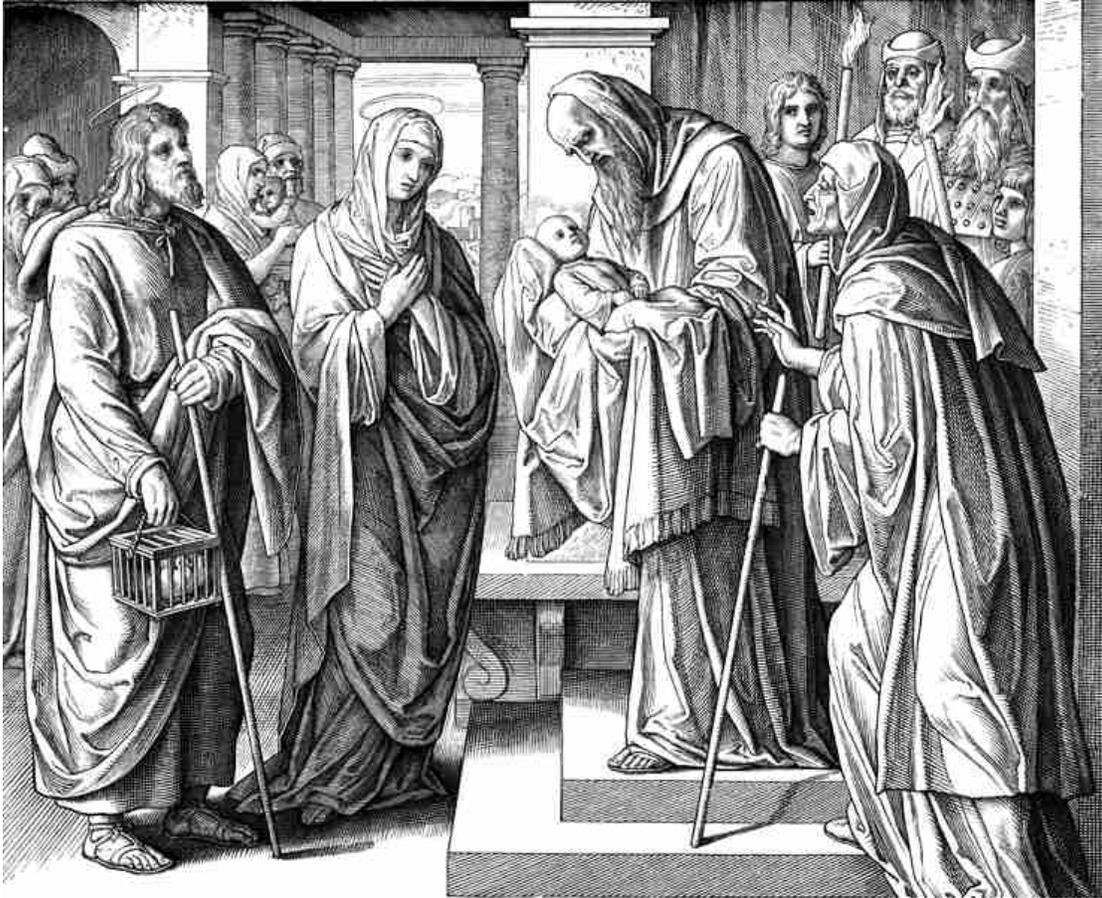


# *The First Sunday after Christmas*

December 27, 2020



**Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**281 Spruce Ln, Boone Iowa 50036**

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### 370 What Child Is This

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

2 Why lies He in such mean estate  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you;  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

3 So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

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

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father, **C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.

### Introit

Thy testimonies are very sure:

**holiness becometh Thine house, O Lord forever.**

The Lord reigneth, He is clothed with majesty:

**the Lord is clothed with strength, wherewith He hath girded Himself.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Thy testimonies are very sure:

**holiness becometh Thine house, O Lord forever.**

### Kyrie

*LSB 186*

**C** Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

## Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray: Almighty and everlasting God : direct our actions according to Thy good pleasure; that in the name of Thy beloved Son we may be made to abound in good works; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with the Thee and Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **C** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 11:1–5*

<sup>1</sup>There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. <sup>2</sup>And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. <sup>3</sup>And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, <sup>4</sup>but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

<sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*Galatians 4:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, <sup>2</sup>but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. <sup>3</sup>In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. <sup>4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia

*LSB 190*

**C** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 2:22–40*

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

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>22</sup>When 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 <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup>Now 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. <sup>26</sup>And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup>And 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, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, <sup>29</sup>“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; <sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation <sup>31</sup>that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.” <sup>33</sup>And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.

<sup>34</sup>And 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 <sup>35</sup>(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.” <sup>36</sup>And 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, <sup>37</sup>and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>And 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. <sup>39</sup>And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

**¶** This is the Gospel of the Lord. **☩** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

### Nicene Creed

**☩** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the

**Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

### **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.

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## Sermon

### Offertory

*LSB 192*

**C** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

[ Offering ]

### Prayer of the Church

#### Preface

*LSB 194*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

#### Sanctus

*LSB 195*

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

## Lord's Prayer

*LSB 196*

**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.**

## The Words of Our Lord

*LSB 197*

**¶** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

## Pax Domini

*LSB 197*

**¶** The peace of the Lord be with you always.      **☩** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

*LSB 198*

**☩** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

## Distribution

### 403 O Savior of Our Fallen Race

- 1 O Savior of our fallen race, O Brightness of the Father's face,  
O Son who shared the Father's might  
Before the world knew day or night, Alleluia!
  - 2 O Jesus, very Light of Light, Our constant star in sin's deep night:  
Now hear the prayers Your people pray  
Throughout the world this holy day. Alleluia!
  - 3 Remember, Lord of life and grace, How once, to save our fallen race,  
You put our human vesture on  
And came to us as Mary's son. Alleluia!
  - 4 Today, as year by year its light Bathes all the world in radiance  
bright, One precious truth outshines the sun:  
Salvation comes from You alone. Alleluia!
  - 5 For from the Father's throne You came, His banished children to  
reclaim; And earth and sea and sky revere  
The love of Him who sent You here. Alleluia!
  - 6 And we are jubilant today, For You have washed our guilt away.  
O hear the glad new song we sing  
On this, the birthday of our King! Alleluia!
- △7 O Christ, Redeemer virgin-born, Let songs of praise Your name  
adorn, Whom with the Father we adore  
And Holy Spirit evermore. Alleluia!

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### 384 Of the Father's Love Begotten

- 1 Of the Father's love begotten Ere the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He,  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see Evermore and evermore.
- 2 Oh, that birth forever blessèd, When the virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, Bore the Savior of our race,  
And the babe, the world's Redeemer,  
First revealed His sacred face Evermore and evermore.
- 3 This is He whom seers in old time Chanted of with one accord,  
Whom the voices of the prophets Promised in their faithful word.  
Now He shines, the long-expected;  
Let creation praise its Lord Evermore and evermore.
- 4 O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him; Angel hosts, His praises sing.  
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him And extol our God and King.  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Ev'ry voice in concert ring Evermore and evermore.
- △5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Father, And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee  
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving And unending praises be,  
Honor, glory, and dominion,  
And eternal victory Evermore and evermore. Amen.

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### 380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the\_angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
*Refrain*

*refrain* Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the\_incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!  
*Refrain*

3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of  
Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.  
*Refrain*

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## 546 O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild

- 1 O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!  
For sinners You became a child.  
    You came from heaven down to earth  
    In human flesh through human birth.  
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!
  
- 2 O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!  
With God we now are reconciled.  
    You have for all the ransom paid,  
    Your Father's righteous anger stayed.  
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!
  
- 3 O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!  
Joy fills the world which sin defiled.  
    Whate'er we have belongs to You;  
    O keep us faithful, strong, and true.  
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!

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## Nunc Dimittis

*LSB 199*

**☐** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## Thanksgiving

*LSB 200*

- ☐** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**☐** and His mercy endureth forever.
- ☐** Let us pray: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus

Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**Benedicamus**

*LSB 202*

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Benediction**

*LSB 202*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

**C** Amen, amen, amen.

## 897 O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly

1 O rejoice, ye Christians, loudly,  
For our joy has now begun;  
Wondrous things our God has done.  
Tell abroad His goodness proudly,  
Who our race has honored thus,  
That He deigns to dwell with us. *Refrain*

*refrain* Joy, O joy, beyond all gladness,  
Christ has done away with sadness!  
Hence, all sorrow and repining,  
For the Sun of Grace is shining!

2 See, my soul, thy Savior chooses  
Weakness here and poverty;  
In such love He comes to thee.  
Neither crib nor cross refuses;  
All He suffers for thy good  
To redeem thee by His blood. *Refrain*

3 Lord, how shall I thank Thee rightly?  
I acknowledge that by Thee  
I am saved eternally.  
Let me not forget it lightly,  
But to Thee at all times cleave  
And my heart true peace receive. *Refrain*

4 Jesus, guard and guide Thy members,  
Fill them with Thy boundless grace,  
Hear their prayers in ev'ry place.  
Fan to flame faith's glowing embers;  
Grant all Christians, far and near,  
Holy peace, a glad new year! *Refrain*

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### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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## **THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

The Seed of David comes to His Temple – A Rod has come forth from the stem of Jesse (Isaiah 11:1–5) – the Seed of David whose kingdom shall be established forever (2 Samuel 7:1–16). In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son Jesus to redeem us from the judgment of the Law (Galatians 4:1–7). Now He is presented in the temple in fulfillment of the Law and revealed to be "*a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel*" (Luke 2:22–40). Christ has enlightened us in baptism, giving us to be adopted as sons of God and heirs of eternal life. Receiving the Holy Sacrament of His body and blood, we are prepared to depart this world in peace, for our eyes have seen the salvation of God in Him.

If Joseph and Mary had judged accordingly to outward appearances, they would have thought that Christ was nothing more than a poor child. But they disregard the outward appearance and cling to the words of Simeon with a firm new faith, and so they marvel at what he says. Simeon delivered a warm-hearted, beautiful, sermon, preaching the pure Gospel and the Word of God. For the Gospel is nothing but a sermon whose theme is Christ, declaring him to be the Savior, light and glory of all the world. Such preaching fills the heart with joy and wonder at this great grace and comfort, if it is received in faith.

– Martin Luther