

First Sunday after Christmas

December 30-31, 2023



Christmas 1 grants us a second opportunity to proclaim that God has truly become man in the person of Jesus Christ. This text is sandwiched in between the time of waiting for Jesus to come (Advent) and the season declaring that the man Jesus is in fact fully God (Epiphany). This short window of time gives us an opportunity to proclaim the very real full humanity of the infant Jesus and how His incarnation is a fulfillment of ancient promises made. We “see” the promised Messiah’s humanity in the Introit: “The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations.” And we acknowledge in the Collect that God “in the incarnation of [His] Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. . . . [And] made himself to be like us.” Surely the incarnation is among the greatest of “the works of the Lord,” well worth being “studied by all who delight in them” (Psalm, v 2). For it was God’s eternal design, promised from the day mankind fell, that “when the fullness of time had come, God [would send] forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law” (Gal 4:4–5a, Epistle). All this is what Simeon’s own eyes are literally seeing (Lk 2:30) in the Gospel.

St. John’s Lutheran Church and School

12809 State Route 736 Marysville, OH 43040

Office Phone: 937-644-5540

Church Website: www.stjohnsmarysville.org

School Website: www.sjsmarysville.org

Email: stjohns@stjohnsmarysville.org

Rev. Jack D. Heino, Sr. Pastor 937-240-3002

Mr. Rich Rausch, Principal 937-240-3003

Equipping the family of God to joyfully and boldly make disciples of Christ as we

KNOW Jesus and one another, **GROW** to be more like Him and

SOW His love in Word and deed.



Saturday 4 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. Traditional Worship Services

Divine Service *Setting One* – LSB pg. 151

Dale Scheiderer – Organist

“Wonderful, Holy Adoption” - *Galatians 4:4-7*

By the First Sunday after Christmas, by and large, the culture has completely finished with its observance of Christmas. In testimony that the blessings of the true Christmas are never finished, the Church continues its Christmas celebration for a full twelve days, a celebration which itself only ends by transitioning to Epiphany, a further celebration of the incarnation.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME

RINGING OF THE BELL

HYMN OF INVOCATION

“Let All Together Praise Our God”

LSB 389

INVOCATION

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION – *LSB pg. 151*

SERVICE OF THE WORD – *LSB pg. 152*

INTROIT

Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:10

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.

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

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.

The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;*

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

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.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;*

break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

KYRIE

LSB 152

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 154

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

LSB 156

[Today's Bible readings are found on pages 10-11 of this worship program]

OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Isaiah 61:10-62:3*

EPISTLE READING: *Galatians 4:4-7*

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156

HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 2:22-40*

HYMN INTRODUCTION

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

LSB 733

SERMON: **“Wonderful, Holy Adoption”** - *Galatians 4:4-7*

APOSTLES CREED

LSB 159

☐ 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 162

☐ 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.

OFFERINGS OF OUR TIME, TALENTS & TREASURES

"Lord, we are yours. This represents our heart, our attitude, our spirit, and our willingness to recognize and submit to you as our Lord."

BENEDICTION

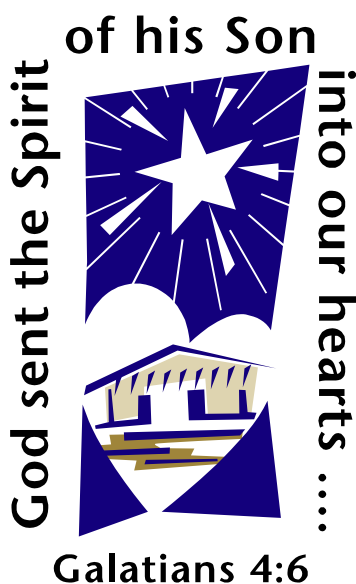
LSB 166

CLOSING HYMN

"Let Us All with Gladsome Voice"

LSB 390

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Sunday 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service

SJLS Jr. Praise Choir with Mark Moran – Accompanists

“Wonderful, Holy Adoption” - Galatians 4:4-7

By the First Sunday after Christmas, by and large, the culture has completely finished with its observance of Christmas. In testimony that the blessings of the true Christmas are never finished, the Church continues its Christmas celebration for a full twelve days, a celebration which itself only ends by transitioning to Epiphany, a further celebration of the incarnation.

Pre-Service Music

Welcome and Time of Greeting

Time of Praise and Worship: “Adore Him” by Kari Jobe

Invocation

Pastor: Praise the Lord. Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His mighty heavens.

People: Let His faithful people rejoice in this honor and sing for joy. May the praise of God be in their mouths.

Pastor: Praise Him for His acts of power; praise Him for His surpassing greatness. Praise Him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise Him with the harp and lyre.

People: And He has raised up for His people a horn, the praise of all His faithful servants, the people close to His heart.

Pastor: Praise Him with timbrel and dancing, praise Him with the strings and pipe, praise Him with the clash of cymbals, praise Him with resounding cymbals.

People: How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise Him!

Pastor: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

People: Amen!

Opening Prayer

Time of Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Have mercy on me, O God, because of Your unfailing love. Because of Your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins.

People: Our God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and full of unfailing love.

Pastor: Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin. For I recognize my shameful deeds—they haunt me day and night.

People: God will not constantly accuse us, nor remain angry forever.

Pastor: Against You, and You alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in Your sight. You will be proved right in what You say, and Your judgment against me is just.

People: God has not punished us for all our sins, nor does He deal with us as we deserve. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us.

Pastor: The sacrifice You want is a broken spirit. A broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise. Our God is merciful and gracious.

People: For the love of the Lord remains forever with those who fear Him. His salvation extends to the children’s children of those who are faithful to His covenant; those who obey His commandments. Bless the Lord, O my soul. Amen!

Song of Response: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

† We Hear God's Word †

(Today's Bible readings are found on pages 10-11 of this worship program)

Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 61:10-62:3*

Epistle Reading: *Galatians 4:4-7*

Holy Gospel: *Luke 2:22-40*

Response Song: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

Message: "Wonderful, Holy Adoption" - *Galatians 4:4-7*

† We Respond to God's Word †

Apostles Creed

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.

† We Pray †

Prayer of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

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.

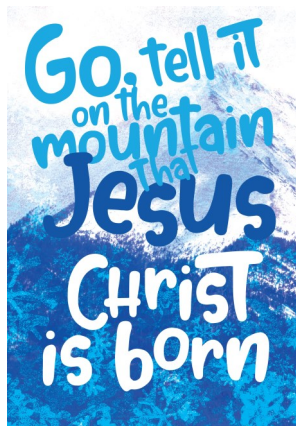
Offerings of Our Time, Talents & Treasures

"Lord, we are yours. This represents our heart, our attitude, our spirit, and our willingness to recognize and submit to you as our Lord."

† We Depart in Peace †

Benediction

Closing Song: "Go Tell It on the Mountain"



NOTES AND NEWS



**THE TEXAS TENORS ARE
COMING BACK TO TROY -
APRIL 6, 2024!**

Save the Date... Please contact Jeff or Carol (514-560-5085) or Annie Scheiderer at (937-707-0424) to put your name on the list.

This will be a **SELL-OUT** performance, so we need to know soon. We have reserved 50 seats, which will be held until the end of January. We are asking for a \$10 deposit with your signup. Final cost will be available after we make arrangements for our dinner accommodations before the concert. This group has become the Golden Eagles' (and Lucy's!) most beloved entertainment group! Watch for more details soon!



New Year's Eve Service

(We will hold our regular 9 & 11 am Worship Services)

Sunday, December 31 at 7:00 pm

(Communion)

New Year's Day Service

Monday, January 1, 2024 at 10:00 am

(Communion)

Please Join Us — All Are Welcome!

Saturday Worship Service Time Change

Through much prayerful consideration and discussion with a large portion of the congregational members who attend the Saturday evening service, it has been decided to move the start time from **6:00 pm to 4:00 pm**. ***This change became effective December 16, 2023 and runs through March 16, 2024.*** It is felt that moving the time will make winter time driving safer for our congregational members who attend this service.

Direct any questions or concerns to any of the Elders, or Mike Priday at 937-243-2436.

SANCTUARY SUPPLIES REPLENISHMENT HELP NEEDED!

Attention! Attention!

Community Service hours available!

Does your student need an hour of community service? We have just the job for them! Replenishing the envelopes, blue cards, and pencils in the St. John's Sanctuary. An adult must be present for this project, but all family members are welcome to help. This can also be a volunteer service opportunity for a group or family. All supplies are in the sanctuary. An email will be sent the week before your selected date with all the instructions you will need. If you have any questions or concerns, please mail Christy Fisher at clfpagg@aol.com. You are welcome to sign up through the following Sign-Up Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0545A8A723A57-46168994-sanctuary#/>

Estate Planning Workshop

Approximately 70% of Americans do not have a will or estate plan. Typical goals in estate planning include:

- Guardianship for minor children,
- Provide for spouse and children,
- Selecting an executor,
- Finalizing a power of attorney for health care and finances,
- Managing your assets if you become ill.

Prince of Peace will host a free estate planning workshop called Ask the Expert. The panel of "Experts" include, Jim Hardgrove, an estate attorney, Jeff and Adam Ritter, financial professionals, and Pastor Chris Eldridge. You can ask the expert general questions regarding estate planning.

Are you one of the 70% in society that haven't put a plan together? Have you established guardianship for your child/children? Do you have a will, however it has been 10 years, 20 years, or longer since you reviewed your estate plan. Attendees will receive a free will guide and many other resources will be available.



This workshop is for you, your spouse, other family members, and your community friends and neighbors.

Pre-registration is required.

Date: Saturday, January 13th

Time: 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
530 McNaughten Road
Columbus, OH 43213

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S!

Welcome to St. John's! Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We pray that you will encounter Christ, the Living Word, and in a new way experience His mercy and grace today. We ask if you are a visitor, or a worship scholarship participant (SJ School), to please fill out the **blue card** located in the pew rack in front of you. Then drop the card in the offering box as you leave worship. If you would like to know more about our ministry, please call the church office at 937-644-5540.

The Lutheran Hour is on the radio Sunday mornings at **7:00am on WLW (700 AM)**. Log on to www.lhm.org for more information and channels. Jim Vandre, LHM Ambassador.

St. John's Radio Program airs Sunday mornings at **8:00am** on local channel **WQTT (1270 AM & 98.7 FM)**.

Valet Parking: Available at the 9:00 am service. Contact Charlie Fisher at 614-370-5495 or clfpagg@aol.com if interested in helping valet park, or have questions.

Altar Flowers: Altar flowers are given in memory of all those who went to their heavenly home in 2023, and hope for a prosperous and peaceful 2024, by the Gruenbaum Families of St. John's.

THE LORD'S WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S DEC. 31, 2023-JAN. 7, 2024

TODAY	9:00 am	Sanctuary Worship Service (Live-Streamed)
12/31/23	10:00 am	Adult & Young Adult Bible Study/ Youth & Children Sunday School
New Year's Eve	10:00 am	CANCELLED: 2023-24 Youth Catechism Class
	11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Service/Gym
	7:00 pm	**New Year's Eve Worship Service with Communion**
MONDAY	10:00 am	**New Year's Day Worship Service with Communion**
TUESDAY	11:30 am	Ladies Aid Quilting
WEDNESDAY	12:00 pm	ACES: Potluck & Cards/Youth House
THURSDAY	12:00 pm	Ladies Aid Quilting
	5:30 pm	SJ Boys BBall at Home vs. Marion City
	8:00 pm	Dartball/Gym
FRIDAY	1:00 pm	Ladies Aid Quilting
	6:00 pm	SJ Boys BBall at Home vs. Calvary
SATURDAY	9:30 am	SJ Boys BBall at Home vs. Tree of Life
	4:00 pm	Sanctuary Worship Service: Communion
SUNDAY 01/07/24	9:00 am	Sanctuary Worship Service (Live-Streamed): Communion
	10:00 am	Adult & Young Adult Bible Study/ Youth & Children Sunday School
	10:00 am	2023-24 Youth Catechism Class
	11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Service: Communion/ Gym
	3:00 pm	Ladies Aid "Old School Skill" Pie Making/ Heritage House

ALL AGES SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 - 11:00 am

(Fall-Winter-Early Spring Schedule)

3 Years-Kindergarten—Church Basement

1st-5th Grades—Meet together in the gym with Teacher Mark Moran, and then move to school classrooms.

6th Grade—Mrs. Ashley Monroe's Classroom

7th & 8th Grade Youth Catechism Class—Mrs. Susie Miller & Mrs. Jayme Allen's Modular Classroom

High School Youth "Cornerstone Discipleship"—Youth House

Women's Bible Study—Classroom (below the school loft):

Topic - "Where Love Abides." Bible study based on John 15:1-17, written by Donna Snow.

Adult Bible Study—School Cafeteria: Topic - "Romans 12" led by Rich & Kristine Rausch.

If you have questions, please contact the
Sunday School Superintendent,
Lisa Arnold at 937-205-1802 or
arnoldlisa50@yahoo.com



Weekly Church Attendance

4:00 pm Saturday and Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 am
12/23-24: 232

Weekly Worship Bible Readings

We have provided next weekends Bible readings for those of you who would like to read and study the Word ahead of next weekends worship services:

January 6-7, 2024

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

Epistle Reading: Romans 6:1-11

Holy Gospel Reading: Mark 1:4-11

Congregational Tithe—2nd Qtr. Mission Opportunities of Fiscal Year 2023-24

LCMS Ohio District - 50%;

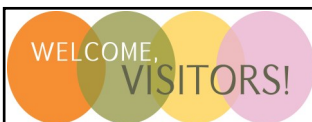
Lutheran Hour - 20%;

LWML - 20%;

Member Mission Outreach - 10%



NOTES & NEWS ITEMS



Those who are visiting with us today, please feel free to take a blue visitor "welcome" bag located in the back of church or on the tables in the gym at 11:00 am worship service.



ACES: Please join us for Euchre & fellowship this Wednesday at the Youth House at 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$1.00 including prizes, drinks, and cookies.

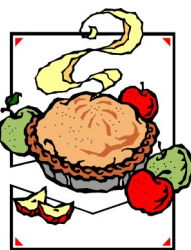
Weekly Notes & News Deadline

Please submit articles by no later than Tuesday at noon to Regina Bullerman, Church Secretary. Call 937-240-3004, mail to the church office, or email to rbullerman@sjsmarysville.org

Ladies Aid Save the Date

Sunday, January 7, 2024, the Ladies Aid will hold a Pie Making Class at the Heritage House at 3:00 PM.

Mark your calendars, and hope to see you there!



Charitable Giving Opportunity to St. John's Lutheran School

St. John's is part of the Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization of Ohio. This is a charitable organization that allows for a donation that actually gives you a State Tax CREDIT of up to \$1,500 for married joint filers or up to \$750 for single filers. Keep in mind the credit is worth much more than a deduction. The credit reduces your tax liability dollar-for-dollar. A deduction simply reduces your taxable income. The funds come directly back to St. John's to be used as financial aid.

To find out more about this program please contact Mr. Rausch in the school office or you may visit online at sgoohio.org. Donations can be made online or by mail. Envelopes to donate by mail can be found in the Marie Pfarr room along with a frequently asked questions sheet.



Thinking about joining St. John's, or interested in learning more about the Lutheran faith?

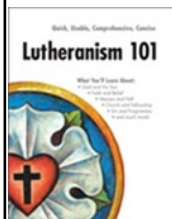
If so, please join us for our Lutheranism 101 **two-day** weekend workshop.

Friday, January 19, 2024 from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

AND

Saturday, January 20, 2024 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location: Heritage House



Please join us for our Lutheranism 101 weekend workshop if you are considering joining St. John's, are a current member, or a guest who would like to learn more. Lutheranism 101 examines the Lutheran beliefs and heritage. If you are a life-long Lutheran searching for more information, or new to Lutheranism looking to understand what we believe, then please join us!

We ask that you please register by Monday, January 15, 2024.

Contact Regina Bullerman in the church office.

(email: rbullerman@sjsmarysville.org or direct number: 937-240-3004), or use the

Sign-Up Genius Link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040845A8AA22A2FB6-lutheranism>



ACES will be having a **Christmas potluck on January 3**. Plates, napkins, cups, silverware, and drinks will be furnished. We will eat at 12 o'clock at the Youth House. Join us for a time of good eats, fellowship, and cards.

Worship Transportation Ministry: We are in need of drivers to pick up and drop off members for worship. If you are interested in helping serve in this capacity, please contact Regina Bullerman, Church Secretary, for more information. Call 937-240-3004 or email rbullerman@sjsmarysville.org.

MORE NOTES & NEWS



In appreciation . . .

The Flower Committee would like to express sincere appreciation to the congregation for their support this past year. Many of you signed up for altar or chancel flowers to fill most of the available weekend services. Easter lilies, Pentecost geraniums, and Christmas poinsettias were purchased by members of the congregation to decorate the church for these important dates in the church year.

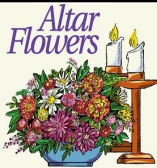
Thank you from the Flower Committee,
Clara Clevenger, Cheryl Leeds, Lori Reed, Carol Stillings, Angie Vollrath, and Charlotte Blumenschein



THANK YOU TO OUR YOUNG MUSICIANS!

Our sincere thanks to all of you who shared your musical gifts prior to the Christmas Eve Family Service to welcome the birth of our Savior! This year's participants were Jaiden Archer, Keagan Archer, Olivia Columber, John Moore, Sara Sivko, Gloria Sivko, Hannah Boehm, Luke Boehm, Joel Boehm and Mary Boehm. We hope to continue this tradition next year and welcome any and all to enhance our worship with their music.

ALL GLORY TO OUR NEWBORN KING!!



2024 FLOWER CALENDAR DATES

The Flower Calendar is ready for 2024 reservations. Specific dates can be reserved for altar or chancel flowers by contacting Charlotte Blumenschein at (937) 644-4111. Most dates are still available for the year 2024. Dates available for the month of January are the following:

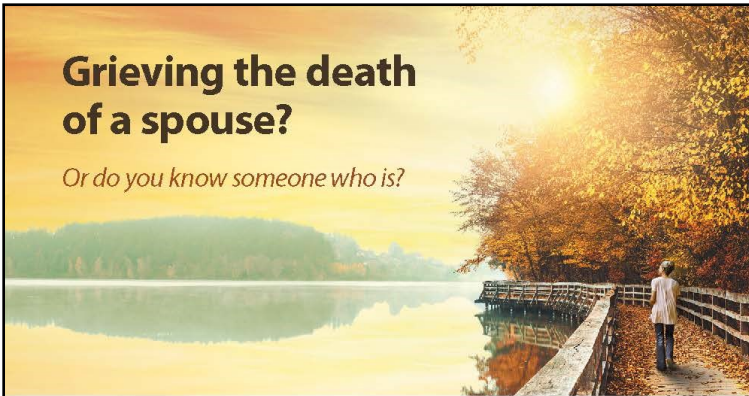
January 14

January 21

January 28

Grieving the death of a spouse?

Or do you know someone who is?



Your life has changed forever. The daily emotions and challenges can seem too hard to bear.

Find help at a Loss of a Spouse seminar.

You'll hear:

- Practical advice from others who've been there.
- What to expect in your grief.
- How to cope with life without your spouse.
- Why it won't always hurt this much.

LOSS OF A SPOUSE

Please join us for this encouraging seminar.



Sunday, February 18, 2024 from 2-4 pm
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 7960 State
Route 38, Milford Center, OH 43045
Text Janet at 614-561-7411 to register

Pastoral Installation

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

Invites you to join us for the

Installation of

Rev. Christopher Schneider

Sunday, January 14, 2024

4pm

3924 Home Road

Powell, OH 43065

TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS

Old Testament Reading: *Isaiah 61:10-62:3*

Isaiah prophecies of the year of the Lord's favor. Isaiah compares this to a wedding- a bridegroom and bride adorning themselves. Righteousness will spring up! Jerusalem will be vindicated- all the nations will see. Jerusalem will be a crown of splendor!

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations. ¹For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a burning torch. ²The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading: *Galatians 4:4-7*

Paul writes to the church at Galatia that God sent His Son and He was born under the law. We see in the Gospel of Luke that Mary and Joseph followed the purification rights as specified by the law. Paul explains that Jesus needed to be born under the law to redeem those under the law. And now, we are adopted as sons; we are now children of God and therefore heirs.

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Sat. 4 p.m. & Sun. 9 a.m.) **Alleluia and Verse**

LSB 156

Holy Gospel: *Luke 2:22-40*

Luke, in his Gospel, writes that Mary and Joseph followed the Law of Moses, by traveling to Jerusalem and presenting Jesus to the Lord and offering a sacrifice. There they meet Simeon and Anna who have been waiting for them. Simeon worships God and blesses them- and prophecies a difficult word for Mary to hear. Anna praises God and speaks of the child. Mary treasures all of this in her heart.

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

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. 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.



