

**Hymn Sing**  
**December 26, 2021**

**OPENING HYMN SING**

**Congregation may choose hymns  
From LSB 358 through LSB 393  
for the Hymn Sing**

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

**C:** Amen.

**BAPTISM**

**Parker Alexander VanCleave**

## **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.**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**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 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.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**P:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C:** Amen.

**C:** But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word  
and for self-examination)*

**P:** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C:** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your 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. Amen.

### **SALUTATION**

P: The Lord be with you

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray...

### **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

P: O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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## **EPISTLE LESSON**

**Revelation 12:1-11**

A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on its heads. Its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that it might devour her child the moment he was born. She gave birth to a son, a male child, who “will rule all the nations with an iron scepter.” And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne. The woman fled into the wilderness to a place prepared for her by God, where she might be taken care of for 1,260 days. Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven.

The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:

“Now have come the salvation and the power  
and the kingdom of our God,  
and the authority of his Messiah.

For the accuser of our brothers and sisters,  
who accuses them before our God day and night,  
has been hurled down.

They triumphed over him  
by the blood of the Lamb  
and by the word of their testimony;  
they did not love their lives so much  
as to shrink from death.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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## **HOLY GOSPEL**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the second chapter.

**C: ♪ Glory to You, O Lord.**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪ Praise to You, O Christ.

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## **SERMON**

**“What Christmas Means for Dragons”**

Rev. Kurt Wenzelburger

## **OFFERING**

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## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

***Hospitalized:*** Rev. Bob Scott (*Faith Grand Blanc*)

***Please pray for hope and healing for:***

Andy, Sherrie Antoszewski, Dave Backers, Barbara,  
Lois Bellhorn, Don Bietler, Gayle Butzu, Laurie Butzu,  
Jim Caputo, Mike Clore, Chris Curtice, Kaleigh D'Anna,  
Connie Davis, Joshua Etheridge, Joe Ferrari, Rich Gluski,  
Kathy Harding, Gloria Koch, Chuck Kraft,  
Barbara Limberger, Evelyn Marcath, Milt Miller,  
Landon Morrison, Melissa Murray, Melissa Paul,  
Tom Prokuda, Sandy Ruzzin, Stella Thoel, Hope Watson,  
Paul Wright

***Pray for the family of:*** David Rush (Marianne's husband)  
Leonard Thoel  
(Cousin to Annette Tilney)

***Please pray for:***

- Protection for health care workers, all first responders, the poor, the sick, all who are most at risk.
- People around the world who are going thru internal conflicts. Pray for peace.

- People in Kentucky and other states with the devastating tornadoes.
- Comfort and peace for the Oxford community.
- For those injured and their families in the Oxford shooting.
- Safety for those traveling during the Christmas-New Year's week.

## **BENEDICTION**

### **CLOSING HYMN – LSB 387**

***“Joy to the World”***

**♪ 1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King:  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**♪ 2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods,  
rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**3. No more let sins and sorrows grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**♪ 4. He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.**