



The Circumcision & Naming of Jesus/New Year's Eve

Tuesday, December 31, 2019; 6:30 PM

Mount Olive Lutheran Church & School, Evangelical Lutheran Synod

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Pastors John J. Petersen & Luke Ulrich | Vicar Jacob Kempfert | Principal Adam Pavelchik

Order of Service, Rite One (p. 41). *This order of service, known as the "Bugenhagen Order," grew out of the Lutheran Reformation. It was provided for use in the churches of Denmark and Norway in 1537 by Johannes Bugenhagen, Martin Luther's pastor. Minor revisions were made to this service in 1685 and 1889 before it was translated into English for **The Lutheran Hymnary** (1913). The service printed here comes directly from the **Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary** (1996).*

I. The Service of Preparation

~Opening Prayer

(ELH p. 41)

P: O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. We pray You to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

~Hymn 4, v. 1 *In Jesus' Name*

~Confession of Sin

(ELH pp. 41-42, form II)

P: Let us confess our sins to God and pray: We poor sinners confess to You, O God, not only that we have been conceived and born in sin, but also that throughout life we have often and in many ways offended You, our Lord and Maker, in thought, word and deed, so that You could with perfect justice reject and condemn us for all eternity.

Therefore we come before You with sorrow of heart, in dread and terror of Your holy justice and of everlasting death. Our sins are a grievous foe, which we should hate in every way as long as we live.

O merciful God, You still grant us in this hour to be reminded of Your fatherly goodness. According to the promise of Your Word we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, and implore You, dearest Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your only-begotten Son, our Brother, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised again for our justification:

Forgive us all our sins through faith, which the Holy Spirit increases in our hearts to full assurance.

C: We therefore pray You, O Lord, through Your servant to declare to us the forgiveness of all our sins. We poor sinners are willing to forgive all who have offended against us. We earnestly desire to grow in true godliness. Help us, O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

~Kyrie Eleison

(ELH pp. 42-43)

C: ♪ O God the Father in heaven, have mercy upon us. O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us. O God the Holy Ghost, true Comforter, have mercy upon us.

~Individual Absolution

(ELH p. 43, form III)

P: Upon this your confession, come forward to the altar of the Lord and receive the declaration of the forgiveness of all your sins. *(Under the direction of the ushers, the penitents come forward and kneel at the altar rail.)*

By the authority of God and of my holy office *(then, with the laying on of hands, saying to each one)* I declare to you the gracious forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

(In dismissing the people he shall say:)

May He who has begun the good work in you perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. Peace be with you. Amen.

(During the Individual Absolution, the congregation is invited to sing the following hymns:)

Hymn 161, vv. 1-3 *O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is*

Hymn 155, vv. 1-3 *How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds*

Hymn 161, vv. 4-6 *Thou Christian Heart*

Hymn 155, vv. 4-7 *By Thee My Prayers Acceptance Gain*

~General Absolution

(Declaration of forgiveness to the penitent, not able to come forward)

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. May He comfort your heart by His holy Absolution, and strengthen you by His Sacraments, that your joy may be full. Peace be with you!

~Salutation

(ELH p. 45)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ **And with your spirit.**

~Collect

(ELH p. 45)

P: Let us pray: Almighty and everlasting God, from whom comes down every good and perfect gift: We give You thanks for all Your benefits, temporal and spiritual, bestowed upon us in the year past, and we beseech You of Your goodness, grant us a favorable and joyful year, defend us from all dangers and adversities, and send upon us the fullness of Your blessing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

II. The Service of The Word

~Old Testament Lesson

Numbers 6:22-27 The LORD told Moses to speak to Aaron and to his sons and to tell them to bless the Israelites with these words:

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.

In this way they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

~Hymn 156, vv. 1, 3, 4, 5 *Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love*

~Epistle Lesson

Galatians 3:23-29 But before this faith came, we were held in custody under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith was revealed. So the law was our chaperone until Christ, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a chaperone. In fact, you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. Indeed, as many of you as were baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ. There is not Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female, for you are all one and the same in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants and heirs according to the promise.

~Holy Gospel Lesson

(ELH p. 46)

Luke 2:21 After eight days passed, when the child was circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

C: ♪ God be praised for His glad tidings.

~Nicene Creed

(ELH p. 47)

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the Resurrection of the dead and the Life of the world to come. ♪ Amen.

~Hymn 157 O Blessed Day When First Was Poured

~Sermon

The Importance of Christ's Circumcision

~Prayers & Special Petitions

~Offering & Hymn 4, vv. 2,3 In Jesus' Name

Christians give their offerings as a joyful response to what God has given them. The offerings given here support the continued Gospel ministry of Mt. Lutheran Church and School, and to support the work of sharing the Gospel throughout our community and around the world.

III. The Service of Holy Communion



(Following Christ's command, we receive His grace to us in the special meal He instituted for the forgiveness of our sins. Here, He feeds with His true body and His true blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. This is the same body which was born of the Virgin Mary, and the same blood which dripped down the wooden cross. This part of the liturgy is one of the oldest parts, dating back to at least the third century AD.)

Questions and prayers to assist in preparing for the Lord's Supper are found in the black hymnal, pp. 38–40.

Guests & Visitors: *We practice "Close" or "Closed Communion". We do this out of love and concern for you. We want to make sure that those who take this holy meal receive it as a blessing and not to their harm as Scripture warns. We also understand that those who come forward to take communion are professing a unity of faith with our congregation and are in full agreement with the teachings and doctrines of Mount Olive Lutheran Church and of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Therefore, we ask those who have not taken Holy Communion with us before to speak with a pastor before communing. Thank you.*

~Preface

(ELH p. 50)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with your spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts unto the Lord.

C: ♪ We lift up our hearts unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C: ♪ It is good and right so to do.

~General Preface

(ELH p. 51)

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory, that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may be drawn to the love of those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

~Sanctus

(ELH pp. 51-52)

C: ♪ Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

~Lord's Prayer

(ELH p. 53)

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 pow'r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

~Words of Institution

(ELH p. 54)

P: 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."

~Agnus Dei

(ELH p. 55)

C: ♪ O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, the Lamb of God. You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, grant us Your peace. Amen.

~Distribution

(During the distribution of the Lord's Supper, the congregation is invited to sing the following hymns:)

Hymn 159, vv. 1-4 *To the Name of Our Salvation*

Hymn 210 *Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me*

Hymn 159, vv. 5,6 *Jesus is the Name Prevailing*

Hymn 328, vv. 7-9 *Jesus, Sun of Life, My Splendor*

~Dismissal

(ELH p. 56)

P: Our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ, who has now bestowed upon you His holy body and blood, whereby He has made full satisfaction for all your sins, strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto everlasting life. Peace be with you. Amen.

~Hymn 327, v. 1 *O Lord, We Praise Thee*

~Collect of Thanksgiving

(ELH p. 56)

P: Let us give thanks and pray: We thank You, Lord God Almighty, that You have refreshed us with these Your salutary gifts; and we beseech You of Your mercy, to strengthen us through the same in faith toward You, and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

~Benediction

(ELH pp. 56-57)

P: 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.

C: ♪ **Amen, amen, amen.**

~Hymn 160, vv. 1-3 *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

~Closing Prayer

(ELH p. 57)

P: O Lord, we render unto You our heartfelt thanks that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us, O God, by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep Your Word in pure hearts, that we thereby may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.

Preacher: Pastor Luke Ulrich/Liturgist: Vicar Jacob Kempfert
Organist: John Baumann
