

The First Sunday of Christmas

December 26, 2021, 8:45 am



Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God “to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God,” who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, “let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.” It is Christmas, still.

Gathering

Prelude

Gigue on “Go, tell it on the mountain”

Aaron David Miller (b. 1972)

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

ELW 288

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
 He has o - pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866
 Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795–1856

Greeting

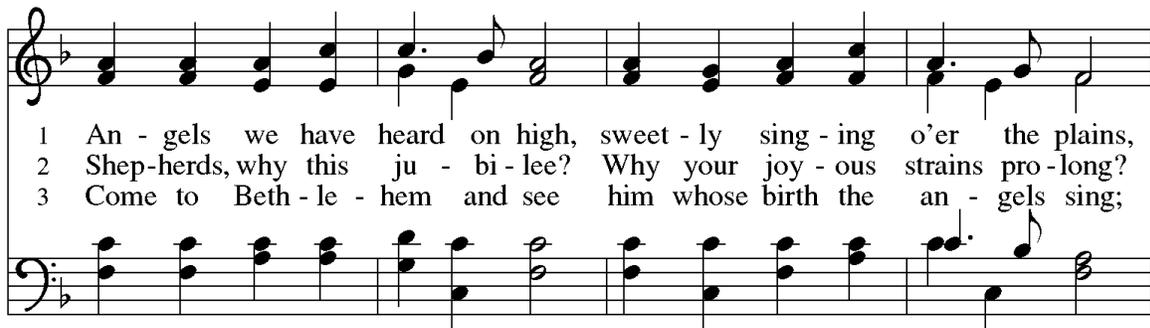
A child has been born for us, a son given to us.

He is called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

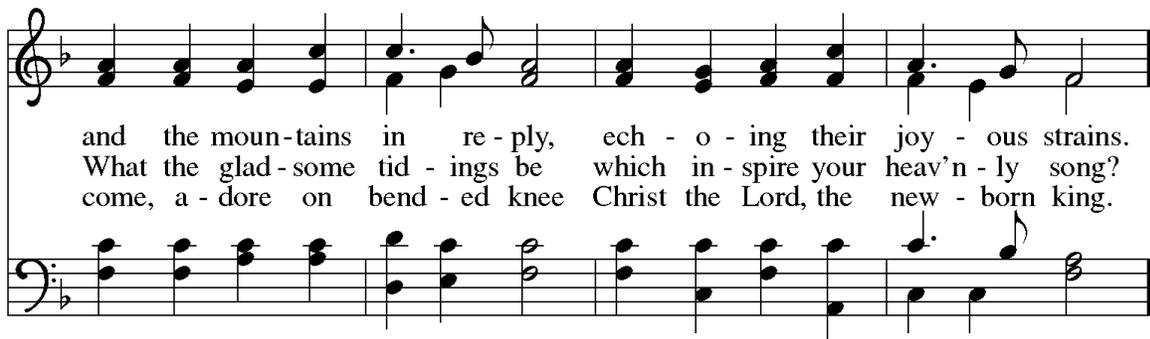
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun-tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864
 Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887–1958

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Word

First Reading

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Having dedicated her son Samuel to God's service, Hannah visits him every year when she and her husband Elkanah come to the temple to offer sacrifices. God grants Hannah more children, and Samuel himself gains favor in the sight of all.

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord"; and then they would return to their home.

Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and with the people.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalmody

Psalm 148 ELW 823



1 Praise the Lord! O heav'ns, a - dore him; praise him, an - gels, in the height;
2 Praise the Lord, for he is gra - cious; nev - er shall his prom - ise fail.



sun and moon, re - joice be - fore him; praise him, gleam - ing stars and light.
God has made his saints vic - to - rious; sin and death shall not pre - vail.



Praise the Lord, for he has spo - ken; worlds his might - y voice o - beyed;
Praise the God of our sal - va - tion; hosts on high, his pow'r pro - claim;



laws which nev - er shall be bro - ken for their guid - ance he has made.
heav'n and earth, and all cre - a - tion, laud and mag - ni - fy his name!

Text: *Foundling Hospital Collection*, London, 1796
Music: AUSTRIA, Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732-1809

Second Reading

Colossians 3:12-17

Just as newly baptized Christians in the early church were clothed with new garments upon arising from the baptismal waters, so all who have received God's gift of life in Jesus Christ are covered with the character of Christ.

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. 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.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the second chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus grew up in a family that went to the Passover festival each year. It was in this environment of faithful adherence to the law that Jesus grew into spiritual maturity and an understanding of his identity and mission.

Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

ELW 284



1 'Twas in the moon of win - ter - time when all the birds had fled, that
 2 With - in a lodge of bro - ken bark the ten - der babe was found; a
 3 The ear - liest moon of win - ter - time is not so round and fair as
 4 O chil - dren of the for - est free, the an - gel - song is true; the



*God the Lord of all the earth sent an - gel choirs in - stead; be -
 rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en - wrapped his beau - ty round; but
 was the ring of glo - ry on the help - less in - fant there. The
 ho - ly child of earth and heav'n is born to - day for you. Come,



fore their light the stars grew dim, and wan - d'ring hunt - ers heard the hymn:
 as the hunt - er braves drew nigh, the an - gel song rang loud and high:
 chiefs from far be - fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea - ver pelt.
 kneel be - fore the ra - diant boy, who brings you beau - ty, peace, and joy.



Je - sus your king is born! Je - sus is born, in ex - cel - sis glo - ri - a!

* original: "mighty Gitchi Manitou"

Text: Jean de Brébeuf, 1593–1649; tr. Jesse E. Middleton, 1872–1960, alt.
 Music: UNE JEUNE PUCELLE, French folk tune, c. 16th cent.
 Text © 1927 The Frederick Harris Music Company. All rights reserved.

Nicene Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
 of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the
 Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being
 with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from
 heaven; was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our
 sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he
 rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand
 of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will
 have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Filled with wonder and joy that God's gift of grace has been given in the Son born for us, let us pray for the church, the good creation, and the needs of all.

After each portion of the prayers:

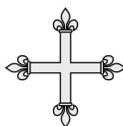
God of grace and joy,
Hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Come down to us, O God, and make your home with us, in us, and through us, for the sake of the one whose birth the angels sang and the shepherds proclaimed, Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.



Meal

Offering

We invite you to give your offering online at saintlukegive.us then click *Giving* or on the Give Plus app. You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Music at the offering
Pastorale on 'Gesù Bambino'

Pietro A. Yon (1886-1943)

Please stand.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

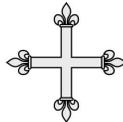
The Lord's Prayer

Please pray in your own preferred language.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Padre Nuestro Que estas en los cielos
Santificado sea tu Nombre
Venga a nosotros tu Reino
Hagase tu voluntad asi en la tierra como en el cielo
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia
Perdona nuestras ofensas
Como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden
Y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion mas libranos del mal
Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la Gloria
Por los siglos de los siglos. Amen**



Sending

Blessing

Jesus is the promised Savior, born of Mary. May his birth among us renew our hope.
Amen.

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

ELW 290

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt.
Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

Dismissal

Filled with the joy of Christ's birth, go in peace! Love and serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Chorale Prelude on "In Dulci Jubilo"

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTERS

The Rev. Connie A. Miller, *Senior Pastor*

PREACHING MINISTER

The Rev. Elizabeth Platz, *Teaching Pastor*

ASSISTING MINISTERS

The Rev. Franklin Morales, *Associate Pastor*

Deacon Kyle Warfield, *Director of Discipleship and Senior High Ministries*

MUSICIAN

Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music and Organist*

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at Saint Luke Lutheran

December 26, 2021

26 THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

DEC 8:45 am Worship, *streaming online*

31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

DEC 8:00 pm Evening Prayer, *streaming online*

02 EPIPHANY SUNDAY

JAN 8:45 am Worship, *streaming online*

Upcoming Commemorations

Stephen, Deacon and Martyr

Sunday, December 26, 2021

Stephen was a deacon and the first martyr of the church. He was one of those seven upon whom the apostles laid hands after they had been chosen to serve widows and others in need. Later, Stephen's preaching angered the temple authorities, and they ordered him to be put to death by stoning.

John, Apostle and Evangelist

Monday, December 27, 2021

The son of Zebedee and brother of James, John was one of the twelve disciples and witness to the transfiguration. Tradition has named him also the writer of the Gospel of John, the three New Testament letters bearing his name, as well as Revelation.

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Tuesday, December 28, 2021

This day commemorates the young children killed by Herod in Bethlehem in his jealous attempt to murder the baby Jesus, a sobering reminder of the evil that led Christ to be born for our salvation.

Name of Jesus

Saturday, January 1, 2022

By Jewish law, every baby boy was circumcised and named on the eighth day of life, so on the eighth day of Christmas the church celebrates this event in Jesus' life. The keeping of the covenant as well as Jesus' name are signs of God's salvation given to us through him.

Music Ministry Invitation

Do you play an instrument? Do you like to sing but you are not ready for a commitment to the choir?

We are looking for volunteer musicians to provide music for the 11:15 worship service. Please contact Dr. Truche at atruche@saintluke.us if you are interested.

The Schola Cantorum needs your help. We are looking for people interested in providing music leadership by singing in the choir. We need help in all voice parts. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Truche at atruche@saintluke.us

Music Ministry Page

HYMN NOTES

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Latin, 14th century

When a carol is written in two languages it is called macaronic. The original text was German with snippets of Latin phrases inserted to teach the Christmas story to uneducated people. The music is “foot” music, and obviously was meant to be danced. The church, more accustomed to austere plainsong and motets, decided that the popular music of the day was too good to miss as a teaching tool. As Martin Luther said, “Why should the devil have all the good tunes?”—Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

‘Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

Jean de Brébeuf, 1593-1649

This is probably the earliest Christmas carol composed in North America. “‘Twas in the moon of wintertime” is a collaborative work between a 17th-century French Jesuit missionary to the Huron Indians and a 20th-century Canadian newspaper correspondent in Quebec. Jean de Brébeuf was born in the Normandy region of France. He entered the Society of Jesus in 1617 and arrived in Quebec in 1625. Collaborator Jesse Edgar Middleton (1872-1960) was a reporter for the Montreal Herald and later The Mail and Empire in Toronto. His interest in Ontario history led him to the story of Jean de Brébeuf. Middleton’s poem extends beyond the original French [translation] and tells the story of Jesus’ birth into Huron everyday life and its retelling in their folk symbols, such as ‘rabbit skin’ for ‘swaddling clothes’ and ‘gifts of fox and beaver pelt’ for the Magi’s present.” Middleton’s version maintains the Algonquian name for God, Gitchi Manitou.

Middleton’s poem was set to a traditional French tune (“Une Jeune Pucelle”) and appeared on Dec. 22, 1926, in the New Outlook, where it was romanticized as a “charming little Christmas song... [in which] the devoted missionary has adapted the story of the infant Christ to the minds of the Indian children.” - C. Michael Hawn

Go Tell It On the Mountain

American Folk Hymn

It is impossible to pinpoint composers of the melodies of spirituals. Some tunes may have been brought by slaves from Africa, some may have been remolded tunes heard in Baptist and Methodist churches, some may have been imitations of religious songs. Frederick J. Work, probably creator of the words, taught them to the famous Fisk Singers. They are imperative for us to tell others about Jesus.—Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

MUSIC NOTES

The Gigue on the famous hymn “Go Tell It on the Mountain” set by American organist and composer Aaron David Miller is a light sprightly piece. An introduction leads into a statement of the hymn tune played on a trumpet. A key change for an interlude then leads into a quiet chordal arrangement of the verse part of the tune. The same interlude comes back but back in the original key. The piece finishes with another statement of the tune and a coda echoing back material from the introduction.

British composer Simon Lole’s setting of “In the Bleak Midwinter” starts with a different melody than the hymn tune CRANHAM. Eventually the original material gives way to the tune played on a contrasting color accompanied by simple chords.

In dulci jubilo ("In sweet rejoicing") is a traditional Christmas carol. In its original setting, the carol is a macaronic text of German and Latin dating from the Middle Ages. Subsequent translations into English, such as J.M. Neale's arrangement Good Christian Men, Rejoice have increased its popularity, and Robert Pearsall's 1837 macaronic translation is a mainstay of the Christmas Nine Lessons and Carols repertoire. J.S. Bach's chorale prelude based on the tune (BWV 729) is also a traditional postlude for Christmas services.

