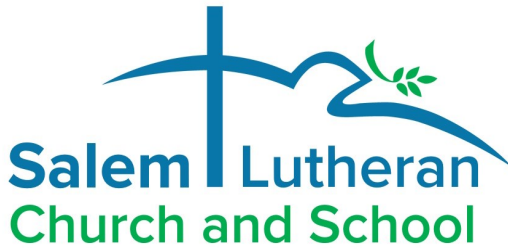


December 28-29, 2024

First Sunday After Christmas



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First Sunday After Christmas

*The Gift of God: God Gives Both Substitute
and Sacrifice*

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: Savior Jesus, God made man, you became one of us to know our trials and free us from our sins. Bless us today through your Word and comfort us with your promises made and kept. Amen.

THEME OF THE DAY: The Son of God took on flesh for two reasons: to be our substitute and our sacrifice. You see, when God created mankind in his image, his desire was that we would live holy lives, full of love for him and our fellow man. When mankind fell into sin, that became impossible. So, the heavenly Father sent Jesus. He is the only human being to keep all of God's law perfectly. He did that as our substitute. Through faith, we claim his perfection as our own. But we needed another gift—one who could pay for the sin we had committed. And so, the Son of God became human for another reason—so that he might die as the sacrifice for our sins, removing that barrier between us and a holy God. Understanding we needed both—substitute and sacrifice—helps us better understand Jesus' saving work. That work includes more than Jesus' death on the cross. Jesus saving work began the moment he was born under the law and obeyed it. This week, we thank God that Jesus served us in both these much-needed ways!

OUR WORSHIP SERIES: In the person of Jesus, God gave us himself. Because God became true man and did everything necessary to save us, we have other Christmas gifts too: forgiveness, hope, peace, a place in his family, and eternal life in paradise. However, none of these things are wages. We did not, and never could, earn them. Instead, they are gifts given by our gracious God to show us his favor.

SERVING GOD, SERVING US:

Preacher: Pastor Nate Bourman

Piano/Organ: Robyn Stoller

Vocalist: Carolyn Forster

Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting One



Pre-Service Anthem

Holy Child

Ruth Elaine Schram

Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High

CW 346



- 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 ti - dings 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.

Please stand.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: If we claim to be without sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. *(1 John 1:8-9)*

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C: Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming, deliver us from the corruption of our sin, and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-9

The Servant of the LORD spoke through the prophet Isaiah. As our substitute Jesus demonstrated perfect obedience and trust, even when his Father asked him to be the sacrifice for our sin.

⁴The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue,
to know the word that sustains the weary.
He wakens me morning by morning,
wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.
⁵The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears;
I have not been rebellious,
I have not turned away.
⁶I offered my back to those who beat me,
my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard;
I did not hide my face
from mocking and spitting.
⁷Because the Sovereign LORD helps me,
I will not be disgraced.
Therefore have I set my face like flint,
and I know I will not be put to shame.
⁸He who vindicates me is near.
Who then will bring charges against me?
Let us face each other!
Who is my accuser?
Let him confront me!
⁹It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me.
Who will condemn me?
They will all wear out like a garment;
the moths will eat them up.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm of the Day: How Lovely

Psalm 84A

Cantor will sing the first refrain and the verses. Congregation may join in the Gloria and the remaining refrains.

Refrain



How lovely is your / dwelling place,
LORD Al- / mighty!

My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts / of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh cry out for the / living God.

Blessed are those who dwell / in your house;
they are ever / praising you. *Refrain*

Better is one day / in your courts
than a thousand / elsewhere;

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house / of my God
than dwell in the tents of the / wicked.

LORD Al- / mighty,
blessed is the one who / trusts in you.

**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. *Refrain*

Second Reading

Revelation 3:7-13

⁷“To the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

These are the words of him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. ⁸I know your deeds. See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. ⁹I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars—I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you.

¹⁰Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth.

¹¹I am coming soon. Hold on to what you have, so that no one will take your crown. ¹²The one who is victorious I will make a pillar in the temple of my God.

Never again will they leave it. I will write on them the name of my God and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which is coming down out of heaven from my God; and I will also write on them my new name. ¹³Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

Even as a boy, Jesus was acting as our substitute, demonstrating obedience to the Heavenly Father and respect for God's holy Word.

⁴¹Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. ⁴²When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. ⁴³After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you."

⁴⁹"Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁵¹Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Children's Devotion



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God be - fore his
 2 He leaves his heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, is born an
 4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, puts on our
 6 For us he o - pens wide the door of par - a -



high - est throne; to - day he o - pens heav'n a - gain and
 in - fant small, and in a man - ger, poor and lone, lies
 hu - man frame, and in re - turn gives us his realm, his
 dise to - day. The an - gel guards the gate no more; to



gives us his own Son, and gives us his own Son.
 in a hum - ble stall, lies in a hum - ble stall.
 glo - ry, and his name, his glo - ry, and his name.
 God our thanks we pay, to God our thanks we pay.

Sermon

Based on Revelation 3:7-13

“O Key of David Come”

Please stand after the sermon.

THANKSGIVING

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the
 Father Almighty.**

From there 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.**

Be seated.

Offering



Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.

We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



Offering Anthem

Sing for Christ is Born

Joseph M. Martin

Let ev'ry nation, all creation, sing in one accord.
Let all rejoice with one great voice and sing for Christ is born!
O crown Him Lord. O crown Him Lord. O crown Him King of kings!

Let ev'ry nation, all creation, sing for Christ is born! Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Let each heart reflect God's glory, make each song a gift of praise.
Shout God's name in truth proclaim His worth for endless days.
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Let all rejoice with one great voice and sing for Christ is born!
O crown Him Lord, O crown Him Lord, O crown Him King of kings!
Let every nation, all creation, sing for Christ is born!

Please stand.

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Hymn: Peace Came to Earth

CW 330



1 Peace came to earth at last that cho-sen night when an - gels
2 And who could be the same for hav-ing held the in - fant
3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen, in flesh and
4 How else could I have known you, O my God! How else could



clove the sky with song and light and God em - bod - ied
in their arms and lat - er felt the wound - ed hands and
blood you bore our griefs and pain, in bread and wine you
I have loved you, O my God! How else could I em -



love and sheathed his might— Who could but gasp: Im - man - u - el!
side, all doubts dis - pelled— Who could but sigh: Im - man - u - el!
vis - it us a - gain— Who could but see: Im - man - u - el!
brace you, O my God! Who could but pray: Im - man - u - el!



Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!
Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!
Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!
Who could but praise: Im - man - u - el!

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

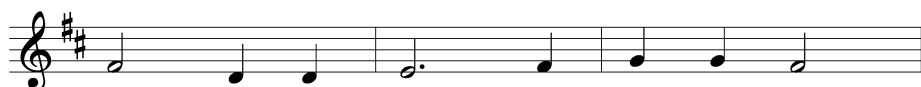
M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

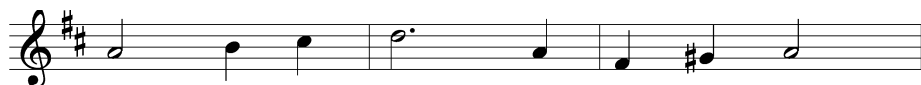
Hymn: O Jesus Christ, Your Manger Is CW 342 sts. 1-3



1 O Je - sus Christ, your man - ger is
2 He whom the sea and wind o - bey
3 Dear Chris - tian friend, on him de - pend;



my par - a - dise at which I am re - clin - ing.
comes down to serve the sin - ner in great meek - ness.
be of good cheer and let no sor - row move you.



For there, O Lord, we find the Word
Now God's own Son with us is one
For God's own Child in mer - cy mild



made flesh for us— your grace is bright - ly shin - ing.
and joins us and our chil - dren in our weak - ness.
joins you to him—how great - ly God must love you!

Silent Prayer and Announcements

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy fellowship in the entry between services.

For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: The Gift of God Is For All People

Bible Readings: 1 Kings 10:1-9, Acts 13:46-49, Matthew 2:1-12

Hymns: 372, 370, 347, 380

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

FOR OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help!

Please take note of a few helpful things:

- ✦ Restrooms with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ Salem members give an offering to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to make a donation you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ✦ If your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live into the room.
- ✦ Children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the weekly children's message. Parents are welcome too!

**Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.**

