

# LUTHERAN CHAPEL



**ACTS 9:36-43 AND LUKE 2:41-52**

## **“JOURNEY OF DORCAS/TABITHA”**

*The boys, Samuel and Jesus, receive God’s Word and grow in wisdom day by day.  
What are we giving the children God has put in our lives -  
wisdom or just a bunch of stuff?*

**1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS  
DECEMBER 26, 2021**

**[lutheranchapelchurch.org](http://lutheranchapelchurch.org)  
(704) 864-6491**

**LUTHERAN CHAPEL  
DECEMBER 26, 2021  
1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS  
SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER**

***BOLD** indicates congregational responses.*

*\* Indicates that all who are able should stand to honor God.*

**GATHER**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETING**

*Psalm 24:1, 7, 10*

P: We gather together in the name of the Father, + the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

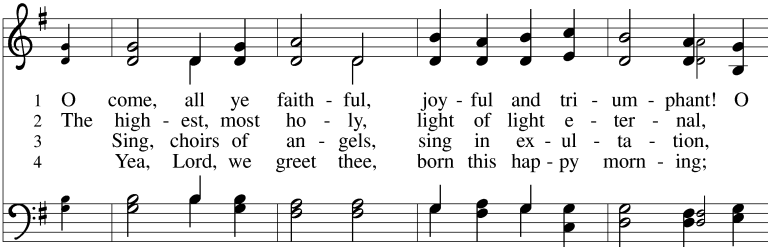
**C: Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all the peoples.**

P: Give to the Lord the glory due His Name, bring an offering, and come into His courts.

**C: Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before Him, all the earth.**

P: Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad, let the sea roar, let the field be joyful!

**C: All the trees of the forest, shout for joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth with righteousness and the peoples with truth.**



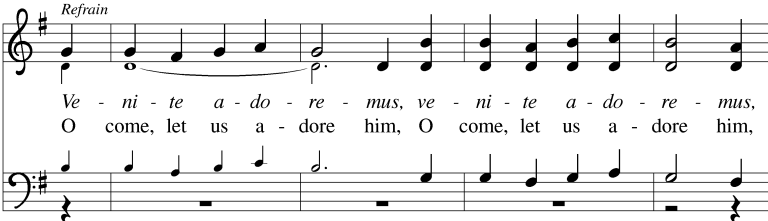
1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O  
 2 The high - est, most ho - ly, light of light e - ter - nal,  
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes;  
 sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!  
 Je - sus, to thee be . . . glo - ry giv'n!



come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels;  
 Son of the Fa - ther now in flesh ap - pear - ing!  
 Glo - ry to God . . . in . . . the . . . high - est:  
 Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;



*Refrain*  
 Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus,  
 O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,



ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
 O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord!

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

**P:** Let us pray.

**C:** Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **WORD**

### **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

#### **FIRST LESSON**

**1 SAMUEL 2:18-20, 26**

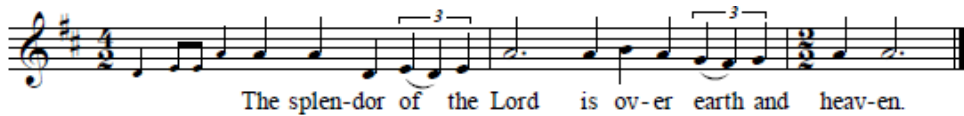
*Having dedicated her son Samuel to God’s service, Hannah visits him every year when she and her husband Elkanah come to the temple to offer sacrifices. God grants Hannah more children, and Samuel himself gains favor in the sight of all.*

<sup>18</sup>Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. <sup>19</sup>His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. <sup>20</sup>Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD”; and then they would return to their home.

<sup>26</sup>Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

**L:** The Word of the Lord

**C:** Thanks be to God.



- <sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights.  
<sup>2</sup>Praise the Lord all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.  
<sup>3</sup>Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise all you shining stars.  
<sup>4</sup>Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.  
<sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the Lord, who commanded, and they were created.  
<sup>6</sup>Who made them stand fast forever and ever,  
 Giving them a law that shall not pass away.

**Refrain:**

- <sup>7</sup>Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;  
<sup>8</sup>Fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;  
<sup>9</sup>Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;  
<sup>10</sup>Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds.

**Refrain:**

- <sup>11</sup>Sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;  
<sup>12</sup>Young men and maidens, old and young together.  
<sup>13</sup>Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
 Whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.  
<sup>14</sup>The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants,  
 the children of Israel, a people who are near to the Lord. Hallelujah!

**Refrain:**

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## STORY OF SALVATION LESSON

## ACTS 9:36-43

<sup>36</sup>Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. <sup>37</sup>At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. <sup>38</sup>Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." <sup>39</sup>So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to

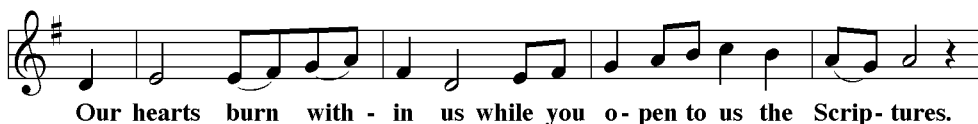
the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. <sup>40</sup>Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. <sup>41</sup>He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. <sup>42</sup>This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. <sup>43</sup>Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*John 1:1, Luke 24:32*

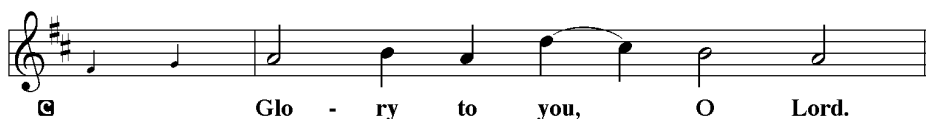


**\*GOSPEL**

**LUKE 2:41-52**

*Those who are able may stand to honor Christ during the reading of the Gospel.*

Response after the announcement:

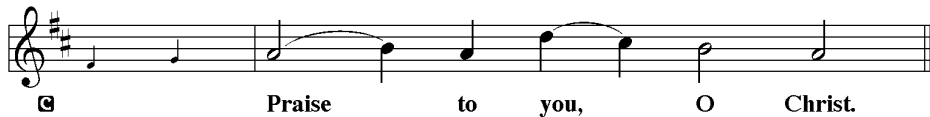


*Jesus grew up in a family that went to the Passover festival each year. It was in this environment of faithful adherence to the law that Jesus grew into spiritual maturity and an understanding of his identity and mission.*

<sup>41</sup>Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. <sup>43</sup>When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." <sup>49</sup>He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



## MESSAGE

*"Journey of Dorcas/Tabitha"*

### Childhood

What Do We Teach the Child that God Puts in our Lives?

***The Law*** is an aspect of God's Word that shows sin and brokenness: I don't want to submit to God, to elders, or to anybody. I am always right, right? Wrong.

***The Gospel*** is an aspect of God's Word that comforts and saves in Christ: Jesus' submission and love of both our Father in Heaven and His earthly family is an example for us - love, obey, and walk together.

***So What?*** Recognize the children and youth God has put in your life and lead them to Him and along right paths intentionally. Let us pray and encourage the children and youth of our fellowship to fight the good fight of faith.

1 For all the faithful women  
who served in days of old,  
to you shall thanks be given;  
to all, their story told.  
They served with strength and gladness  
in tasks your wisdom gave.  
To you their lives bore witness,  
proclaimed your pow'r to save.

10 Lord, hear our praise of Dorcas,  
who served the sick and poor.  
Her hands were cups of kindness,  
her heart an open door.  
Send us, O Christ, your Body,  
where people cry in pain,  
and touch them with compassion  
to make them whole again.







1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
 Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!



Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898  
 Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

**\*THE NICENE CREED**

*All are invited to confess our faith in God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. If you have not received the gift of baptism or would like to affirm your faith in Jesus and join His mission here, please indicate on the attendance registry and talk to an usher or the pastor.*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

P: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**C: Amen.**

## THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

*Matthew 5:22-24: Ephesians 4:1-3*

P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. *2 Corinthians 13:11*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## ANTHEM

*“And the Child Grew”*

## CHANCEL CHOIR

Randall Thompson

© 1962 E.C. Schirmer Music Co.

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit,  
And the child grew; and waxed strong in spirit,  
Filled with wisdom, filled with wisdom,  
Filled with wisdom, filled with wisdom,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

And the grace of God was upon him,  
and the grace of God was upon him.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit,  
And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit,  
Filled with wisdom, filled with wisdom,  
Filled with wisdom, filled with wisdom,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

And the grace of God was upon him,  
and the grace of God was upon him.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Amen.

## PRAYER

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*1 Timothy 2:1-4*

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*A brief silence may be kept. Each prayer will conclude: Lord in Your mercy, and the congregation may respond* **Hear our prayers.**

*Prayers are commended in Jesus' Name.*

P: All these prayers and whatever else You see that we need we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ, born in Bethlehem to save us.

**C: Amen.**

### \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13*

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

# SENDING

## \*THE BLESSING

*Numbers 6:24-26*

P: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the Name of the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## \*RECESSIONAL HYMN

*"Joy to the World"*

ELW #267

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing,

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
 Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

## \*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

+ + + + +

## New Sunday Schedule

(Begins January 2, 2022)

Bible Study (Sunday School) ~ 9:00 a.m.

Worship in Sanctuary ~ 10:00 a.m.

## **PARISH NEWS**

*Facemasks are recommended but not required during all indoor events and to spread out as much as possible during in-person worship with a 3-foot space between households.*

**NURSERY ATTENDANTS BY REQUEST:** If your family is in need of a nursery attendant during the 10:30 service, please let our ushers know and they will contact one of our standby attendants.

**NEW SUNDAY SCHEDULE:** Beginning next Sunday, January 2, there will only be one Worship Service at 10:00am in the Sanctuary. The early Service will not be offered. Bible Study (Sunday School) will begin at 9:00am.

**2022 ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR:** The following dates are still available on the 2022 altar flower calendar: Feb. 20, Feb. 27, March 27, June 26, July 3, Oct. 23, Nov. 6 and Nov. 20. If you'd like to sign up for one of these Sundays, please call or text Susan Lewis at 704-914-8451.

**2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES:** The 2022 offering envelopes are ready to be picked up and can be found in the Narthex.

**YOU'RE INVITED!:** The congregation of Lutheran Chapel is cordially invited to attend a reception in the Family Life Center immediately following the 10:00 Service on **January 2, 2022** to celebrate the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Terry and Trish Ratchford. Please drop in for some delicious treats and to share in their celebration of love and commitment. No gifts please ~ your presence will be their present.

**CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL:** The first Council Meeting for 2022 will be held Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> at 4pm in the Chapel.

## DAILY PRAYER

**EACH MORNING AND EVENING, PRAY TO THE LORD.** (*Psalm 1:2*) Prayer lists and roster, Psalter readings, daily Bible lessons, and a song of praise are below.

**PRAYER LIST FOR FELLOWSHIP:** BT & Pauline Bradley, Todd Carpenter, Renee Dockery, Kathy Finch, **Judy Gault**, Ervin Hoffman, Henry Hoffman, Pr. Peter Homovich, Larry Hoover, Dru Huffstickler, Ann Marie Lentz, Betty Petty, Terry Ratchford, Bill & **Kay Robinson**, Ed Robinson, Pat & Barbara Robinson, **family of Bill Seabrook**, Bob Thornburg, and Myra Weaver

**FRIENDS OF THE FELLOWSHIP:** **Harry Angstadt**, Eula Brazell, Bill Bridges, Deborah Carpenter, Mary Collins, Laura Dixon, Jamison Franklin, Mona Fulton, Victoria Garcia, family of Sandy Helms, Sherry Hester, Jack Jeffries, Paula Kadel, Ernestine Kincaid, Robbie and Cathy Lewis, Frieda Moses, Lee Norris, Dakota Shuford, Luke Slessman, Charlene Sorenson, and Judi Truesdail

*To share concerns and updates for the prayer list you can contact the church office (704-864-6491), Pastor Comer (704-787-6439) or our prayer team (Katherine Carpenter 704-214-2493).*

### PRAYER ROSTER - Pray for one another. (*Ephesians 6:18*)

**Sunday:** Larry Collins

**Thursday:** Noah Comer

**Monday:** Elona Collins

**Friday:** Bram Comer

**Tuesday:** Michael Comer

**Saturday:** Ruby Cook

**Wednesday:** Ginny Comer

### FEAST OF PSALMS: *Christmas*

	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<b>AM</b>	2, 8	29, 34	65, 72	93, 96	99, 100	111, 114	132, 146
<b>PM</b>	9, 19	40, 45	89, 90	97, 98	103, 110	116, 121	147, 148

### THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - Week 52: December 26 to January 2, 2022

**12/26** Morning Reading: Revelation 17—Evening Reading: Haggai

**12/27** Morning Reading: Revelation 18—Evening Reading: Zechariah 1, 2, 3, 4

**12/28** Morning Reading: Revelation 19—Evening Reading: Zechariah 5, 6, 7, 8

**12/29** Morning Reading: Revelation 20—Evening Reading: Zechariah 9, 10, 11, 12

**12/30** Morning Reading: Revelation 21—Evening Reading: Zechariah 13, 14

**12/31** Morning Reading: Revelation 22—Evening Reading: Malachi

**01/01** Morning Reading: Matthew 1—Evening Reading: Genesis 1, 2, 3

**01/02** Morning Reading: Matthew 2—Evening Reading: Genesis 4, 5, 6

**Songs of Praise:** “*Silent Night*”  
“*Emmanuel*”

ELW #281  
W&P #36



**Next Sunday, January 2, 2021 - Epiphany of our Lord:**

Genesis 1:1-2:4a and Matthew 2:1-12 ~ *“The Epiphany of our Lord”*

The *“Our Daily Bread”* devotional is available as a booklet, an app in eBook format, daily e-mail, or podcast. Visit [odb.org/subscribe](http://odb.org/subscribe).

**This QR** code goes straight to the Daily prayers page on the website that list the commemorations for the week.



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**CHURCH ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26 - SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2021**

**Sun-26**    8:30 am    Early Worship w/ Holy Communion (Chapel)  
              9:30 am    Sunday School  
              10:30 am    Worship (Sanctuary)  
              8:00 pm    Faith Group (Fellowship Hall)

**Fri-31**    *New Year's Eve*

**Sat-01**    *Happy New Year!*

