

## Today's Scripture Readings

### Old Testament *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.’”

### 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.

*Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®.*

### Holy Gospel *Luke 2:22–40*

<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.

### In Our Prayers this Week—

•*December mission of the month, St. John Lutheran School, Sherman Center.*

•*Peace among nations.*

•*The victims and families of all violence and disaster throughout the world.*

•*Heidi Tupper, recovering from surgery.*

•*Michelle Popp and all expectant mothers.*

*All who are battling cancer:*

- *Jayne Cotter*

- *Ed Friede*

- *Rev. Brad Birtell, brother of Amy Assmann*

- *Jennifer Harrill, mother of Andrew Harrill*

*Please also keep in prayer*

—*our Seminarian, Vicar Luke Konkel;*

—*Rev. Eric Skovgaard, our district president;*

—*Matthew Harrison, synod president;*

—*the members, officers and auxiliaries of Emmanuel;*

—*our circuit congregation, St. Paul in Cascade and Rev. Richard Biding;*

—*our Missionary Rev. Tyler McMiller and his family in Italy and Southern Europe; and*

—*our shut-in Members, Donna Bloedel, Bob & Alice Denhardt, Ed Friede and Virginia Dowty.*

# FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



*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 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord).*

**Luke 2:22-23a**

## EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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WE WELCOME all who gather with us around the Altar and Pulpit to hear the Word of God.

IF YOU ARE VISITING this morning, we are happy that you could join us today. *Please sign our guest book in the narthex.*

IF YOU DESIRE TO COMMUNE, please speak to the pastor before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine and are members in good standing of our congregation or sister congregations of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

YOUNG CHILDREN are always welcome in our service. Jesus said, *“Let the little children come to me...”* Activity bags are available in the narthex.

NEED ASSISTANCE with anything? Please speak to the pastor or the usher.

RESTROOMS are available in the back of the church or in the education wing.

*We pray that you feel welcome in our congregation, that you are blessed by the service, and that you will come again.*

### THE FIRSTBORN SON OF GOD IS OUR REDEMPTION FROM SIN AND DEATH

When the Lord destroyed the firstborn sons of Egypt, He spared the sons of Israel by providing a lamb in their stead. Hence, all the firstborn sons belong to Him. Every firstborn male animal was sacrificed, and every firstborn son of man was redeemed (Ex. 13:12–13). Therefore, the parents of Jesus *“brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord”* (Luke 2:22). However, He is not redeemed from priestly service but is consecrated for *“the redemption of Jerusalem”* and *“the consolation of Israel”* (Luke 2:25, 38). For God the Father did not spare His only begotten Son, but offered Him up as the true Passover Lamb, in order to redeem His people from bondage. His cross has caused many to stumble and fall, but His blood atoned for the sins of the world and delivers us from death. We now depart in the peace of Christ because we are also raised with Him. As we receive His body and blood, we join Simeon and Anna in *“giving thanks to God the Father through him,” “singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,”* including the Nunc Dimittis, with thankfulness in our hearts (Luke 2:28–32, 38; Col. 3:15–17).

### THE FAMILY ALTAR

❶ **Verse of the Week** — *Luke 2:52* *“And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.”*

❷ **Hymn of the Week** — LSB #410 — *“Within the Father’s House”*

❸ **Collect of the Week** — *Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

❹ **Daily Bible Readings** — **M:** Is. 58:1–59:3, 14-21; Luke 1:26-38 **T:** Is. 60:1-22; Luke 1:39-56 **W:** Is. 61:1-11; Luke 1:57-80 **Th:** Is. 62:1-12; Luke 2:1-20 **F:** Is. 63:1-14; Luke 2:21-40 **Sat:** Is. 63:15–65:2; Luke 2:41-52 **Sun:** Is. 65:8-25; Luke 3:1-20

❺ **Preparing for Next Sunday** — *Lessons for Christmas 2* (January 5, 2025):

*1 Kings 3:4-15; Ephesians 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52; Psalm 119:97-104*

## First Sunday after Christmas

DECEMBER 29, 2024

Greeters — *Jim & Sara Knepprath*

Elder — *Chris Neumann*; Usher — *Mark Mathe*

Altar Guild — *Kayle Schommer, Jr.* Altar Guild — *Betsy Marks*

Acolyte — *Parker Fischer*

Organist — *Mrs. Terry Ourada*

Pastor — *Rev. Paul W. Marks*

**Introit** (*sung responsively after confession & absolution*) 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!

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***

**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***

**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

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.

**Collect** (*spoken by pastor*)

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature.

Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

### Lutheran Service Book

*Matins with Holy Communion*

*Page 219 and following*

#### CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION

Confession and Absolution.....p. 151

Opening Hymn.....#338

Matins .....p. 219

Venite.....p. 220

◀ Introit..... see left

Office Hymn.....#389

#### READINGS

**Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15**

*Consecration of the Firstborn*

**Colossians 3:12-17**

*Put On the New Self*

**Luke 2:22-40**

*Jesus Presented at the Temple*

Responsory.....p. 221

Sermon — “All Signs Point to Jesus”

Te Deum .....p. 223

Offering

#### PRAYERS

Kyrie.....p. 227

Lord’s Prayer.....p. 227

Collects .....p. 227

#### SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Communion Liturgy .....p. 160-163

Distribution.....p. 164

*Please see communion statement.*

Distribution Hymns.....#374

.....#358

Nunc Dimittis.....p. 165

Collect.....p. 166

Benediction.....p. 166

Closing Hymn..... #366

