

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Second Sunday of Christmas ~ January 3, 2021 ~ 8:30 a.m. Service

*Gathering Song: ELW 265 "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"*

**Confession and Forgiveness**

God of goodness and lovingkindness,  
**we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have turned away from your invitation to new life. We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins, those we know and those known only to you, for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Hear the good news of peace and salvation! God forgives us all our sins,  
not through our own work, but through ✝ Jesus Christ, made known to all people.  
With all who come to the manger, rejoice in this amazing gift of grace.  
**Amen.**

**First Reading: Psalm 147:12-20**

- <sup>12</sup>Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem;  
praise your God, O Zion,  
<sup>13</sup>**who has strengthened the bars of your gates  
and has blessed your children within you.**  
<sup>14</sup>God has established peace on your borders  
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.  
<sup>15</sup>**God sends out a command to the earth,  
a word that runs very swiftly.**  
<sup>16</sup>God gives snow like wool,  
scattering frost like ashes.  
<sup>17</sup>**God scatters hail like bread crumbs.  
Who can stand against God's cold?**  
<sup>18</sup>The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the waters flow.  
<sup>19</sup>**God declares the word to Jacob,  
statutes and judgments to Israel.**  
<sup>20</sup>The LORD has not done so to any other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

## Gospel Reading: John 1:1-9, 10-18

[<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>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

<sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

## Sermon

### Prayers of the People

*Pastor will begin a time of prayer. You are invited to add petitions to this time of prayer. You may end your petition: "Lord in your mercy." The congregation will respond: "**Hear our prayer.**"*

## The Lord's Prayer and Communion

*Sending Hymn: ELW 723 "Angels We Have Heard on High"*

## Benediction and Dismissal