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**The audio for worship will be muted until
worship begins**

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

Rev. Lyndon Sayers, Pastor

January 5, 2025 – 10:00 AM

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Today we lift up Rainbow Haven, helping LGBTQ+ refugees in Africa. We reflect upon Mary and Joseph escaping Egypt with baby Jesus, and children facing persecution from leaders.

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Gathering Song

Angels, from the Realms of Glory – No. 275

Vs. 1 Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Vs. 2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Vs. 3 Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great desire of nations,
you have seen his natal star.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Vs. 4 All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Song of Praise

Angels We Have Heard on High – Pg. 289

Vs. 1 Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Vs. 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song?

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Vs. 3 Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

Psalm 147:12-20

*Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God,
O Zion. (Ps. 147:12)*

¹² Worship the LORD, | O Jerusalem;
praise your | God, O Zion,

¹³ **who has strengthened the bars | of your
gates and has blessed your chil- | dren within
you.** ¹⁴ God has established peace | on your borders
and satisfies you with the | finest wheat.

¹⁵ **God sends out a command | to the earth,
a word that runs | very swiftly.**

Refrain: ***Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise
your God, O Zion.***

¹⁶ God gives | snow like wool,
scattering | frost like ashes.

¹⁷ **God scatters | hail like bread crumbs.
Who can stand a- | gainst God's cold?**

¹⁸ The LORD sends forth the | word and melts them;
the wind blows, and the | waters flow.

¹⁹ **God declares the | word to Jacob,
statutes and judg- | ments to Israel.**

²⁰The LORD has not done so to any ¹ other nation;
they do not know God's judgments. ¹ Hallelujah!
Refrain: ***Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise
your God, O Zion.***

Gospel Acclamation– No. 289

Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:13-23

...Glory to you, O Lord.

...Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

In a Deep, Unbounded Darkness – No. 1093

Vs. 1 In a deep, unbounded darkness,
long before the first light shone,
you, O God, beyond all merit
worked a wonder faith makes known:
in your mercy, in your mercy,
you embraced us as your own,
evermore and evermore.

Vs. 2 Though our world is everchanging,
you are constant, firm, and sure,
faithful to your cov'nant promise.

Trusting you, we live, secure:
singing praises, singing praises,
long as heart and breath endure,
evermore and evermore.

Vs. 3 Joy transforms our lips to boasting
only in your matchless grace,
sending Christ to dwell among us,
Word made flesh in time and space:
Friend and Saviour, Friend and Saviour,
in whose life we glimpse your face,
evermore and evermore.

Vs. 4 God of Hagar, God of Sarah,
God of nomad Abraham;
God of Miriam, God of Moses,
Fi'ry Pillar, great I Am:
lead us homeward, lead us homeward,
to the love-feast of the Lamb,
evermore and evermore.

Prayers of Intercession

Glory to you, O God.

Peace Sharing

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering Song

Carol of the Birds - J. W. Greene – choir

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Great Thanksgiving – Pg. 107

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy – Pg. 108

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and God of
might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Thanksgiving Prayer – Pg. 110

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer – Pg. 112

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth
as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin
against us. Save us from the time of trial and
deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

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, grant us peace.**

Communion Songs
***In the Bleak Midwinter* – No. 294**

Vs. 1 In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter,
long ago.

Vs. 2 Heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heav'n and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign;
in the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed
the Lord God almighty,
Jesus Christ.

Vs. 3 What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him—
give my heart.

***Away in a Manger* – No. 278**

Vs. 1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he
lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Vs. 2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Vs. 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

***Infant Holy, Infant Lowly* – No. 276**

Vs. 1 Infant holy, infant lowly,
for his bed a cattle stall;
oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing,
bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child is Lord of all!

Vs. 2 Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
vigil till the morning new
saw the glory, heard the story,
tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you!
Christ the child was born for you!

Sending Song

***Jesus, the Light of the World* – No. 914**

Vs. 1 Hark! the herald angels sing, Jesus, the Light of
the world;

"Glory to the newborn king," Jesus, the Light of the
world.

Refrain: We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,
come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright.

Shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the Light of the world.

Vs. 2 Joyful, all you nations, rise; Jesus, the Light of
the world;
join the triumph of the skies; Jesus, the Light of the
world.

Refrain: We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,
come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright.
Shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the Light of the world.

Vs. 3 Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Jesus, the
Light of the world;
Christ, the everlasting Lord! Jesus, the Light of the
world.

Refrain: We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,
come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright.
Shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the Light of the world.

Vs. 4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Jesus, the
Light of the world;
Hail the Sun of righteousness! Jesus, the Light of the
world.

Refrain: We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,
come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright.
Shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the Light of the world.

Dismissal
...Thanks be to God!

Thank you to everyone who has joined in worship in-person and online. We hope you worship with us again.

Call us at: **1-250-477-6222**

E-mail: **lutheranchurchofthecross@shaw.ca**

Worship Leaders and Assistants

Message on behalf of Rainbow Haven:

Ron Pettapiece & Mark Hanson

Assisting Minister: Michael Coughlin

Kantor: Nathan McDonald

Musician: Karen Johnson-Lefsrud

Choral Scholars: Abby Corpus, DJ McGrath

Livestream: Tarynn McKenzie

Communion: Dana McKee

Usher: Craig Knight

***You are invited to Holy Communion Worship,
Sundays, 10AM PT in-person and online.
For more information, please check the website
www.lutheranvictoria.ca
for the Crossroads newsletter, calendar, and events.
Follow us at Facebook.com/lutheranvictoria and
Instagram @lutheranvictoria***

***Blessed Christmas and New Year! And peace on
earth and goodwill to all.***

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The screenshot shows the top navigation area of the Lutheran Church of the Cross website. In the top right corner, there are three buttons: "Contact", "Calendar", and "Give Online". The "Give Online" button is circled in purple. To the right of these buttons are three social media icons: Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. Below the navigation is the church's logo, which consists of a colorful star with four points (blue, purple, green, and red) and the text "Lutheran Church OF THE Cross". At the bottom of the page, there is a horizontal navigation menu with the following items: HOME, ABOUT/VIDEOS, EVENTS, SERMONS, KIDS, YOUTH & STUDENTS, LGBTQ2+, NEWS, PROGRAMS, GIVING, and LIVE STREAM.