

Second Sunday of Christmas  
January 3, 2021



[www.riverofhopehutchinson.org](http://www.riverofhopehutchinson.org)  
Facebook Premiere Worship at 10:30am

# GATHERING

Music to Prepare Us for Worship

Gathering Songs - It Came Upon A Midnight Clear & Joy to the World

Welcome

The Word with the Kids

No Longer Strangers Prayer

Let us pray together. God of the Stranger, **we wait for you to come among us and yet, you tell us you are already here. You are here in the hunger of a stranger, the handshake of a friend, the hug of a loved one. Give us eyes to see you in the face of everyone we meet. May we greet all people, friend and stranger, as we would greet you. Amen.**

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the community of the Holy Spirit is with you all. **And also with you.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Let us confess that God is God and we are not.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,

**we confess that we are not perfect.**

**We have said and done things we regret.**

**We have tried to earn your redeeming grace,  
while denying it to others.**

**We have resisted your call  
to be your voice in the world.**

**Forgive us, loving God.**

**Give us your righteousness,  
the strength to put aside our failures,  
and the courage to try again. Amen.**

Dear people of God, hear the good news:  
Christ the Savior is born!  
You are loved and forgiven  
in the name of ✝ Jesus, who has come among us.  
You are freed from proving that you deserve to be loved,  
because God's love is given to you  
as the most precious gift of all.  
Rejoice in this love and share it with the world.  
**Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray: Holy God, **as we journey in this season of Christmas, help us to see your presence among us as you reveal your grace and salvation through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, Amen.**

Song – Angels from the Realm of Glory

## **THE STORY**

**Narrator:** Our story and God's story continues with a reading from Luke

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished;

and his mother said to him, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.”

He said to them, Jesus: “Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God’s story.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Song - Of the Fathers Love Begotten

Prayers of the People

*Together we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.*

Each petition will close with the words: God of Hope  
And we invite you to please respond: **Hear our prayer.**

Offering

*We are grateful for your financial gifts; it’s the only way churches are churches. Set up automatic giving by going to our website, [riverofhopehutchinson.org](http://riverofhopehutchinson.org) and follow the directions to “give online”.*

Offering Song – Away In A Manger

## **THE FEAST**

Setting the Table

*As we gather our gifts of bread and wine/juice, the youth will lead us in the table prayer written by Martin Luther: Let us pray: **Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. And let these gifts to us be blest. Blest be God who is our bread, may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen.***

Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord is with you

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise**

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught:

**Our Father, in heaven, holy is your name.**

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins,**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil,**

**for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

### ***Invitation to the Meal***

*This is not my table or River of Hope's table, but rather this is Christ's table and all are welcome. If you hunger and thirst for grace and mercy that comes through Jesus Christ, then Christ has set this table just for you. Bring all that you are and all that you have to the table. You will be fed. You are forgiven. There is enough.*

*"This is the body of Christ given for you and the blood of Christ shed for you."*

Communion Song – O Holy Night

Blessing and Prayer After Communion

Let us pray.

**Loving God, thank you for the gift of grace received at this table. Send your Spirit of truth to direct our steps, to guide our hearts, and to live a life of following Jesus for the sake of the world. Draw us near to you**

through your body and blood, through your presence in this world here and now. Amen.

## THE SENDING

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose? **We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.**

### \*MILESTONES

*It's time for milestones - a time where we join together as a community to share the big, small, good, and hard milestones in our life. Splash in the water this morning and remember that God joins us in hearing these milestones today.*

*If you gather on Facebook Premiere today, write your milestones in the comment section. Then after each person shares their milestone, the congregation is invited to respond by saying "MILESTONE!"*

### Benediction

May Emmanuel, God with us, bless you and keep you and fill you with peace and wonder. Amen.

Sending Song – Jesus What a Wonderful Child

Go in peace – serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God**



Music to Send You Out

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