



8:00AM DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Three, pg. 184

First Sunday after Christmas
29 December 2024

*Please register your presence with us
by filling out one of the Member/Guest cards found in the pew rack in front of you
and giving it to an usher or placing into the offering plate.*

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

PRELUDE — *C'était dans la lune de l'hiver*

arr. Lani Smith

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN — *Dearest Jesus, We Are Here*

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THE RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM

(Evan Nacona Michael Striegel)

pg. 268

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT

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 salvation for Him.

The Lord has made known His salvation;
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! pg. 186

G Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

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.

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

pg. 186

G Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ Glory to God in the Highest

Luke 2:14; John 1:29; pg. 187

P Glory be to God on high: **G** and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
 O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.
 O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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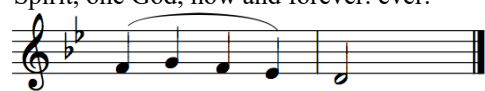
SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And with thy spir - it.

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. ever.



C A - men. (Sit)

OLD TESTAMENT READING (*Sanctifying of the firstborn*) Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

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

¹Praise the LORD!
I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

²Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.

³Full of splendor and majesty is His work,
and His righteousness endures forever.

⁴He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

⁵He provides food for those who fear Him;

OFFERTORY (*Stand*)

Psalm 116:12-13; 17-19; pg. 192



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

CONCLUDING COLLECT

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26; pg. 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C A - men, a - men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN — *Joy to the World*

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SENDING

P Go in Peace; Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY — *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

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SERMON

OFFERING — *Sleep, O Lovely Child*

Carl Simone

He remembers His covenant forever.

⁶He has shown His people the power of His works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

⁷The works of His hands are faithful and just;
all His precepts are trustworthy;

⁸they are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

⁹He sent redemption to His people;
He has commanded His covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is His name!

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever!

**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.**

EPISTLE

(The new nature of love and peace)

Colossians 3:12–17

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.

G Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA and VERSE *(Stand)*

Luke 2:30, 32

L Alleluia.

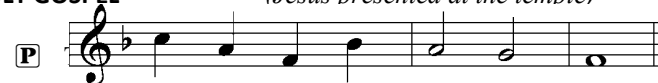
My eyes have seen your salvation;

G a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.
Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

(Jesus presented at the temple)

Luke 2:22-40



P Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.