

Trinity Lutheran Church, LCMS

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Pastor Michael R. Ruhl

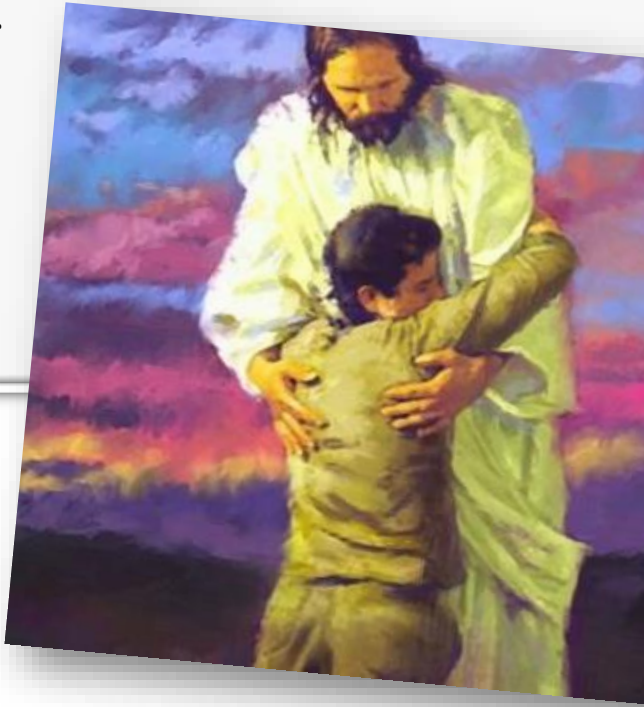
(734) 678.9358

First Sunday After Christmas

Closeness to Christ

December 29, 2024

Divine Service 4



PRE-SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVANT PROCESSIONAL

As We Gather

The miraculous birth of Jesus on Christmas Day was over in a flash. The Baby Jesus was already 40 days old when Joseph and Mary took their newborn son to the Temple in Jerusalem to "present Him to the LORD." As dedicated Jewish-Christian parents, Joseph and Mary followed the Law of God by "presenting their newborn son to the Lord." This act of obedience and faith completed Mary's purification after childbirth and enabled Joseph and Mary to "redeem - or "buy back" their firstborn son by offering a sacrifice of a lamb, young pigeon, or a turtle dove, depending on their financial means. Today, Christian children are always blessed by spiritual parents who "present" their children to the LORD in holy baptism and continue to nurture their children's

faith and salvation in Christ the LORD
and His Christian Church.

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation: 905 Come, Thou Almighty King

- 1 Come, Thou almighty King,
Help us Thy name to sing;
Help us to praise;
Father all-glorious,
O'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.
- 2 Come, Thou incarnate Word,
Gird on Thy mighty sword;
Our prayer attend.
Come and Thy people bless,
And give Thy Word success,
And let Thy righteousness
On us descend.
- 3 Come, holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear
In this glad hour!
Thou, who almighty art,
Now rule in ev'ry heart,
And ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of pow'r.
- △4 To Thee, great One in Three,
Eternal praises be
Hence evermore!
Thy sov'reign majesty
May we in glory see,
And to eternity
Love and adore.

Text: English, before 1760, alt.

Text: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 203

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O
Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness;
therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's
Word, call upon Him in prayer and
praise, and receive the body and
blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the
fellowship of this altar, let us first
consider our unworthiness and confess
before God and one another that we
have sinned in thought, word, and
deed, and that we cannot free
ourselves from our sinful condition.
Together as His people let us take
refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our
heavenly Father, seeking His grace for
the sake of Christ, and saying: God,
be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Stand

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us,
forgive us our sins, and lead us to
everlasting life. Amen.

Prayer for Forgiveness

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy
Baptism You declared us to be Your
children and gathered us into Your

one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

P 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.

C Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

P The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

C He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

P Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P 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.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204

C 1 To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, our Maker and Redeemer,
 You wonderfully created us and in the
 incarnation of Your Son yet more
 wondrously restored our human
 nature. Grant that we may ever be
 alive in Him who made Himself to be
 like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
 who lives and reigns with You and the
 Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15

Consecration of the Firstborn

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²“Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”

The Feast of Unleavened Bread

³Then Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .

¹¹“When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, ¹²you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD’s. ¹³Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt,

from the house of slavery. ¹⁵For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.'"

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a*

L To us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder.

C **And his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

L Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!

Epistle *Colossians 3:12–17*

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,

¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do

everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

Alleluia *LSB 205*

G Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Verse *LSB 205*

G These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia *LSB 205*

G Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel *Luke 2:22–40*

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

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

Jesus Presented at the Temple

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon,

and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.

³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

The Return to Nazareth

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C 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.

Hymn of the Day: 389 Let All Together Praise Our God

- 1 Let all together praise our God
Before His glorious throne;
Today He opens heav'n again
To give us His own Son,
To give us His own Son.
- 2 He leaves His heav'nly Father's
throne,
Is born an infant small,
And in a manger, poor and lone,
Lies in a humble stall,
Lies in a humble stall.
- 3 Within an earthborn form He hides
His all-creating light;
To serve us all He humbly cloaks
The splendor of His might,
The splendor of His might.
- 4 He undertakes a great exchange,
Puts on our human frame,
And in return gives us His realm,
His glory, and His name,
His glory, and His name.
- 5 He is a servant, I a lord:
How great a mystery!
How strong the tender Christ Child's
love!
No truer friend than He,
No truer friend than He.
- 6 He is the key and He the door
To blessèd paradise;
The angel bars the way no more.
To God our praises rise,
To God our praises rise.
- △7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield

And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.

Text: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561; (sts. 1, 3–7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 2): tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
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Sermon "Fine Art of Lingerin'" *Luke 2:22-40*

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Prayer Response

PLord in your mercy
G hear our prayer.

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Sit

Offering

Lord's Prayer

G 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.

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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.**

Hymn to Depart: 390 Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

1 Let us all with gladsome voice
Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice,
His own Son hath given.

2 To this vale of tears He comes,
Here to serve in sadness,
That with Him in heav'n's fair homes
We may reign in gladness.

3 We are rich, for He was poor;
Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore
Here on earth and yonder.

4 Christ, our Lord and Savior dear,
Be Thou ever near us.
Grant us now a glad new year.
Amen, Jesus, hear us.

Text: German, 17th cent.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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REGULAR MINISTRY GROUPS will swing back into action next week in the New Year 2025.

Mon Jan 6

7 pm--Board of Stewardship and Evangelism

Tues Jan 7

10 am--Morning Being Lutheran

11 am--Prayer Warriors

Myhers Evening Being Lutheran

Wed Jan 8

6:30 pm--Call Committee and Elders

Thur Jan 9

6 pm--Godly Men

7 pm-- Ladies Posse

Sat Jan 11

Doctrine 1 Class in Saline (Bill Hertel and Pastor)

REMINDER TO ALL CHURCH LEADERS If you received an E-mail with the link to take the online Stewards by Design PERSONAL STEWARDSHIP SURVEY ... please chase after that loving task" as soon as possible - now that the Christmas Rush is behind us. Thank you