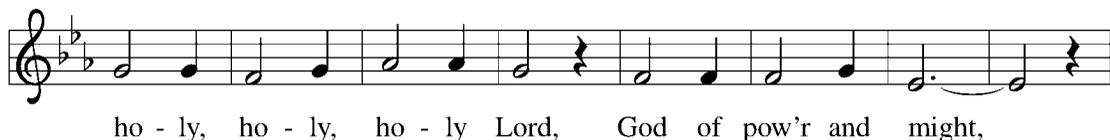
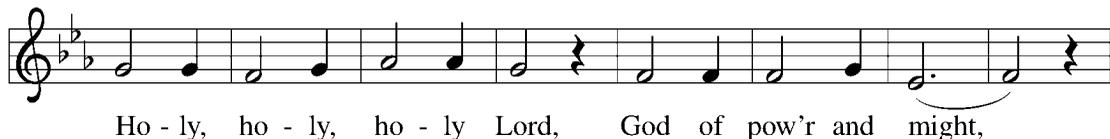
C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

✠ **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW #190)** *See next page*

Holy, Holy, Holy

Great Thanksgiving



Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
Adapt. © 1985, 1989 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 www.giamusic.com
800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A. All rights reserved.

✠ Eucharistic Prayer

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. 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.

✠ LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C 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.

✠ BLESSING

P Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day † through the Word made flesh

C Amen.

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠SENDING HYMN – Arise, Your Light Has Come! (ELW #314)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today. | 3 Arise, your light has come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn. |
| 2 Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor. | 4 Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong. |

Text: Ruth Duck © 1992 GIA Publications Inc. All rights reserved.
Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A. All rights reserved.

✠DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Copyright info

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2021 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS002056.
Permission to reprint, podcast and/or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #735766-A valid for 06/30/2020 – 06/29/2021. All rights reserved.
New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.