



**St. Luke's
Lutheran Church**



4801 Anderson Ave
Manhattan, KS 66503
www.stlukesmanhattan.org

Sharing Jesus Christ's love with those around us.

Sunday, December 29, 2024 – 11:00 AM

*Rev. Michael J. Schmidt, Sr. Pastor
William Prann, Director of Christian Education
Gretchen Hartsook, Director of Music*

Guest Speaker: Rev. Larry Boye

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

(Series B)

WELCOME

We are glad you are here to worship our Savior with us. Please remember to turn your cell phone to silence. Restrooms are on the west side of the sanctuary. Prayer requests can be submitted to the church office through email, office@stlukesmanhattan.org, or by calling 785-539-2604. On Communion Sundays, if you need non-gluten wafers at communion, or need to have communion brought to you, please notify the elder who is serving. We hope you will join us again so that you may experience Jesus.

AS WE GATHER

Did you already forget Christmas? The department stores have begun selling the leftovers for a discount because “Christmas is over.” For the same reason, formerly decorated Christmas trees already line the streets as refuse for disposal. Even though Christmas songs speak joyously of “the twelve days of Christmas,” many, if not most, people seem to think of them as a countdown rather than an extended celebration. Remember? Today, December 29, is but the fifth day of the twelve! We are not done yet. Or did you forget?

To “forget” is the opposite of the biblical word we hear today: “remember.” But in Scripture, to remember means much more than merely recalling a past event as something that has no real, lasting effect on today; rather, the opposite is true. For instance, God remembers His promises by acting to fulfill them in each believer. For us, to remember means to bring a past promise or act to take effect in the present. Today we hear how the newborn Jesus, as the firstborn of Mary, was presented in the temple according to God’s law, a command to remember the Lord’s deliverance of His people from slavery in Egypt. Every firstborn was to be a reminder that the Lord still delivers His people from the slavery of sin and death. So to remember that it is still Christmas is to believe that the Christ Child who came to free us comes now to each believer. Remember, that is, believe that Christ was born for you to save you. Remember, that is, believe that the forgiveness He won for us on the cross is actually given to us in the Sacrament of the Altar when, as He commanded, we do in remembrance of Him.

IMAGE ON THE COVER

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.

Luke 2:22

PRELUDE

(Please use this time to prayerfully prepare your hearts to enter into the presence of Jesus.)

✠A SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND PRAISE✠

WELCOME

PRESERVICE SONG – “Born in Bethlehem”

- 1 Baby Jesus born in a stable, a humble Savior’s birth
You left Your throne in heaven above to live here on the earth
Baby Jesus, lying in a manger, crying for the world
The angels told the shepherds of the good news for us all

- 2, 4, 5 Hallelujah! The King is here given for all men
7, 8 For today the holy Son of God is born in Bethlehem

- 3 Come now sinners and you saints, all peasants and all kings
And bow before the Earth’s Redeemer let all voices sing

- 6 Baby Jesus do You know You’ll die for all our sins?
Don’t be afraid for in three days
You will rise again, You will rise again

- 9 For today the holy Son of God is born in Bethlehem

(Third Day, used by permission CCLI #288089)

Stand

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

- P** Lord, have mercy,
C Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.

O God, You have caused Your name to be remembered in all generations; therefore, nations will praise You forever and ever. Let Your people not forget Your works, Your Word, or Your benefits. Bring to mind Your gracious will of our salvation that we may praise You all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

- P** God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
C **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.**

Sit

OPENING SONG – “O Holy Night” Luke 2:8

O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining;
It is the night of the dear Savior’s birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!

Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night divine, O night, O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
Here came the wise men from Orient land.
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger.
In all our trials, born to be our Friend.

He knows our need to our weakness is no stranger.
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!
Behold your King, before Him lowly bend!

Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever!
His pow’r and glory evermore proclaim!
His pow’r and glory evermore proclaim!

(Words by John S. Dwight. Music by Adolphe Adam. Arr. ©1997 Maranatha! Music. CCLI # 288089)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

(Sanctifying of the firstborn.)

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²“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.”

³Then 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. . . .

¹¹“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, ¹²you 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. ¹³Every 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. ¹⁴And 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.

¹⁵For 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.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 111; antiphon: v. 9a, b

L ⁹He sent redemption to his people;

C he has commanded his covenant forever.

L ¹Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,

C in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

- L** ²Great are the works of the LORD,
C **studied by all who delight in them.**
- L** ³Full of splendor and majesty is his work,
C **and his righteousness endures forever.**
- L** ⁴He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
C **the LORD is gracious and merciful.**
- L** ⁵He provides food for those who fear him;
C **he remembers his covenant forever.**
- L** ⁶He has shown his people the power of his works,
C **in giving them the inheritance of the nations.**
- L** ⁷The works of his hands are faithful and just;
C **all his precepts are trustworthy;**
- L** ⁸they are established forever and ever,
C **to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**
- L** ⁹He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
C **Holy and awesome is his name!**
- L** ¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
C **His praise endures forever!**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

- L** ⁹He sent redemption to his people;
C he has commanded his covenant forever.

EPISTLE

Colossians 3:12-17

(The new nature of love and peace.)

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing 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. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let 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. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Luke 2:30, 32

- P** Alleluia. My eyes have seen Your salvation;
C a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Your people Israel. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

(Jesus presented at the temple.)

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.

Sit

LAMB'S MESSAGE

SERMON

VOTUM

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

OFFERING

There are several ways to give.

1. Please **send** your offerings to
St. Luke's Lutheran Church
4801 Anderson Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66503

2. **Electronic Funds Transfer** - Sign up through the church office.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE: Luke 2:38 – “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.” Notice here how giving thanks to God leads to good works (speaking about Jesus, in this case). Thankfulness towards God for all He has done for us is the foundation of a Christian life lived in godliness. For if we know all that the Lord has done for us, how can we not strive to honor Him with what we think, say and do?

OFFERTORY - "Away in a Manger" Luke 2:7

- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay

- 2 The cattle are lowing, the poor baby wakes
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh

- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there

(James R. Murray arr. ©1997 Maranatha! Music CCLI #288089)

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, great are Your works of the creation of all things. Greater still is Your mighty work of the redemption of the world from the ravages of sin and death brought on by the rebellion of those created in Your own likeness. We praise You for all Your promises of salvation fulfilled in the sending of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Remember Your promise of love that whoever believes in Him will have eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** Grant Your strength and blessing to Your whole church as we live, pray, and work in the remembrance of Your grace and gifts. Bless all pastors and workers in Your church never to forget their calling to faithfully proclaim Your Word and will to a world still struggling against the darkness of sin and unbelief. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Remember in Your mercy all leaders and servants in government that they may be endued with a love of peace and the way of justice and righteousness for all people. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Remember in Your mercy all Your people in their various vocations and stations in life, that they may prosper in their lives motivated by Your love. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Remember in Your mercy all who are sick or injured, the homebound and the infirm. Grant Your peace, rest, and healing, keeping them in constant faith in Your promises. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant peace, we pray, in mercy, Lord, to all who mourn the death of loved ones. Grant that our remembrance of their faith causes us to remain closer to You in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

CONCLUDING COLLECT

P Let us pray.

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.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

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

C Amen.

GREET ONE ANOTHER

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “The Lord be with you,” “Peace be with you,” or “The peace of the Lord be with you”.

CLOSING SONG – “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

- 1, 3, 5 Go, tell it on the mountain
7, 8 Over the hills and everywhere
 Go, tell it on the mountain
 That Jesus Christ is born
- 2 While shepherds kept their watching
 O’er silent flocks by night
 Behold throughout the heavens
 There shone a holy light
- 4 The shepherds feared and trembled
 When lo above the earth
 Rang out the angel chorus
 That hailed our Savior’s birth
- 6 Down in the lowly manger
 Our humble Christ was born
 And God sent us salvation
 That blessed Christmas morn

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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