

† FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS †
December 28, 2025

Service of Holy Communion 10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

In dulci jubilo

Raymond Haan

OPENING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

LSB Hymn 383

A Great and Mighty Wonder (v. 1-3)

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

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

C **Amen.**

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of Your people, turning us from our sin to live for You alone. Give us the power of Your Holy Spirit, that attentive to Your Word, we may confess our sins, receive Your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Your Son.

C **Gracious God, 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 in His mercy has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE (*Sung to "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*)

"Glory be to God on high!" This is now our joyful cry.

Peace to all who live on earth, grace and favor for new birth.

You we praise and glorify, worship You, O Lord most high.

Gracious Father, heav'nly King, to Your name alone we sing:

Praise the glory of Your name, now and evermore the same!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

A Let us pray:

C **O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Keep in us a living faith through the One who made Himself to be like us, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 63:7-9

⁷I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully," and he became their savior ⁹in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Hebrews 2:10-18

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." ¹³And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." ¹⁴Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY (*Congregation rising*)

(from Psalm 148)

A Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights!

C Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His host!

A Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars!

C Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

A Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

C Young men and women alike, old and young together!

A Let them praise the name of the Lord, for His name alone is exalted;

C His glory is above earth and heaven. Praise the Lord!

GOSPEL

Matthew 2:13-23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³Now after the magi had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." ¹⁴Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ¹⁵and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." ¹⁶When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. ¹⁷Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: ¹⁸"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." ¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰"Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." ²¹Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Sing of Christ

LSB Hymn 362

MESSAGE

Deacon Dr. Anton DeRosa

APOSTLES' CREED *(Congregation rising)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

I Saw Three Ships/Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Melody Bober

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE (*Congregation rising*)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for 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 we may be drawn to love the God whom we have not yet seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

JSANCTUS (*Sung to the hymn "Angels from the Realms of Glory"*)

Holy, holy, Lord most holy, God of power, God of might:

Heav'n and earth reveal Your glory, shining through our darkest night.

Blest is He who comes among us. Hail, hosanna, Lord of light!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

C 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

AGNUS DEI (*Sung to the hymn "On Jordan's Bank"*)

Lord Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, who takes the sin of the world away,
have mercy on us, grant us peace, and fill us with Your love and grace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

God Loves Me Dearly

LSB Hymn 392

As you come forward, you will receive the bread in your hand; then take the wine in the individual cup from the tray. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray and gluten-free bread is available in separate packets. After drinking, place empty cups in the second tray.

CLOSING PRAYER (*Congregation rising*)

A Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen Your salvation, and in this meal we have received Your gift of grace. We pray that Your Word would continue to grow in our hearts, that we may live as Your holy people and reveal the glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

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.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

LSB Hymn 374

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

From Heaven Above

Pelz/Held

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Participants in the Service:

Rev. Mark Budenholzer, Associate Pastor/Director of Youth & Family Ministries
Marcia Kollmann, Associate Organist

Lector

Youth Asst. Gianna Miro

Altar Care/Asst. Minister Anton DeRosa

Usher Bill Vogt, Volunteers

Sexton Audrey Heath

COMMUNION STATEMENT

Village Lutheran Church welcomes to Holy Communion those baptized Christians who: †Know Jesus Christ as their Savior (*John 20:31*); †Recognize that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine (*1 Cor. 11:29*); †Are able to examine themselves and repent of their sins (*1 Cor. 11:28*); and †Look to God's Holy Spirit for help in living the Christian life (*Col. 1:10*). Persons not receiving Communion may come forward to receive a blessing.

News and Notes:

Poinsettias – If you donated a poinsettia for Christmas and would like to enjoy it at home, please pick up your plant after worship today.

Winter Worship – The winter schedule begins next weekend, **January 4**, with services on Sundays only at 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.

The Christmas trees by the altar are known as the Tree of Darkness and the Tree of Light. The dark tree has no lights and is decorated with apples as a reminder of the sin that drove Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden. The lit tree has roses, a symbol of the Messiah, as a reminder that Jesus is the Light of the World who came to remove the curse of sin and usher in the kingdom of God.

Undecorating Party – We will be putting away our Christmas decorations on **Sunday, January 4**, after the 10:45 service. A pizza lunch will be offered before we get to work. Please join us!

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS are needed for the winter and spring. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the MPR or speak to Warren Wong.

THE CHOSEN – Season 2: Back by popular demand, we will host viewing sessions on **Wednesdays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** The first set of episodes will be shown before Lent, from **January 14 to February 11**, and the rest will be shown after Easter, from **April 15 to May 6**. Sessions will include soup & sandwich with wine. For planning purposes, please RSVP to the church office using the pew card, email to Krapillo@VLC-NY.org, or call 914-337-0207, x1003. For more info, contact Deacon Janet George or Deacon Tony DeRosa.

BINGO NIGHT – Enjoy a fun game night on **Saturday, January 17, at 7:00 p.m.** (open to the public, age 18 and older). Entry fee is \$50 in advance for a 10-game Bingo Deck; entry at the door is \$60 if space is available. Coffee, tea and dessert will be provided; bring your own additional beverages or food. For more information, contact Lisa Jones, Development@TheChapelSchool.org.

SOUP KITCHEN – Prepare food in aluminum trays (available at the Reception desk) and drop-off in the parking lot from 12:00-1:00. Please go to our church web site to sign up and indicate what food you will prepare. The next date is **Wednesday, January 21**. Contact Katie Bukofzer at etakwhit@aol.com.

Voter's Meeting – Save the date for our next voter's meeting on Sunday, **January 25**, at 12 noon.

"Strengthening God's House" Capital Campaign Pledges – As the saying goes, "It takes a Village..." If you are in a position to offer additional financial support, please prayerfully consider what you might give and make a pledge today. Thank you for helping to sustain our ministry.

Wednesday Bible Study – We are on a break over the holidays. The next session is on January 14, when we will begin the miracle of the raising of Lazarus in John chapter 11.

Music Ministry: Thank you to all of our choirs and holiday musicians. We are on break and will resume rehearsals on January 15.

Youth News: Voyagers (Grades 3-6) meet on Thursday, January 8, at 6:00 p.m.; Lifers (Grades 7-8) Confirmation class on Sunday, January 5; Crusaders (Grades 9-12) Donuts & Discussion on Sunday, January 11

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Adele Acosta, Marcela Acosta, Victor Acosta, Antonella Barbuto, Giovana Boniello, Tom Corbett, Davenport Family (William, Jordan, Joshua, Sonya, Wayne), Amani Fahr, Michelle Ghioris, Aurora Rose Gitter, Ruth Gitter, Anita Gould, Brandi Grissmeyer, Logan Grissmeyer, Mary Johnson, Anita Kebschull, Sue Kobylack, Michaela Knoppel, Christy Krum, Freddie Lando, Michelle Liscoe, Robert & Susan & Rosalind Magilton, Douglas Miller, Rome Martello, Cole Martello, Jennifer Pauta, Aaliyah Pedrosa, Elizabeth Pedrosa, Joshua Pedrosa, Jose Pedrosa, Paola Pedrosa, Torrey Pietarinen, Elaine Podszus, Shelby Restivo, John Scaramuzzo, Diana Schrader, Christian Vesperman, Peter Williams

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

† **Wilma DeRosa**, mother of Deacon Anton DeRosa, passed away on December 22, 2025

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School

172 White Plains Road, Bronxville, NY 10708

914-337-0207 + www.VLC-NY.ORG

Connect Card – Scan the QR code for questions or general info

