



Vigil of the Nativity of Our Lord  
Hope Lutheran Church, Plainwell  
*Evangelical Lutheran Worship Setting 10*  
[www.hopeplainwell.org](http://www.hopeplainwell.org)

Hope's Mission Statement: We, Hope Lutheran Church, are CALLED by God,  
REDEEMED by Jesus Christ, SPROUTING from  
the seed of God's Word, and BRANCHING out to reach God's people...

\*Please stand as you are comfortable  
**Congregational responses are in bold text**  
✝ invites you to make the sign of the cross.

*Please silence your phone, pager, or other electronic device for worship.  
Children's worship bags & noise canceling headphones are available in  
the nursery.*

## GATHERING

**PRELUDE**

**PASTORAL WELCOME**

**\*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS** (*pg. 94 of the red hymnal*)

**\*GATHERING HYMN O Come, All Ye Faithful ELW #283**

**\*GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

**\*GLORIA**



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son,

Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## WORD

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7**

2 The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

3 You have multiplied the nation,  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

4 For the yoke of their burden,  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

5 For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

6 For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

7 His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 96**

*Psalms are read responsively whole verse by whole verse.*

<sup>1</sup> Sing to the LORD | a new song;  
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

<sup>2</sup> **Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;  
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**

<sup>3</sup> Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations  
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

<sup>4</sup> **For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,  
more to be feared | than all gods.**

<sup>5</sup> As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;  
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup> **Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;  
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.

<sup>8</sup> **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;  
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.**

<sup>9</sup> Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;  
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.

<sup>10</sup> **Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!**

**The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will  
judge the peo- | ples with equity."**

<sup>11</sup> Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all  
that | is therein.

<sup>12</sup> **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing,  
O LORD,  
for you come to | judge the earth.**

<sup>13</sup> You will judge the | world with righteousness  
and the peoples | with your truth.

**SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14**

11 The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, 12 training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. 14 He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

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

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



**\*GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:1-20**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

1 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the

time came for her to deliver her child. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

14 “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” 16 So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17 When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** Once in Royal David’s City ELW #269

## **\*NICENE CREED**

**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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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.**

*\*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.*

### **\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Filled with the good news of Christ, let us offer our prayers for the church,  
the earth, and all people.

*A brief silence.*

Angels sing with praise, and shepherds run with haste. As we glorify and praise you in this place, send us into the world, proclaiming the salvation you have revealed to us through your Son.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

The seas roar, and the trees of the forest sing for joy. As creation resounds with praise, inspire us with awe, reverence, and a renewed care for all that fills the fields, skies, and seas.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

The nations declare your glory. Uphold the leaders of the earth with your justice and righteousness. Break the rod of the oppressor in every land, and bring peace where there is conflict especially in Ukraine, The Holy Land, and Syria.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

The holy family finds shelter around the animals' manger. Draw near to those experiencing homelessness, those who are alone this holiday season, and all for whom this world makes no room. Enfold all your children with your compassion & mercy.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

A child is born for us and light shines on the weary. Watch over those who give birth this night and attend to those who are dying. Be present in our joys and in our sorrows.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

The heavenly host praises you. With thanksgiving for Mary, Joseph, and all your saints, sustain us in the blessed hope revealed this night. Fashion us by



their example into a people zealous for good deeds, sharing your love and mercy with all.

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*Please quietly return to your seat when the offering hymn plays so we can prepare for Holy Communion.*

### **OFFERING HYMN What Child is This**

*Thank you for your support of Hope and our missions! Checks and cash can be placed on the offering plate located outside the sanctuary doors. You can also give instantly and securely through online giving using the QR code below.*



### **OFFERING PRAYER**

God of heaven and earth,  
from the beginning, you have called forth life,  
in which you take delight.  
The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.  
Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,  
that we may join the chorus of creation  
to tell of your salvation from day to day. **Amen.**

**\*DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
 that we should at all times and in all places  
 give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
 through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh  
 you have opened the eyes of faith  
 to a new and radiant vision of your glory,  
 that, beholding the God made visible,  
 we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.  
 And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*SANCTUS**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
 Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
 Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
 Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
 Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
 Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
 Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
 the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
 shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
 Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

**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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come taste and see that the Lord is good.

*We welcome all baptized to receive Communion. If you are not yet baptized, or do not feel prepared to receive Communion, you are invited to participate by coming forward to receive a blessing. During Communion individual cups of wine & grape juice are available. The wine is red & the grape juice is white. There is also a common cup of wine. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.*

## **LAMB OF GOD**



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Merciful God,  
we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.  
Strengthened by this goodness,  
send us forth to announce your peace,  
comfort the afflicted,  
and share the good news of great joy. **Amen.**

**\*CANDLELIGHT HYMN** Silent Night, Holy Night ELW #281

*The pastor and worship assistant will come around to light the candles of the first person in each row / one person at each table. If your candle is lit, please keep it upright so someone can turn their unlit candle into yours. Once your candle is lit please keep it upright to prevent wax spilling. Please keep your candle lit until you are directed to gently blow it out.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*SENDING HYMN** Joy to the World ELW #267

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

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