



**CHRIST THE  
SAVIOR IS BORN**

# Son of God

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

December 28, 2025



*"Winning souls for Christ. Coaching Christians for life."*

4651 Kernan Blvd S, Jacksonville, FL 32224 • (904) 642-8900

# A Place to Call Home: Victory Lutheran

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, welcome home. We especially welcome to our house of worship our guests who have joined us today. We pray you will be strengthened by the good news about God's grace, love, and forgiveness to us through Jesus. We say with the Psalmist, whether here on campus or viewing online, "I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD'" (Psalm 122:1). May the Lord continue to help us grow in His grace and knowledge as we hear, speak, and sing His holy Word.

**Please sign the Connection Card** inside the worship folder and return it in the basket on the worship table. Members, please update your contact info if there is a change.

**Restrooms** are located in the hallway to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Changing tables are available in both restrooms.

**A Quiet Room** for children who need a moment to get settled with a parent or guardian is located on the right before entering the sanctuary.

Visit our website: [www.victorylutheran.org](http://www.victorylutheran.org) or find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube!



## Worship Series Focus: **CHRIST THE SAVIOR IS BORN**

"Silent Night" was written originally in German by Joseph Mohr, with music composed by Franz Gruber. The carol was first performed on Christmas Eve in 1818 at St. Nicholas Church in Oberndorf, Austria. Legend says the church organ was broken, prompting Gruber to compose a simple guitar accompaniment. Subsequently accompanied by many instruments and translated into many languages, the text paints the picture of the incarnation. The last phrase is repeated, so in the second stanza we hear it twice: "Christ the Savior is born!" Every word of that phrase is significant, and every line of the Christmas carol describes a Bible truth. We use the beloved hymn to ponder the profound message of the Twelve Days of Christmas.

## Today's Worship: **SON OF GOD**

Christmas holidays mean family time, often with extended family travel and visits. Meals are prepared, gifts are given, memories are made. But the memories might not all be good. Sometimes there are Christmas hurts or even tragedies. We live in a world still affected by sin.

The sinfulness of the world cannot rob us of the peace God intends to bring through his Son. Christ the Savior is born, and through his life, God brings us into the family. He gives us the rights of redeemed sons and daughters, the privileges of inheritance.

*The Service: Setting One*

# Our Path for Worship



Minister: We worship today in the name of the Father and of  
the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen.**

O Lord, keep our ears attentive to your Word through word and song,  
**and accept our words of thanks and praise.**

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;  
**his faithfulness continues through all generations.**

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.  
**Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.**

## **HYMN SING SUNDAY**

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love.  
**According to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**All: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you  
in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, hear the word of Christ through his called servant: All your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

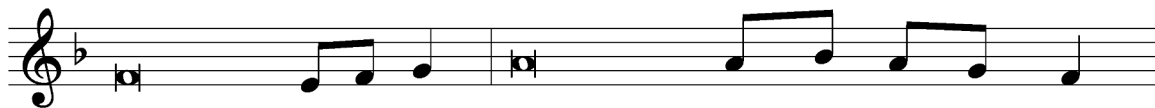
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH**

*Gloria in Excelsis*



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,

we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,  
 God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;  
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;  
 have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.  
 You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.  
 For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the  
 Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Let us pray. Almighty God, the martyred innocents of Bethlehem showed forth your praise not by speaking but by dying. Put to death in us all that is in conflict with your will that our lives may bear witness to the faith we profess with our lips;  
**through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 63:7-9

*The kindness of the Lord is seen in sending a Savior to redeem those who turn away from him*

<sup>7</sup>I will tell of the kindnesses of the LORD,  
the deeds for which he is to be praised,  
according to all the LORD has done for us—  
yes, the many good things  
he has done for Israel,  
according to his compassion and many kindnesses.  
<sup>8</sup>He said, “Surely they are my people,  
children who will be true to me”;  
and so he became their Savior.  
<sup>9</sup>In all their distress he too was distressed,  
and the angel of his presence saved them.  
In his love and mercy he redeemed them;  
he lifted them up and carried them  
all the days of old.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN

**CW361** | *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

## SECOND READING

Galatians 4:4-7

*Redeemed by God's true Son, we can call God our "Father"*

<sup>4</sup>But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. <sup>6</sup>Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Psalm 98:1*



### Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Tone

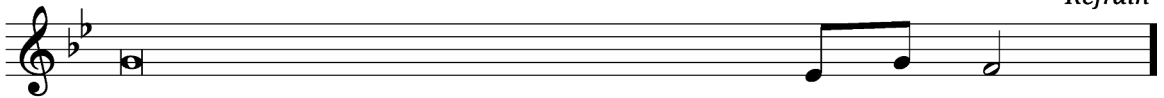


Sing to the LORD a

new

song;

### Refrain



his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation

for

him.

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## GOSPEL READING

*Matthew 2:13–23*

***God saves his Son from an early death so he could die on the cross when the time had fully come***

<sup>13</sup>When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

<sup>14</sup>So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, <sup>15</sup>where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

<sup>16</sup>When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. <sup>17</sup>Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

<sup>18</sup>“A voice is heard in Ramah,  
weeping and great mourning,  
Rachel weeping for her children  
and refusing to be comforted,  
because they are no more.”



<sup>19</sup>After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt <sup>20</sup>and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.”

<sup>21</sup>So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, <sup>23</sup>and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

*All children are invited to join Pastor at the front of the sanctuary for a message based on today's sermon, specifically designed for them! If it would help the children feel more comfortable, an adult is welcome to come up with them.*

*Please note, there will be no Children's Church this morning.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**CW342** | *O Jesus Christ, Your Manger Is*

## **FOCUS ON THE SCRIPTURES**

*Pastor Jonathan Kolander*

***Celebrate Your Inheritance***

*Galatians 4:4-7*

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**



## THANK OFFERING

To show our thanks to God for his generosity toward us, we gather this thank offering, an act of worship (Romans 12:1), to support our Gospel-focused ministry in the Jacksonville area and beyond. See our website for other ways to support Victory's ministry and mission. If you want to give your thank offering online, you may use the camera on your smartphone to scan the QR code.



Please also fill out the Connection Card found inside your worship folder and drop it in the basket on the back (blue) table. You can also scan the QR code on the left to fill out an online Connection Card.



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

**Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

**Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.**

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

**Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.**

*Brief intercessory prayers may be added*

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

*Silent prayer*

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

**Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.**

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

**Amen.**

## 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.

## BLESSING

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.

**Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

*CW332 | Let Us All with Gladsome Voice*



# Serving in Worship

*Pastor*

*Accompanist*

*Rev. Jonathan Kolander*

*Mrs. Rachel Cochran*

## Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®.

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### For reflection based on today's Scripture readings...

- 1<sup>st</sup>: What had God all done for His Old Testament Children of Israel? How did they often times respond to God acting on their behalf? Who else acts like them, and why is this the case? What is the way to reverse this course of action? Read Isaiah 7:7–25.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: God makes it clear why Jesus came to earth, and that reason is what? What are the results of His accomplishing what He came to do? How do you plan to 'spend' this inheritance? Read Psalm 100.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: What is striking to you in these verses? Think of all the prophecies concerning Jesus, what does this help prove? Read Matthew 6:25–34.

## Upcoming Service Themes

### CHRIST THE SAVIOR IS BORN

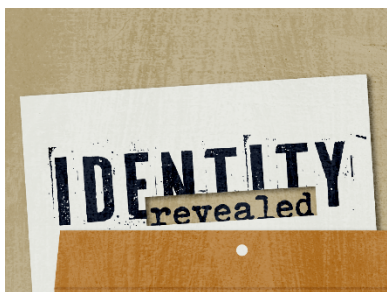


Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Worship (5pm)

Jan. 4 Love's Pure Light Beams  
from Thy Holy Face

*New Worship Series:*

### IDENTITY revealed



Jan. 11 Jesus Is the Christ, the Anointed One

Jan. 18 Jesus Is the Lamb of God

Jan. 25 Jesus Is the Light



## **Sunday Service Times**

8:00am Worship

9:15am Bible Class and Sunday School

10:30am Worship with Livestream

## **Contact Information**

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Victory is a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), headquartered in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

