

## *Christ Church*

### **Prelude**

### **Moments of Concern**

**Call to Worship:** *John 12:12-15* – The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: “Hosanna! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’ The King of Israel!” Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: “Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt.”

**Heidelberg Catechism:** Lord’s Day 14 (page 15)

*Q. What does it mean that He “was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary”?*

A. That the eternal Son of God, who is and remains true and eternal God, took to Himself, through the working of the Holy Spirit, from the flesh and blood of the virgin Mary, a truly human nature so that He might become David’s true descendant, in all things like us His brothers except for sin.

*Q. How does the holy conception and birth of Christ benefit you?*

A. He is our mediator, and with His innocence and perfect holiness He removes from God’s sight my sin-mine since I was conceived.

**\*Hymn of Adoration:** 249 *“All Glory, Laud and Honor”*

**Collect of the Day (unison):** Almighty and Everlasting God, You have sent Your Son to be the atonement for our sins and to be our example of humility. By the power of that atonement, lead us to imitate Him in love and purity and humble surrender to Your will for our lives. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*Old Testament Lesson:** *Song of Solomon 2:4-5*

<sup>4</sup> He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love.

<sup>5</sup> Sustain me with cakes of raisins, refresh me with apples, for I am lovesick.

**\*Epistle Lesson:** *1 Thessalonians 1:1-7* (page 1048)

**\*Gospel Lesson:** *Luke 6:22-23* (page 911)

### **Children’s Sermon**

**Sermon:** *1 Thessalonians 1:5-7*

**\*Hymn of Preparation:** *Psalm 98* (back of bulletin)

**Reading of the Law:** *Exodus 20:1-17* (page 68)

**Call to Confession:** *Psalm 51:16-17* – For You do not desire sacrifice, or else I would give it; You do not delight in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and a contrite heart—these, O God, You will not despise.

**Prayer of Confession:** Father in heaven, You have given Your Son who was born of the virgin Mary as a sinless, spotless sacrifice to be our Savior and to turn our hearts toward Yourself. However, we have shown ourselves to be proud and arrogant, have failed to give proper attention to the state of our hearts and have not devoted ourselves to seeking Your grace to change our hearts. Pardon our ingratitude for Your precious gift, and have mercy on us who have such hard hearts. Remove from us our resistance to drawing near to You in faith and fully placing our hope in You. We seek Your forgiveness in the Name of our Savior, Jesus. Amen.

### **Agnus Dei:**

**Women & Children:** O Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

**Men:** O Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

**All:** O Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us your peace. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon:** *Isaiah 53:4-5* – Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**Gloria Patri:** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### **Holy Communion**

## **Prayers of the People**

**Lord's Prayer (unison):** Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

## **Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**\*Offertory Response:** Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn of Response:** 248 *"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"*

**\*Benediction**

**\*Threefold Amen**

**\*Postlude**