



# FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

December 29, 2024 at 10:00am

## 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.*

## THE GATHERING

### PRELUDE

**Rhosymedre**

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

### WELCOME

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

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.**

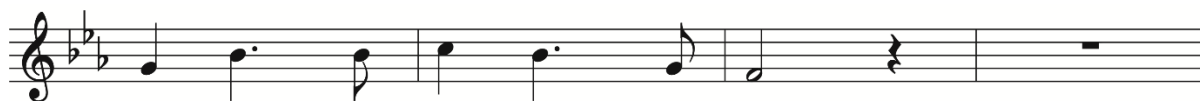
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the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

**GATHERING HYMN**

**Jesus, The Light of the World**



1. Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing.  
2. Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise.



Je - sus, the light of the world.



Glo - ry to the new - born King,  
Join the tri - umph of the skies.



Je - sus, the light of the world. We'll walk in the



light, beau - ti - ful light. Come where the



dew - drops of mer - cy shine bright. Oh, shine all a -



round us by day and by night. Je - sus, the light of the world.

Text: George D. Elderkin; verses by Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: George D. Elderkin; arr. Evelyn Simpson-Curenton, B. 1953 © 2000, GIA Publicaions, Inc.

Tune: WALK IN THE LIGHT

## GREETING

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

## ELW 289 – Angels, We Have Heard on High



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: French Carol

Tune: GLORIA

## 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.**

*Please be seated.*

# THE 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 loan 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.

## HYMN (Psalm 148)

ELW 823 – Praise the Lord! O Heavens



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: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732-1809

Tune: AUSTRIA

## 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 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

Celtic Alleluia



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 2:41-52

*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.*

The holy gospel according to Saint Luke, the second chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now every year Jesus's 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 were unaware of this. 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? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you." 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, and 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.**

## SERMON

Pastor Nuss

*Please stand as you are able.*

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: German Carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795-1856  
 Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO

## APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Filled with good news of great joy,  
let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

*After each portion of the prayers:*

God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*All may share a sign of Peace.*

*Please be seated.*



# THE MEAL

## OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at [saintlukegive.us](http://saintlukegive.us) or place it in the offering plate, or use this QR code with your device to securely give your Christmas Offering.



You may also mail your checks to:

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

## OFFERTORY SOLO

**Christmas Time Is Here from *A Charlie Brown Christmas***  
Vince Guaraldi, Modified by Nancy Ford  
*Alden Newsome, Clarinet*

## OFFERING PRAYER

*Please stand as you are able.*

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.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**SANCTUS**

**ELW Setting One**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
 pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

O God, of heaven and earth, into our fallen world you chose to come, resplendent in glory, in your only Son, a babe in the manger. On the cross he bore our sins and prepared for us the ultimate gift of salvation. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Prince of Peace with a living faith, as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. O come, Emmanuel.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

*Please pray in your own preferred language.*

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In this holy sacrament God makes a home with us.  
Let us approach in wonder at all that God has done.  
**Christ is born! Alleluia!**

*Please be seated.*

## COMMUNION

*All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are stations at the foot of the chancel steps.  
Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ.  
(Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server)*

*Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew, please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.*

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:*

The body of Christ, given for you. / The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: Amen.*

## AGNUS DEI

## ELW Setting One

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

ELW 640 – Our Father, by Whose Name

1 Our Fa - ther, by whose name all par - ent - hood is known,  
 2 O Christ, your - self a child with - in an earth - ly home,  
 3 O Ho - ly Spir - it, bind our hearts in u - ni - ty

in love di - vine you claim each fam - 'ly as your own.  
 with heart still un - de - filed to full a - dult - hood come:  
 and teach us how to find the love from self set free;

Bless moth - ers, fa - thers, guard - ing well, with con - stant love as  
 our chil - dren bless in ev - 'ry place that they may all be -  
 in all our hearts such love in - crease that ev - 'ry home, by

sen - ti - nel, the homes in which your peo - ple dwell.  
 hold your face and, know - ing you, may grow in grace.  
 this re - lease, may be the dwell - ing place of peace.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895-1984, alt.; © Church Pension Fund, admin. Church Publishing, Inc.  
 Music: John D. Edwards, 1806-1885  
 Tune: RHOSYMEDRE

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

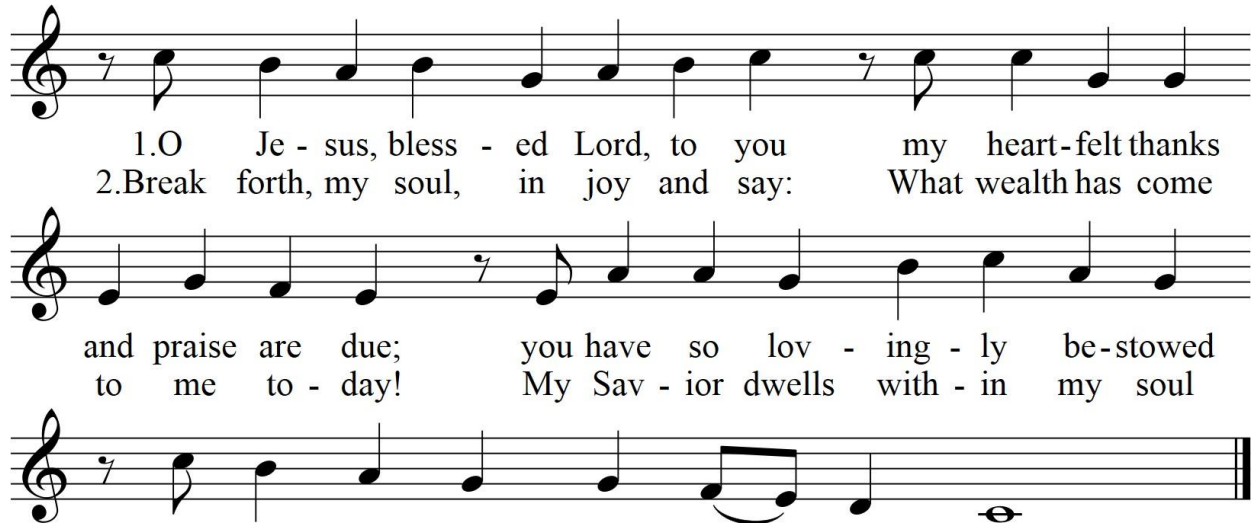
*Please stand as you are able.*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you,  
and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

O Jesus, Blessed Lord



1. O Je - sus, bless - ed Lord, to you my heart-felt thanks  
2. Break forth, my soul, in joy and say: What wealth has come  
and praise are due; you have so lov - ing - ly be-stowed  
to me to - day! My Sav - ior dwells with - in my soul  
on me your bo - dy and your blood.  
and makes my wound - ed spir - it whole!

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. Arthur J. Mason, 1851-1928, alt.

Music: attr. Martin Luther; V. Schumann, Geistliche Lieder, 1539

Tune: VON HIMMEL HOCH

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## 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.**

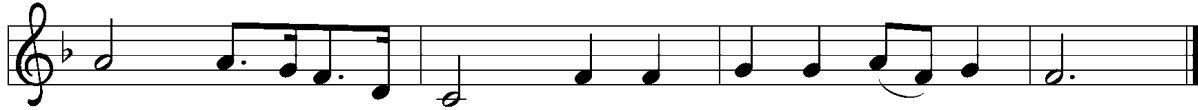
## CLOSING HYMN

## ELW 290 – Go, Tell It on the Mountain

*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: African American Spiritual

Tune: GO TELL IT

## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE

**I Saw Three Ships**  
Richard Elliot (B.1957)

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# WORSHIP LEADERS

## **PRESIDING MINISTER**

The Rev. Connie A. Miller  
*Senior Pastor*

## **PREACHING MINISTER**

The Rev. Gary Nuss  
*Support Pastor*

## **ASSISTING MINISTERS**

Deacon Kyle Warfield  
*Director of Discipleship and High School Ministries*

The Rev. Richard Zawistoski  
*Confirmation Pastor*

## **READER**

Jeff Groen

## **MUSICIANS**

Adam Scott Graham  
*Director of Music*

Alden Newsome  
Clarinet

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## **THIS WEEK AT SAINT LUKE**

### **SUNDAY, December 29—First Sunday of Christmas**

8:30am Tech Rehearsal  
**10:00am Worship (Hybrid)**  
5:00pm AA

### **MONDAY, December 30**

### **TUESDAY, December 31**

OFFICES CLOSED

### **WEDNESDAY, January 1**

7:30pm AA

### **THURSDAY, January 2**

7:30pm Centering Prayer (Zoom)  
8:30pm AA

### **FRIDAY, January 3**

### **SATURDAY, January 4**

9:30am AA  
11:00am Al-Anon

### **SUNDAY, January 5—Celebrating the Epiphany of our Lord**

7:30am Tech Rehearsal  
8:00am Schola Cantorum  
**8:45am Worship (Hybrid)**  
10:00am Up for Discussion (Hybrid)  
10:00am Sunday School  
10:00am Affirmation of Baptism Class  
**11:15am Worship (Hybrid)**  
5:00pm AA  
5:00pm Misa Español  
6:00pm Reception

*NB: Worship Services are in person and livestreamed*