

A Guide To the Divine Service

9:00 a.m.

December 29, 2024

The Seed of David Comes to His Temple

Jesus comes to His Temple, fulfilling the Covenant as recorded in Jer. 31:31-34. Jesus is the fulfillment of the words spoken through Jeremiah: “I will put My law in their minds, and write on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people” (v. 33). Therefore, in the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son, Jesus, the Christ, to redeem us from the judgment of the Law (Gal. 4:1-7). Now He is presented in the temple in fulfillment of the Law and revealed to be “...a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel” (Luke 2:22-40). Jesus Christ has enlightened us in Holy Baptism, giving us to be adopted as sons of God and heirs of eternal life. Receiving the Holy Sacrament of His Body and Blood, we are prepared to depart this world in peace, for our eyes have seen the salvation of God in Him.

Readings for Next Sunday: The Vigil of the Epiphany

Prophecy of the Day: Jeremiah 31:15-17
Epistle of the Day: Romans 3:19-26
Holy Gospel of the Day: St. Matthew 2:19-23

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Testimonia tua fidelia facta sunt
“Thy testimonies are very sure”

[First Sunday after Christmas]
“The Holy Family Sunday”

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*A Confessional, Evangelical, Sacramental, and Liturgical
Congregation of the Lutheran Confessions --
Where the Lutheran Reformation Lives!*

MEMBER: THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

NOTE ON PARTICIPATING IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church throughout history, "closed communion" is observed here, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those who:

- (a) are baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit;
- (b) have been instructed in the truth of Holy Scriptures as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, have been confirmed in this Lutheran faith and practice, and now embrace this same Lutheran faith in the same way that it is believed, taught, confessed, and practiced in this congregation;
- (c) believe that in this Sacrament the real Body and Blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) repent of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services who are able to affirm these facts should speak to our pastor or the elder on duty before receiving the Sacrament. To other guests with us today, we express to you our sincere interest, friendship, and concern, and we assure you that it is for the spiritual welfare of all that we practice closed communion. Those desiring to learn more about our beliefs are asked to speak with our pastor.

[We rise and face the Processional Cross]

Processional Hymn "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" #393

Confession of Sins and Holy Absolution p. 184

The Service of the Word begins with the Introit

Your decrees are very trustworthy;
holiness befits Your house, O LORD, forevermore.
Your throne is established from of old;
You are from everlasting.
The LORD reigns; He is robed in majesty;
the LORD is robed; He has put on strength as His belt.
Yes, the world is established;
it shall never be moved.
The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice;
the floods lift up their roaring.
Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea,
the LORD on high is mighty!

(Ps. 93:1, 3-4; antiphon: Ps. 93:5, 2)

Gloria Patri, Kyrie p. 186
Gloria in Excelsis p. 187
Salutation p. 189

Collect for the First Sunday after Christmas: 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. **A - - - men!**

[We are seated]

Prophecy of the Day **Jeremiah 31:34-34**
[His New Covenant]
This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God!**

Gradual

You are the most handsome of the sons of men;
grace is poured upon your lips.
I address my verses to the King;
my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.
(Ps. 45:2a, 1b)

Epistle of the Day **Galatians 4:1-7**
[Sons and Heirs Through Christ]
This is the Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God!**

[We rise] **Triple Alleluia** p. 190

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**
Holy Gospel of the Day **St. Luke 2:33-40**
[Prophecies of the Christ]

Responses to the Holy Gospel p. 190

Nicene Creed p. 191

[We are seated]

Hymn of the Day "In His Temple Now Behold Him" #519

Sermon

[We rise] **Offertory** p. 192

[We are seated]

The offering is received
God richly bless you for your support of His work among us!

[We rise] **Prayer of the Church**

[Please review our Communion Policy inside this Guide]

The Service of the Sacrament p. 194

[We are seated for the Distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ]

Hymn "The Infant Priest Was Holy Born" #624
[We rise] **Doxology** #805

Dismissal, Nunc Dimittis, Thanksgiving, Salutation, Benedicamus, Benediction p. 199

[We are seated for announcements]

[We rise for the Recessional Hymn]

"O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly" #897