

**The Second Sunday After Christmas  
January 4, 2026  
Heritage Lutheran Church  
Apple Valley, MN  
9:00 a.m.**



ELH Rite 4, Chorale Service, with Communion page 107

**1. Welcome**

**2. Opening Hymn #132 “Rejoice, Rejoice, Ye Christians” (Tune ELH #178)**

1 Rejoice, rejoice, ye Christians, With all your hearts, this morn!  
O hear the blessed tidings, "The Lord, the Christ, is born,"  
Now brought us by the angels That stand about God's throne;  
Oh lovely are the voices That make such tidings known!

2 Oh hearken to their singing! This Child shall be your Friend;  
The Father so hath willed it That thus your woes should end.  
The Son is freely given, That in Him ye may have  
The Father's grace and blessing, And know He loves to save.

3 Nor deem the form too lowly That clothes Him at this hour;  
For know ye what it hideth? 'Tis God's almighty pow'r.  
Though now within the manger So poor and weak He lies;  
He is the Lord of all things, He reigns above the skies.

4 Sin, death, and hell, and Satan Have lost the victory;  
This Child shall overthrow them, As ye shall surely see.  
Their wrath shall nought avail them; Fear not, their reign is o'er;  
This Child shall overthrow them,—Oh hear, and doubt no more.

**3. Invocation**

**Pastor** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Congregation** Amen.

**4. The Confession of Sin**

**Pastor** Let us confess our sins:

**Congregation** Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned against Your divine majesty by thought, word, and deed, provoking Your wrath against us. We earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for our sins. We grieve to think of them. Their burden is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, gracious Father! Forgive us our sins

for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that we may serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Pastor** Lift up your hearts. The Lord God, according to His promise, is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. By the command of Christ and the authority of my holy office I forgive your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**5. The Kyrie - Hymn #34 “Kyrie, God Father in Heaven Above”**

*Kyrie, God Father in heav'n above, Great art Thou in grace and love  
Of all things the Maker and Preserver. Eleison, eleison!*

*Kyrie, O Christ, our King, Salvation for sinners Thou didst bring.*

*O Lord Jesus, God's own Son, Our Mediator at the heav'nly throne,  
Hear our cry and grant our supplication. Eleison, eleison!*

*Kyrie, O God the Holy Ghost, Guard our faith, the gift we need the most;*

*Do Thou our last hour bless; Let us leave this sinful world with gladness.*

*Eleison, eleison!*

**6. The Gloria Hymn - Hymn #35 “All Glory Be to God on High” verse 1**

*All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended!*

*To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended.*

*God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again;*

*O thank Him for His goodness!*

**7. The Collect for the Day**

**Pastor** Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, we give thanks to You that of Your mercy and compassion You caused Your Son to become incarnate, and through Him redeemed us from sin and everlasting death: We beseech You, enlighten our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that we may ever be thankful for such grace, and comfort ourselves thereby in all tribulation and temptation, and at last obtain eternal salvation; through the same, Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns, with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

**8. The Old Testament Lesson – Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

<sup>61:10</sup> I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. <sup>11</sup> For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. <sup>62:1</sup> For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. <sup>2</sup> The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. <sup>3</sup> You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

**9. Psalm 147:12-20 (read responsively by whole verse)**

<sup>12</sup> Praise the LORD, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

<sup>13</sup> For he strengthens the bars of your gates; he blesses your children within you.

<sup>14</sup> He makes peace in your borders; he fills you with the finest of the wheat.

<sup>15</sup> He sends out his command to the earth; his word runs swiftly.

<sup>16</sup> He gives snow like wool; he scatters frost like ashes.

<sup>17</sup> He hurls down his crystals of ice like crumbs; who can stand before his cold?

<sup>18</sup> He sends out his word, and melts them; he makes his wind blow and the waters flow.

<sup>19</sup> He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and rules to Israel.

<sup>20</sup> He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his rules. Praise the LORD! Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

## 10. The Epistle – Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18

<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>even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>15</sup>For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup>that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, <sup>18</sup>having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints.

## 11. Chief Hymn #163 “O Rejoice Ye Christians Loudly”

1 O rejoice, ye Christians, loudly,  
For our joy hath now begun;  
Wondrous things our God hath done.  
Tell abroad His goodness proudly  
Who our race hath honored thus  
That He deigns to dwell with us.  
Joy, O joy, beyond all gladness,  
Christ hath done away with sadness!  
Hence, all sorrow and repining,  
For the Sun of Grace is shining!

2 See, my soul, thy Savior chooses  
Weakness here and poverty;  
In such love He comes to thee.  
Nor the manger bed refuses,  
All He suffers for thy good,  
To redeem thee by His blood.  
Joy, O joy, beyond all gladness,  
Christ hath done away with sadness!  
Hence, all sorrow and repining,  
For the Sun of Grace is shining!

3 Lord, how shall I thank Thee rightly?  
I acknowledge that by Thee  
I am saved eternally.  
Let me not forget it lightly,  
But to Thee at all times cleave,  
And my heart true peace receive.  
Joy, O joy, beyond all gladness,  
Christ hath done away with sadness!  
Hence, all sorrow and repining,  
For the Sun of Grace is shining!

4 Jesus, guard and guide Thy members;  
Fill Thy brethren with Thy grace,  
Hear their prayers in ev'ry place.  
Brighten now life's glowing embers;  
Grant all Christians, far and near,  
Holy peace, a godly cheer!  
Joy, O joy, beyond all gladness,  
Christ hath done away with sadness!  
Hence, all sorrow and repining,  
For the Sun of Grace is shining!

## 12. The Gospel Lesson John 1:14-18

<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. <sup>15</sup> (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup> For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

## 13. The Creed Hymn #37 "We All Believe In One True God"

1 We all believe in one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Ever-present Help in need, Praised by all the heav'nly host,  
By whose mighty pow'r alone All is made and wrought and done.

2 We all believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son,  
Who descended from His throne And for us salvation won,  
By whose cross and death are we Rescued from all misery.

3 We all confess the Holy Ghost, Who from both fore'er proceeds,  
Who upholds and comforts us In all trials, fears, and needs.  
Blest and Holy Trinity, Praise forever be to Thee!

## 14. The Sermon "God's Greatness In Grace" John 1:14-18

## 15. The Offering

## 16. The Prayers *prayer requests and general prayers for the needs of all people*

### ***The Service of the Holy Communion***

*Heritage Lutheran Church practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of the ELS and WELS partake of the Lord's Supper today. Visitors, please speak with Pastor Anderson about receiving the Sacrament in the future.*

## 17. The Lord's Prayer *sung by all. Tune: ELH p. 53*

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.

## 18. The Words of Institution

**Pastor** Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## 19. The Distribution and Reception of The Lord's Supper

## 20. Distribution Hymns

### **#227 "Salvation Unto Us Has Come" (verses 1-6)**

1 Salvation unto us is come By God's free grace and favor.  
Good works cannot avert our doom; They help and save us never.  
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone, Who did for all the world atone;  
He is our one Redeemer.

2 What God did in His Law demand No man to Him could render.  
Before this Judge all guilty stand; His law speaks curse in thunder.  
The law demands a perfect heart; We were defiled in ev'ry part,  
And lost was our condition.

3 False dreams deluded minds did fill, That God His law had given,  
As if to Him we could at will Earns grace and enter heaven.  
The law is but a mirror bright To bring the inbred sin to light  
That lurks within our nature.

4 From sin our flesh could not abstain, Sin held its sway unceasing;  
The task was useless and in vain, Our guilt was e'er increasing.  
None can remove sin's poisoned dart Or purify our guileful heart,  
So deep is our corruption.

5 Still all the law fulfilled must be, Else we were lost forever,  
The God His Son sent down that He Might us from doom deliver;  
He all the law for us fulfilled And thus His Father's anger stilled  
Which over us impended.

6 As Christ hath full atonement made And brought to us salvation,  
So may each Christian now be glad And build on this foundation;  
Thy grace alone, dear Lord, I plead, Thy death is now my life indeed,  
For Thou hast paid my ransom.

#### **#184 "My Faith Looks Up To Thee"**

1 My faith looks up to Thee,  
Thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine.  
Now hear me while I pray;  
Take all my guilt away;  
Oh, let me from this day  
Be wholly Thine!

2 May Thy rich grace impart  
Strength to my fainting heart;  
My zeal inspire!  
As Thou hast died for me,  
Oh, may my love to Thee  
Pure, warm, and changeless be,  
A living fire!

3 While life's dark maze I tread  
And griefs around me spread,  
Be Thou my Guide.  
Bid darkness turn to day,  
Wipe sorrow's tears away,  
Nor let me ever stray  
From Thee aside.

4 When ends life's transient dream,  
When death's cold, sullen stream  
Shall o'er me roll,  
Blest Savior, then, in love,  
Fear and distrust remove;  
Oh, bear me safe above,  
A ransomed soul!

**#257 "When In The Hour Of Utmost Need"**

1 When in the hour of utmost need  
We know not where to look for aid;  
When days and nights of anxious thought  
Nor help nor counsel yet have brought,

2 Then this our comfort is alone:  
That we may meet before Thy throne  
And cry, O faithful God, to Thee  
For rescue from our misery;

3 To Thee may raise our hearts and eyes,  
Repenting sore with bitter sighs,  
And seek Thy pardon for our sin  
And respite from our griefs within.

4 For Thou hast promised graciously  
To hear all those who cry to Thee  
Through Him whose name alone is great,  
Our Savior and our Advocate.

5 And thus we come, O God, today  
And all our woes before Thee lay;  
For sorely tried, cast down, we stand,  
Perplexed by fears on ev'ry hand.

6 Ah! hide not for our sins Thy face,  
Absolve us through Thy boundless grace,  
Be with us in our anguish still;  
Free us at last from ev'ry ill,

7 That so with all our hearts we may  
To Thee our glad thanksgiving pay,  
Then walk obedient to Thy Word  
And now and ever praise Thee, Lord.

**#175 "God Loves Me Dearly"**

1 God love me dearly, Grants me salvation,  
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

Refrain:

Therefore I'll say again: God loves me dearly,  
God loves me dearly, Loves even me.

2 I was in slav'ry, Sin, death, and darkness;  
God's love was working To make me free. (Refrain)

3 He sent forth Jesus, My dear Redeemer,  
He sent forth Jesus And set me free. (Refrain)

4 Jesus, my Savior, Himself did offer;  
Jesus, my Savior, Paid all I owed. (Refrain)

5 Now will I praise You, O love Eternal;  
Now will I praise You All my life long. (Refrain)

## **21. Collect of Thanksgiving**

**Pastor** Let us give thanks and pray: Almighty God and Father, we thank You for feeding us with the most precious body and blood of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of Your Son, and heirs of Your eternal kingdom. Send us out to do the work You have given us to do, to love and serve You as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

**Congregation** Amen.

## **22. The Benediction**

**Pastor** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**Congregation** Amen.

## **23. Closing Hymn #165 “Let The Earth Now Praise The Lord” (verses 1,2,4,7,9)**

1 Let the earth now praise the Lord. Who hath truly kept His word  
And the sinners' Help and Friend Now at last to us doth send.

2 What the fathers most desired, What the prophets' heart inspired,  
What they longed for many a year, Stands fulfilled in glory here.

4 Welcome, O my Savior, now! Hail! My Portion, Lord, art Thou.  
Here, too, in my heart, I pray, Oh, prepare Thyself a way!

7 Comfort, comfort Thou my heart, Thou my Strength and Refuge art.  
I am weak, and cunningly Satan lays his snares for me.

9 And when Thou dost come again As a glorious King to reign,  
I with joy may see Thy face, Freely ransomed by Thy grace.

## **Announcements**

**Board of Elders** – The Board of Elders will meet on Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**Call Accepted** – Katie Henricks has accepted the call to serve as a lead preschool teacher here at Heritage Lutheran School starting with the 2026/2027 school year.

**Altar Guild Meeting** – The Altar Guild will meet after church on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to learn more about the Altar Guild, please plan to attend the meeting or speak to Hannah Anderson, Bonnie Kooy, or Sondra Frimanslund.

**Women's Bible Study** – The Monday night Women's Bible Class will resume on Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>. Contact Ruth B. for further details.

**Men's Bible Study** – Men's Bible study will reconvene on Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

**Meditations** – The new meditations are available on the welcome stand.

**Fellowship** - Volunteers are always needed to provide fellowship food every Sunday. Please sign up on the volunteer board.

