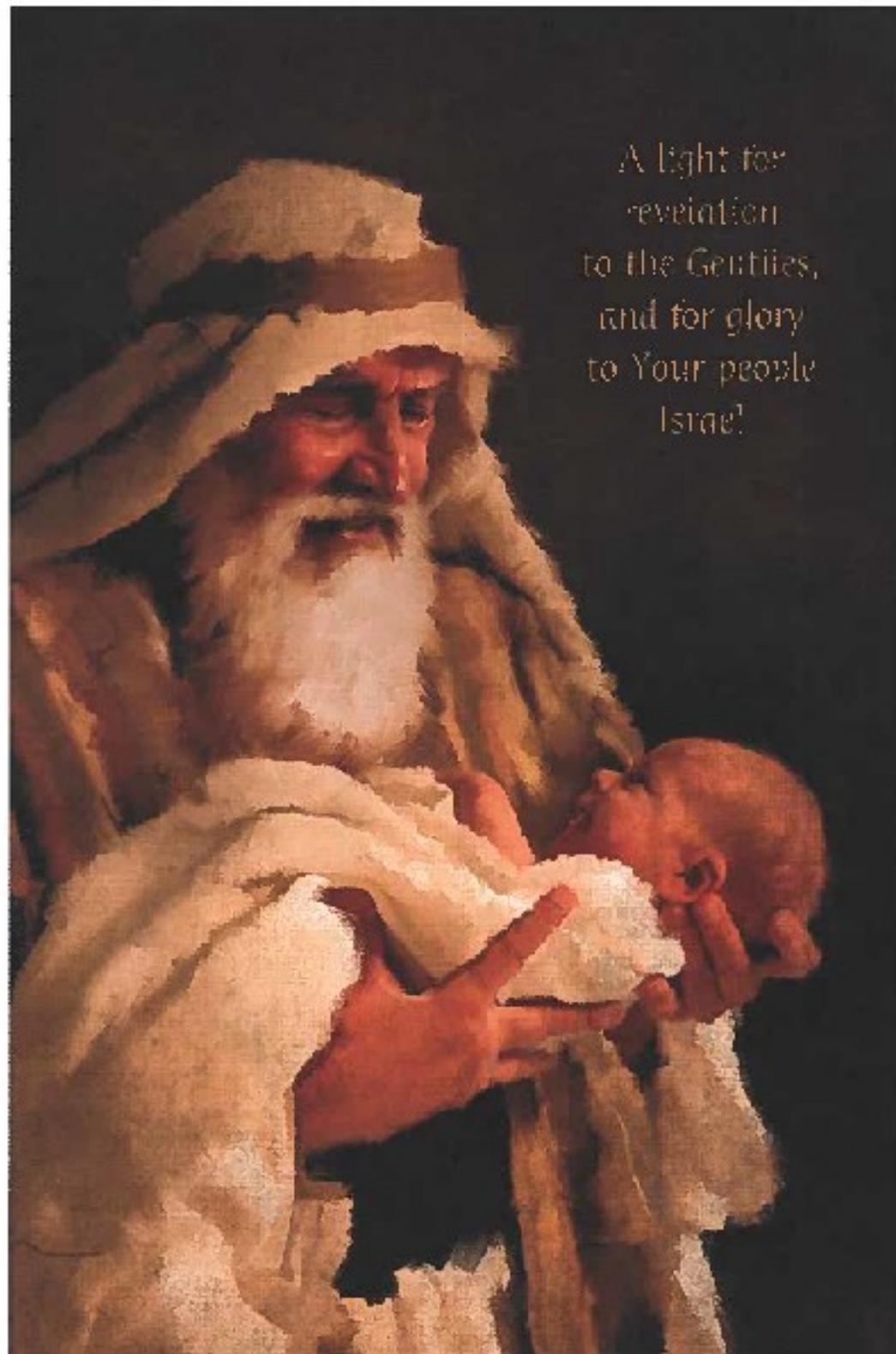


A light for  
revelation  
to the Gentiles,  
and for glory  
to Your people  
Israel!



# Fourth Sunday After Christmas

St. John's Lutheran Church—Sherburn, MN

December 26, 2021

9:00 a.m.

Pastor.....Rev. Steven D. Wilson, 507-236-1181  
Vicar.....Mr. Jeff Hagen 507-236-3114  
Secretary.....Mrs. Kathleen Potts  
Elders.....Mr. Kent Meyers and Mr. Ryan Kahler

### Church Address

317 South Main, Box 760  
Sherburn, MN 56171

### Church Phone

507-764-5312

**Website:** [sjlsherburn.com](http://sjlsherburn.com)

**Email:** [church@sjlsherburn.com](mailto:church@sjlsherburn.com)

**Facebook:** [@stjohnslutheransherburnmn](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnslutheransherburnmn)

**Welcome:** We are happy that you have joined us for worship. May your worship of the living Lord enrich your faith and fill your life with the lively hope and lasting joy. Please take time to sign the worship attendance cards and they will be collected during the children's message.

## First Sunday after Christmas—December 26, 2021

### *Creative Worship*

#### **As We Gather**

Are you prepared for heaven? Admittedly, this is an odd question when we are celebrating Jesus' birth. Yet, Jesus was born to die to save His people from their sins. As Simeon held the Christ Child, he couldn't help but say, "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word," while also telling Mary, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed." That opposition eventually brought about His death on a cross. Yet, Jesus was born to die and rise to life again so that all who believe in Him might live! That is the best Christmas gift ever.

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

**Opening Hymn: "Now Sing We, Now Rejoice" LSB 386 vs 1-4**

#### **Invocation**

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

C **Amen.**

**Confession and Absolution** *Psalm 124:8; 130:3, adapt.*

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 Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are sinful and unclean. We have taken for granted the free gift of salvation You give us through Jesus. Help us to focus on the reason for the season, the birth of Your Son. Forgive us, O God, and let us depart in peace, according to Your Word, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus, who came to save us from our sins.**

P Receive the free gift that Jesus offers: the forgiveness of sins. As a called servant of our newborn King, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Thank You, Jesus! Amen.**

## WORD

**Proper** *Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:10*

P The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,

C **and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

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

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

P The LORD has made known his salvation;

C **he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

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

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

P Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

C **break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

**ALL: 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,

C **and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

## Kyrie

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of our newborn King, which is beyond our understanding, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our salvation from Christ, the Prince of Peace, for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Holy Christian Church, for we have seen Your salvation that You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

**Care List:** Miss Murphy, Tim Brammeier, Barb Mustard, Taylor Antony, Carol Janssen, Roberta Garbers, Robert Ziemer, Marilyn Pierson, Lorraine Gagnon, Dennis Cook, Kurt Jans, LaVerna Diekmann, Verna Bliesmer, Les Anderson, Glenna Shanley, Terri Schultz, Joyce Hansen Picken, Linda Chase, Adam Janssen, Marcella Brotsma, Kay Groth, Garland Hendricksen, Dan Janssen, Sandi Claussen, and those we name in our hearts.

**Members Celebrating Birthdays This Week**

**Members Celebrating Wedding Anniversaries This Week:**

**Mission Central:** We will be taking bus trip to Mission Central on December 28. Bus will leave at 7:00 a.m. and plan to return around 5:30 p.m. Sign up sheet is in the front entry. Seats are limited to 54 people.

**Friendship Club—January 3 @ 2:00 p.m.** Come for coffee and conversation...nothing extra planned. If you have leftovers from Christmas, we can help you get rid of them! See you next year!

**Offering Envelopes:** 2022 Envelopes are available in the front entry.

It was decided by the Board of Stewardship to change the design of the offering envelopes which will help on the cost and the disposing of unused envelopes. The new boxes have no numbers or dates on them; therefore can be used any year. In order for your donation to get posted to your offering record please **make sure you put your name on the envelope**. One box per family please. Thank you.

**Confirmation** will not meet this week. Next class will be on January 5 at 12:30 p.m. with Jr. High FFF following the class.

### Take My Moments and My Days

**Sunday, December 26:** 9:00 a.m. Worship, 10:00 a.m. Fellowship

**Tuesday, December 28:** 7:00 a.m. Mission Central Trip

**Wednesday, December 29:** No Confirmation

**Sunday, January 2:** 9:00 a.m. Service with Communion, 10:00 a.m. Fellowship, No Sunday School/Bible Classes

**In Our Prayers:** Crue Crosby, Jason Hoke, Mary Whitehead, Jim Keithahn

**Coping With Cancer:** Wanda Douglas, Jennifer Beseke, Shirley Skogerboe, Serena Johnson, Tom Wescott, Andrea Mileham, Cindi Crisinger, Lori Koerselman, Julie Krogman, Donna Nawrocki, Elsie Swanson, Shelly Callahan, Gary Maday, Ginny Anderson, Larry Norem, Roger Spiegeler, Cyndi Johnson, Gloria Maschoff, Perry Caven, Harv Baird, Michele Thiesse, Marty Bremer

**Hymn of Praise: "Angels from the Realms of Glory" LSB 367 vs 1-5**

*Stand*

**Salutation**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus, our Savior, we praise and thank You for coming to be born of Mary so that through faith in You we might depart this life in peace. Grant that we may ever share this gift; 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*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>“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.”

<sup>3</sup>Then 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. . . .

<sup>11</sup>“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, <sup>12</sup>you 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. <sup>13</sup>Every 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. <sup>14</sup>And 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. <sup>15</sup>For 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.’”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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

P For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;

C **and the government shall be upon His shoulder.**

P And His name shall be called

C **Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

P Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

**Epistle** *Colossians 3:12–17*

<sup>12</sup>Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup>bearing 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. <sup>14</sup>And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let 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. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Verse** *Luke 2:30–32*

P Alleluia. My eyes have seen Your salvation;

C **a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel. Alleluia.**

**Holy Gospel** *Luke 2:22–40*

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

C **Glory to You, 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 Jeru-

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our newborn King.

C **Amen.**

*Stand*

**Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

**Closing Hymn: "Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing" LSB 924 vs 1-3**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 1. Copyright © 2021 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Acknowledgments Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2021 Concordia Publishing House.

**Fellowship:** Join us for coffee and fellowship following the service this morning. There is no Sunday school or Bible classes today.

**Envelope Fund Raiser:** The Sr. High Youth are busy with raising money for the National Youth Gathering that is held in July. Please consider taking one of the envelopes to help fund this trip. You can leave a donation in the envelope and drop it off at the church office. Thank you for your support.

**Giving Tree:** The MCW Elementary is in need of waterproof mittens and gloves and dark sweat pants sizes 4T to 10. Items can be left at the church through the month of December.

**One Service Only:** On Sunday, January 2 we will have a 9:00 service only with fellowship after the service. There will be no Sunday school.

**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.**

*Sit*

**Hymn of the Day: "Let All Together Praise Our God" LSB 389 vs.1-4**

**Sermon: "Jesus Makes the Seemingly Normal Abnormal"**

**Offering**

**Offertory Hymn: "Let All Together Praise Our God" LSB 389 vs. 5-7**

**Prayer of the Church**

P Let us pray for the whole people of God and all people according to their needs. Wonderful Counselor, we praise and thank You for guiding us with the Word of Christ, which dwells richly in us. Bless all pastors and teachers of Your Word, that they teach and admonish Your people with all of Your wisdom so that whatever we do, in word or deed, we do it in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. O God of our salvation,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Mighty God, You created this world and everything in it through Your powerful Word and still take care of it. Continue to watch over and work through all who lead and serve our nation, state, and local communities. Lead and guide all first responders and members of the military as they carry out their duties to protect and serve. O God of our salvation,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Everlasting Father, You are gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. We ask for Your encouragement, healing, and care for all who are struggling with their health, [*especially . . .*]. Heal the broken hearts of those who grieve the loss of those close to them. O God of our salvation,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Prince of Peace, we praise and thank You for the peace we have in You. Empower us and all of your missionary people to embrace the opportunities You give us to share the gift of Your redemption. O God of our salvation,

C **hear our prayer.**

salem, 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, worshipping 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.

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.**