

*First Sunday of Christmas*  
*December 30, 2018*

**THE WORD BECAME FLESH**



**and LIVED AMONG US**

**GOLD HILL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*A CONGREGATION OF THE MONTANA SYNOD OF  
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA)*

*Welcome to Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church, and a special welcome to our guests and those returning after a time away. We're gathered as a Christian community to worship the Lord!*

*Please know that you are always welcome here.*

***Our Congregation's Mission Statement:  
EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITED TO SERVE***

***Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!***

*Please let us know if there are other ways we can be of service. Guests are invited to fill out the small green contact card in the rack in front of you and hand it to the Pastor or other worship leaders or place it in the offering plate. We promise not to 'stalk' anyone – we're just trying to let you know we care.*

***The Guiding Principles of God's People at Gold Hill Lutheran***

*Principle 1: Jesus Christ is our Lord & Savior*

*Principle 2: The Holy Spirit & worship strengthen us*

*Principle 3: We are a welcoming & inviting community in Christ*

*Principle 4: We share the Word with confidence and courage*

*Principle 5: Our faith leads us to serve joyfully*

*Principle 6: We are generous with our gifts*

**[www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT](http://www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT)**

**Check out our GROWING website at [www.GoldHillLutheran.org](http://www.GoldHillLutheran.org)**

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**Today's Worship Leaders**

<b>Worship Leader:</b>	<b>Pastor Laurie Jungling</b>
<b>Assisting Minister:</b>	<b>Curt Quist</b>
<b>Music Ministers:</b>	<b>Shelly Clark</b>
<b>Communion Ministers:</b>	<b>Jeanette Quist &amp; Chris Ketchum</b>
<b>Greeters/Ushers:</b>	<b>Dick &amp; Danette Fitzpatrick</b>
<b>Additional Servant Ministers:</b>	<b>Ruschelle Tyvand, Tavia Broudy</b>

## Today's Liturgy: Christmas Setting

*P=Presiding Minister    A=Assisting Minister*

**C=Congregation**

### **GATHERING**

**Welcome**

#### **Confession & Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who shines in glory, clothes us in compassion, and bears gifts of mercy for all.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sins with confidence in God's promise of forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection*

P: God, wonderful counselor,

**C: we confess that we have turned away from your gifts and chosen our own way. We have not made room for you in our hearts or in our world. We have lived in fear; we have not welcomed the stranger; we desire gifts that will not endure. Forgive us our sins, known and unknown, and open us to receive the peace of Jesus dwelling in and among us. Amen.**

P: God's lovingkindness has appeared to us in Christ our Savior. We are saved, not by anything we have done, but by God's mercy poured out on us richly. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Through the Spirit living in you, God gives you the faith to trust Jesus, who is Love born for you, now and always. **Amen.**

**Gathering Song**    "Good Christian Friends"    ELW #288

## **Greeting**

**Gloria** “Angels from the Realms of Glory” ELW #275

## **Prayer of the Day**

**C: Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illuminate the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

**Hymn:** “Lo! How a Rose E’re Blooming” ELW #272

**WORD** (all scriptures are on the back pages of the bulletin)

**Old Testament** Isaiah 52:7-10

**Psalm 98**

**Reading from the Early Church** Hebrews 1:1-4

**Gospel Acclamation**

“Gloria in excelsis Deo” from “Angels we Have Heard”

**Gospel** John 1:1-14

**Young People’s Message** Pastor Laurie

**Sermon** Pastor Laurie

**Hymn of the Day** “Go! Tell it on the Mountain” ELW #290

**The Nicene Creed** (see the folder in the back inside cover)

**Prayers of Intercession**

Respond to each petition with **Hear our prayer.**

## **Peace**

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

## **Gathering of Offering**

**Offertory** “Cold December Flies Away” ELW #299

## **Offering Prayer**

**C: Holy God, your beauty shines forth from the manger and your love flows from the cross. As you gather us around these signs of your love come among us, warm us to extend your care among the hungry and all in need. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

## **MEAL**

**Great Thanksgiving** ELW p. 144

Words of Institution

The Lord’s Prayer ELW p. 145

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” ELW #276

**Sacrament of Holy Communion** (Served Continuously)

**Hymns during Communion**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” ELW #279

“Away in a Manger” ELW #278

**Communion Blessing**

**Prayer After Communion**

# **SENDING**

**Benediction**

**Announcements**

**Sending Song** “Joy to the World” ELW #267

**Dismissal**

**A:** Go in peace. Share the joy of Christ!

**C:** We go, empowered by the Holy Spirit, united to Serve.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **Isaiah 52:7-10**

<sup>7</sup> How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,  
who brings good news, who announces salvation,  
who says to Zion, ‘Your God reigns.’  
<sup>8</sup> Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy;  
for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.  
<sup>9</sup> Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem;  
for the Lord has comforted his people,  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
<sup>10</sup> The Lord has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

## **Psalm 98**

A: O sing to the Lord a new song, who has done marvelous things.  
**C: whose right hand and holy arm have gained him victory.**  
A: The Lord has made known victory;  
And has revealed vindication in the sight of the nations.  
**C: The Lord has remembered steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.**  
A: All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.  
**C: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**  
A: Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody.  
**C: With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.**  
A: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.  
**C: Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills ring out with joy  
before the Lord’s presence, who comes to judge the earth.**  
*All: The Lord will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with equity.*

### **Hebrews 1:1-4**

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

### **John 1:1-14**

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.