

# The Word Became Flesh

An Advent/Christmas Sermon Series on John 1:1-18

Wednesday in Advent 3

December 15, 2021



Concordia Lutheran Church  
Beulah, North Dakota

## † In the Name of Jesus †

**Hymn # 332** “Savior of the Nations, Come” (st. 1-5)

**Invocation and Call to Worship** (from 2 Corinthians 13:14 and John 1:1-18)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Amen.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**He was with God in the beginning.**

Through him all things were made.

**Without him nothing was made that has been made.**

In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

**The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.**

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

**We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only.**

Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**from his fullness we have all received grace upon grace.**

The Law was given through Moses.

**Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ!**

### **Confession and Absolution**

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

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

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**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.**

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.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore you to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by your gracious visitation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Scripture Lessons

### Isaiah 43:1-7 (ESV)

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you.

Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life.

Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

### Ephesians 1:3-8 (ESV)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight.

### John 1:10-13 (ESV)

He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

**Apostles' Creed**                      *back cover of hymnal*

**Hymn # 370**                              "What Child Is This"

**Sermon**                                      Chosen Children

**Our Offerings**

## Prayers of the Church

Heavenly Father, we are amazed and astounded that you give.

**You give the Spirit without limit.**

You raise the dead and give life.

**You give eternal life. No one can snatch us out of your hand.**

Heavenly Father, we are amazed and astounded that you give authority.

**We are not helpless and hopeless. We are not powerless and without prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we are amazed and astounded that you give authority to become your children.

**We are born again.**

Completely new.

**Adopted into your forever family.**

Through the gift of Holy Baptism we are your chosen children!

† Additional Prayers †

Heavenly Father, we are amazed and astounded that the past is past. The future is bright. Your Word is sure. Your work is finished. We rest in our adoption.

**We are your chosen children.**

Now and forevermore!

**In Jesus' Name.**

**Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer**      *back cover of hymnal*

**Benediction** (Based upon John 20:31)

John writes his Gospel so that we may believe.

**That Jesus is the Christ—**

The Son of God.

**And that by believing we may have life in his name.**

Go forth in his name—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—for in his name you have life.

**Abundant life.**

Joyful life.

**Eternal life.**

**Amen.**

**Hymn # 363**

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

**Silent Prayer**

“God's own child, I gladly say, I am baptized into Christ!” Amen.