

Meditation for the First Sunday of Christmas

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Greeting and Welcome

The congregation stands and faces the back of the sanctuary. We begin with a procession as the cross leads the way, representing our life in Christ – our journey from death to life. Some bow as the cross passes, honoring the mystery of salvation.

Processional Hymn

Joy to the World (387)

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come, Let earth receive her King:
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room, And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And Heav'n, and Heav'n, and
nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs
employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, Repeat the
sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, Repeat, the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the
ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow, Far as the curse is
found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, Far as, the curse is found.
He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the
nations prove
The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders, of His love.**

Invocation

Pastor _____ En el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo, y del Espíritu Santo.

All _____ Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor _____ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and
the truth is not in us.

**All _____ But if we confess our sins, God, who is
faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us
from all unrighteousness.**

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Pastor _____ Señor, ten piedad de nosotros.

People _____ Señor, ten piedad de nosotros.

Pastor _____ Cristo, ten piedad de nosotros.

People _____ Cristo, ten piedad de nosotros.

Pastor _____ Señor, ten piedad de nosotros

People _____ Señor, ten piedad de nosotros

Pastor _____ Let us then confess our sins to God our Father:

**All _____ Most merciful God, we confess that we are
by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against
You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have
done and by what we have left undone. We have not**

loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained 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.

All Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor Let us pray

All God, in Your eternal unity and perfect love: gather the nations to be one family and draw us into your holy life through the birth of Emmanuel, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Isaiah 45:22-25

“Turn to me now and be saved, people all over the world! I am the only God there is. My promise is true, and it will not be changed. I solemnly promise by all that I am: Everyone will come and kneel before me and vow to be loyal to me. “They will say that only through me are victory and strength to be found; but all who hate me will suffer disgrace. I, the Lord, will rescue all the descendants of Jacob, and they will give me praise.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Colossians 3:12-17

You are the people of God; he loved you and chose you for his own. So then, you must clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Be

tolerant with one another and forgive one another whenever any of you has a complaint against someone else. You must forgive one another just as the Lord has forgiven you. and to all these qualities add love, which binds all things together in perfect unity. Let the peace that Christ gives rule your hearts; for it is to this peace that God has called you together in the one body. And be thankful. Christ's message in all its richness must live in your hearts. Teach and instruct each other with all wisdom. Sing psalms, hymns, and sacred songs; sing to God with thanksgiving in your hearts. Everything you do or say, then, should be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, as you give thanks through him to God the Father.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Luke 2:25-40

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter.

All Glory to You, O Lord.

At that time there was a man named Simeon living in Jerusalem. He was a good, God-fearing man and was waiting for Israel to be saved. The Holy Spirit was with him and had assured him that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's promised Messiah. Led by the Spirit, Simeon went into the Temple. When the parents brought the child Jesus into the Temple to do for him what the Law required, Simeon took the child in his arms and gave thanks to God: "Now, Lord, you have kept your promise, and you may let your servant go in peace. With my own eyes I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples: A light to reveal your will to the Gentiles and bring glory to your people Israel." The child's father and mother were amazed at the things Simeon said about him. Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother, "This child is chosen by God for the destruction and the salvation of many in Israel. He will be a sign from God which many people will speak against and so reveal their secret thoughts. And sorrow, like a sharp sword, will break your own heart." There was a very old prophet, a widow named Anna, daughter of Phanuel of the tribe of Asher. She had been married for only seven years and was now 84 years old. She never left the Temple; day and night she worshiped God, fasting and praying. That very same hour she arrived and gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were waiting for God to set Jerusalem free. When Joseph and Mary had finished doing all that was required by the law of the Lord, they returned to their home town of Nazareth in Galilee. The child grew and became strong; he was full of wisdom, and God's blessings were upon him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ

Creed

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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**

Children's Sermon

Hark! The Herald, Angels Sing (380)

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!**

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

**Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of
Righteousness!**

**Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second
birth.**

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

After the pastor says Lord in Your Mercy, all respond with **Hear our Prayer.**

For joy this Christmas Season as we rejoice in the birth of the savior!

For blessing in our outreach; CDC; LINC, Presa Community Center.

Pastors Philip, Roy, Naresh and Matt and all church planters.

For peace, the well-being of the Church, and for unity of all.

For U.S. Leaders: President Joe, Governor Greg, Mayor Ron.

Church Leaders; LCMS President Matt, District President Mike.

For all serving in Military: Jarred, Alissa, Mark, Tom, Thomas, Ricky.

For Comfort, Health, and Recovery:

All who travel

Darian (daughter of Sabrina Wilke Chin)

Linda Wenck

Norma Ann (sister of Patricia Perez)

Cindy Collins (sister of Melissa Hild)

Caroline (cousin of Kellie Burgdorfer)

Jo Ann Mallow

Eulia Martinez (friend of Maria Munoz)

Fabian Cantu (friend of Riqui Cardenas)

Rev. Bill Johnson

Eddie Fernandez

Artemisa Ramirez (sister of Alva-Alicia)

Bruce Simon

Beatrice (sister of America Alderete)

Jeremy Segovia

Earline Willeford

Sabrina and Fernando

Judy Simon

Michael Dean (nephew of Melissa and Jim Hild)

Cayley (granddaughter of Robert and Linda Chetwood)

Delia Flores

Keith Mason

Everett Mason

Yesenia (daughter of Anna Marquez)

Diane Beasley

Vicky Dean (sister of Melissa Hild)

Karen Turner

Austin Hernden
Robin Beasley Jr

What Child Is This /Que Niño es Este

What child is this, who laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet

While shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

¿Qué Niño es éste que al dormir en brazos de María

Del cielo huestes al venir le cantan melodías?

¡Es Cristo, Dios y Rey: adórele la santa grey!

¡Loadle con fervor, porque es el Redentor!

¿Porqué tan pobre aquí nació el Niño prometido?

Por todo el mundo pecador su amor ha ofrecido.

¡Espera que al morir Él pagará por ti y por mí!

¡Loadle con fervor, porque es el Redentor!

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;

Come, peasant, king to own him.

The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the virgen sings her lullaby;

Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

Offering

Service of the Sacrament

As we approach the altar for communion, please be mindful of others as you come forward. Those sitting on the pulpit side will receive first followed by those on the lectern side. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we adjust to liturgical transitions.

Pastor The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Pastor Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give Him thanks and
praise.**

Pastor It is truly right, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give You thanks, holy Father, eternal God. From sunrise to sunset this day is holy, for Christ has risen from the tomb and has scattered the darkness of death with light that will not fade. The risen Lord walks with us and makes himself known in the breaking of the bread. And though the night will overtake the day, you summon us to live in endless light, the unending Sabbath of the Lord. So, with choirs of angels and with the heavenly host, we proclaim your glory!

All Amen!

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy, we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive,

renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us to faithfully eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us to in His own testament. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate, with all the faithful, the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone be all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever.

All Amen!

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Lamb of God

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

The Consecration

The Acclamation and The Invitation

Pastor As often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pastor Behold the Lamb of God, behold Jesus, who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

Distribution

Thank The Lord

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; Tell everyone what He has done.

Let everyone who seeks the Lord, Rejoice, and proudly bear His name.

**He recalls His promises, and leads His people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Post-Communion Prayer

All We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You, that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Eucharistic Blessing

Announcements

Blessing

Recessional Hymn

Crown Him With Many Crowns (525)

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;

Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.

**Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King Through all eternity.**

**Crown Him the virgin's Son, The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won Which now His brow
adorn;**

**Fruit of the mystic rose, Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows, The babe of Bethlehem.**

**Crown Him the Lord of Love, Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.**

**No angels in the sky Can fully bear that sight,
But down-ward bends their wond'ring eyes At mysteries so
bright.**

**Crown Him the Lord of Life, Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.**

**His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.**

**Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the King to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of
Love.**

**Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is King of all.**