



# Apostles Evangelical Lutheran Church & Preschool

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**Welcome!** Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to receive from him the promise of sins forgiven and to strengthen our faith through his powerful Word. Through the good news of Jesus we are empowered to offer the Lord our praise and thanksgiving.

- **Restrooms** are located near the entry, across from the classroom.
- **Cry-room:** If you have need of a cry room for young children, you are welcome to go into the classroom located down the hall to the right as you walk out of the worship area. The sound system allows you to hear the service in this room.
- **Hearing assistance devices and large print service folders** are available. Please speak to an usher if you need assistance.



## First Sunday After Christmas

*January 1, 2012*

### Preparation for Worship

Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. *Isaiah 40:31*

Lord Jesus, you are my strength and my salvation. Throughout this New Year, surround me with your Gospel, giving to me confidence in my salvation through the forgiveness of sins. Amen.

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
*Service of Word and Sacrament*

*please stand*

Pastor: We welcome the New Year in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit!

**Congregation: Amen!**

**PSALM 121** (*Spoken by designated parts*)

P: I lift up my eyes to the hills —

**Men: Where does my help come from?**

P: My help comes from the LORD,

**Men: The Maker of heaven and earth.**

P: He will not let your foot slip —

**Women: He who watches over you will not slumber;**

P: Indeed, he who watches over Israel

**Women: Will neither slumber nor sleep.**

P: The LORD watches over you —

**All: The LORD is your shade at your right hand;**

P: The sun will not harm you by day,

**All: Nor the moon by night.**

P: The LORD will keep you from all harm —

**Men: He will watch over your life;**

P: The LORD will watch over your coming and going

**Women: Both now and forevermore.**

*please be seated*

HYMN

God of Mercy, God of Grace  
(Hymn 249)

*please stand*

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Lamb of God, We Fall Before You  
(Hymn 354 vs. 1-3 *as designated*)

**Men: 1. Lamb of God, we fall before you,  
Humbly trusting in your cross.  
Our great joy is to adore you;  
All things else are only dross.**

**Women: 2. Jesus is the perfect Savior,  
Only source of all that's good;  
Ev'ry grace and ev'ry favor  
Come to us through Jesus' blood.**

**All: 3. Jesus gives us true repentance  
By his Spirit sent from heav'n,  
Whispers this assuring sentence,  
"All your sins are now forgiv'n."**

P: Let us pray.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



*please be seated*

**FIRST LESSON**

**Matthew 28:18-20**

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Alleluia.

**ALLELUIA RESPONSE**





## **SECOND LESSON**

## **Romans 8:31-39**

31 What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all — how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? 33 Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died — more than that, who was raised to life — is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written:

"For your sake we face death all day long;  
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Jesus, Lead Us On**  
(Hymn 422 vs. 1-3)

## ***THE SERMON ~ 1 Peter 5:7 ~***

### **CAST ALL YOUR ANXIETY ON HIM**

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

*please stand*

**HYMN**

**Jesus, Lead Us On**  
(Hymn 422 vs. 4)

**CONFESSION OF FAITH** ~ *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 fully 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 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 in unity with the Father and Son is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian 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.**

*please be seated*

**OFFERING**

*Our offerings are the way we give thanks to God for his grace to us, as well as the way we support the spread of the Gospel. Guests need not feel obligated to contribute.*

*please stand*

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

**C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.**

P: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

**C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.**

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

P: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

### **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.**

**THE SACRAMENT**

*In the Lord's Supper, Jesus comes to us with his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. God's Word also tells us that when we come together at the Lord's table, we are confessing the oneness of faith that exists between those who believe and confess the same truths of Scripture. For this reason, if you had not had the opportunity to learn what this congregation teaches and to confess your agreement, we ask that you please speak with a pastor if you desire to commune in the future.*

P: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Praise to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. When the time had fully come, he sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - men.

**O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD**

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; grant us your peace. A - men.

*please be seated*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

**How Firm a Foundation**

(Hymn 416)

**My God Will Never Leave Me**

(Hymn 418)

*please stand*

**THANK THE LORD**



**C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.**



**Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.**



**He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with**



**shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!**

**P:** Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



### **THE BLESSING**

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



### **CLOSING HYMN**

**Go, My Children, With My Blessing**  
(Hymn 332 vs. 1-3)

*Mission Statement of Apostles Evangelical Lutheran Church  
& Preschool of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod*

*As God's disciples, we the men, women and children of Apostles, are united in the preaching, teaching and sharing of God's Word in its truth and purity. By God's grace, we will nurture believers and joyfully spread the Word of God in our community and throughout the world, all to His glory.*