

# God Has Spoken to Us By His Son

A Song Service for Christmas Day

**December 25, 2024** 

Christ Lutheran Church, Cochrane, WI

# God has spoken to us by his Son, whose holy birth we celebrate today.

Christmas Day

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We join in the familiar hymns and readings of Christmas!

Opening Hymn: #363 "Now Sing We, Now Rejoice"

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways, I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate today, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Lord Jesus Christ, true God,

C: Son of the Father from eternity,

P: Lord Jesus Christ, true man,

C: Born of the virgin Mary,

P: At great cost you saved and redeemed us lost and condemned creatures.

C: You freed us from sin, death, and the power of the devil.

P: You paid this debt not with silver or gold,

C: But with your holy, precious blood and with your innocent suffering and death.

P: Claim us as your own, to live under you in your kingdom,

C: To serve you in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

P: Just as you are risen from the dead, and live and rule eternally. C: This is most certainly true. Amen.

### A CHRISTMAS PROPHECY FROM ISAIAH 52:7-10

(The Good News of Salvation is so beautiful that it even makes the feet of the messenger who brings it beautiful. Our God "has rolled up his sleeves" to do this. He literally "has made bare his holy arm.")

<sup>7</sup>How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of the messenger who brings the good news and who announces peace, who tells the good news, who proclaims salvation, and who tells Zion, "Your God is King!"

<sup>8</sup>Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices and shout together joyfully, because they will see with their own eyes when the Lord brings Zion back.

<sup>9</sup>Break out and shout joyfully together, ruins of Jerusalem, for the Lord comforts his people; he redeems Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup>The Lord has rolled up his sleeves in the sight of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

Hymn: #355 "Let All Together Praise Our God"

(Which of the angels of heaven ever received the kind of praise that God reserves for his one and only Son?)

<sup>1</sup>In the past God spoke to our fathers at many times and in various ways through the prophets. <sup>2</sup>In these last days he has spoken to us through his Son, whom he made the heir of everything and by whom he also made the world. <sup>3</sup>He who is the radiance of God's glory and the exact likeness of his nature maintains everything by his powerful word. After he had made a cleansing from sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

<sup>4</sup>Since he became so much better than the angels, he also inherited a name that is more excellent than theirs. <sup>5</sup>For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"?

Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?

<sup>6</sup>And again when he brings the firstborn Son into the world, he says, "Let all the angels of God worship him."

<sup>7</sup>Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds and his servants fiery flames.

<sup>8</sup>But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and uprightness is the scepter of your kingdom. <sup>9</sup>You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness. That is why God, your God, has put you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy.

Hymn: #366 "O, Rejoice, All Christians, Loudly"

## THE CHRISTMAS ACCOUNT IN JOHN 1:1-14

(The Father's one and only Son became flesh, and we have seen his glory.)

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

<sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God: <sup>3</sup>Everything was made by him, and not one thing that was made was made without him.

<sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the Light of mankind, <sup>5</sup>and the Light is shining in the darkness, and the darkness has not put it out.

<sup>6</sup>A man came – God sent him – his name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came to testify, that is, to testify about the Light so that through him everyone might believe. <sup>8</sup>He was not the Light but came to testify about the Light.

<sup>9</sup>The genuine Light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and he made the world, and the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not welcome him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who welcomed him, who believe in his name, he gave the right to become the children of God. <sup>13</sup>They have been born not of blood, nor of an urge of the flesh, nor of a husband's desire, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and tented among us, and we saw his glory, the glory of the Father's one-and-only Son, full of grace and truth.

### THE CHRISTMAS CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, who sent his Son to be my Savior.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, my Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, announced and worshiped by the angels, worshiped by the shepherds, and adored by the wise men. He lived to suffer, die, and rise again from death, to free me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who has brought me to faith in my Savior, and by whose continuing work in my heart I rejoice in God's salvation, sing his praises, and will one day live and reign with him in all eternity. Amen.

Hymn: #349 "A Great and Mighty Wonder"

THE CHRISTMAS MESSAGE BASED ON MATTHEW 1:22-23

God With Us

P: On this holy day, dear Father, we rejoice to hear the good news of great joy that a Savior has been born for us. For fulfilling your prophecies and in the fullness of time sending your Son to be our Savior, we give you our heartfelt thanks and praise.

C: Unto us a Child is born! Unto us a Son is given!

P: What a great mystery of our faith is this: that God has become fully human for our salvation! Even though he is the all-powerful Lord of all, he is wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger. C: Help us always believe that this precious child was born as our substitute to be our Savior.

P: In the midst of our joy, we grieve for the many people in our world who do not know that Jesus has come to bring them forgiveness and healing. As the shepherds spread abroad the good news of the birth of the Savior born for all the world, may we also make use of the unique opportunities this holiday presents to tell others of what we have seen and heard concerning the child.

C: Grant that the true peace between God and fallen mankind may comfort all people.

P: As the angels sang out their praise, move us also to sing out our praise to you, today and every day, as the joy of Christmas remains in our hearts.

C: Glory to God in the highest! Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Hymn: #335 "To Shepherds As They Watched By Night"

### THE CLOSING PRAYER

P: Almighty God, grant that the birth of your only Son in the flesh may set us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

# The Benediction

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn: #51 "I Am So Glad When Christmas Comes" (sung from the red hymnals)

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