

December 28, 2025

St. Paul Lutheran LCMS
Julesburg, CO

970.474.2592
stpauljules@gmail.com

The Pathlight

*Your Word Is A Lamp To My Feet and a
Light To My Path.
Ps 119:105*

Zion Lutheran LCMS
Big Springs, NE

308.289.5148
Muleshoexv@gmail.com

See Your Salvation

My eyes have seen your salvation. Luke 2:30

Out of the crowds at the Temple that day, Simeon comes forward and holds the infant Jesus in his arms. Simeon recognizes that this child who is being dedicated as “holy to the Lord” IS HIMSELF THE LORD!

That truth changes everything for Simeon. This man had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before He had seen the One who gives life. He would behold the Savior before He departed into the peace which is paradise, dwelling with the Lord. As Mary and Joseph walk through the Temple courts, God reveals to Simeon that this is the One! This infant is the Savior – the Redeemer – the Holy One of Israel!

Simeon breaks into his song, praising God and declaring that he can now die a happy man, because he has witnessed God keeping His greatest promise. Simeon is saying, “You can take me now, God. I’ve seen it all! I knew You would keep Your promise, and now it is complete! I’m ready, Lord – come and get me, I have been made holy to the Lord!”

Simeon recognizes that this child is the wonderful, comforting Gospel in human flesh! And try as he might, Satan cannot snatch anyone out of the Father’s hand who is holding on to the Gospel. Your loving God is preserving you too, by holding on to the the holy life, sacrificial death, and glorious resurrection of the Holy One of Israel.

“Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me.” You were filled with sin at your conception. You belonged to sin and death. But God changed all that. He publicly displayed that you belong to Him as He baptized you.

You belong to the Lord. No matter what you face, no matter what sufferings you endure, no matter how tough life seems, you have the comfort that you are not left alone. Christ the Savior is born, and you are His! He does not abandon you to the darkness of this world, but is the “Light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of [God’s] people, Israel.” Just as Simeon sang!

Christ your Savior is born!

Pastor Christensen

For now we see in a mirror dimly but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. 1 Cor. 13:12

Lutheran Service Book
Order of Service

HYMN #376 “Once in Royal David’s City”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION pg. 184

INTROIT pg.186

KYRIE

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY pg. 189

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 63:7-14

EPISTLE: Galatians 4:4-7

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-23

APOSTLES CREED pg.192

HYMN #389 “Let All Together Praise Our
God”

SERMON

OFFERING

PRAYER of the CHURCH

LORD’S PRAYER

SALUTATION pg. 201

HYMN #387 “Joy World”

SILENT PRAYER

Servants for Today

St. Paul

Greeters and Ushers-Brian Boehm/Chuck Juhl, Organist-Jeanie Boehm

Zion

Usher/Greeter-Randy Schlake, Altar Guild-Jodi/Shelle, Organist-Jeanie
Boehm



Calendar of Events

St. Paul

Dec. 29-9:00AM-Bible Study

Dec. 31-6:00PM- New Year's Eve Service/Communion-at St.Paul
Servants for Worship Service- Craig Nicolaus/Rex Nicolaus/Jeanie Boehm

Jan. 4-8:00AM-Bible Study

9:00AM-Worship Service/Comm

Servants for Worship Service-Jeff Larsen/David Orth/Gail Nicolaus

Zion

Dec. 31-6:00PM- New Year's Eve Service/Communion-at St. Paul

Jan. 4-10:00AM-Sunday School

11:00AM-Worship Service/Comm.

Servants for Worship Service- Randy Schlake/Shelle & Jodi/Jeanie Boehm



Dec. 29-Carol Stephens

Dec. 30-Natalie Lanckriet, Christian Scherbarth

Dec. 31- Lorrie Christensen

Jan. 2-Gail Nicolaus



Bible Brain Teaser: “After the Manger...”

Each question hints at a moment, person, or detail connected to the days after Christ’s birth. Some answers come from Luke 2, others from Matthew 2, and a few from Old Testament prophecies traditionally read during Christmastide.

1. I was not a king, but kings feared me. I ordered a search for a Child I never intended to worship. Who am I?
2. I was warned in a dream not to return the way I came. What group am I part of?
3. I held the Child and spoke of a sword that would pierce a mother’s soul. Who am I?
4. I was a prophetess who never left the Temple, worshiping day and night. Who am I?
5. I fled to a foreign land at night to protect the Child. Who am I?
6. I was the place where the Child was presented according to the Law. What location am I?
7. I was the offering given by His parents — a sign they were humble and not wealthy. What am I?
8. I was the ruler whose death allowed a holy family to return home. Who am I?
9. I was the town the prophets said He would come from, though He was born elsewhere. What town am I?
10. I was the righteous man who waited for the “consolation of Israel.” Who am I?

Answer Key

1. Herod
2. The Magi
3. Simeon
4. Anna
5. Joseph
6. The Temple in Jerusalem

7. Two turtledoves or pigeons
8. Herod (after his death they returned)
9. Nazareth
10. Simeon



“Held in the Arms of Promise”

The days after Christmas often feel quieter. The wrapping paper is gone, the house settles, and the world seems to breathe again. Yet in Scripture, the days after Christ’s birth are anything but empty. They are filled with revelation — not loud, angel-chorus revelation, but the kind that comes in the steady faithfulness of God’s people.

When Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to the Temple “to present Him to the Lord,” the scene is simple and ordinary. No crowds. No shepherds. No star. Just a young couple obeying God’s Word.

But in that quiet moment, two faithful servants — Simeon and Anna — see what the world has not yet recognized:

The Child in their midst is the long-awaited Savior.

The Man at the Window

There’s a story told about an elderly man who lived in a small coastal town. Every evening, he walked to the same window overlooking the harbor and lit a single lantern. He had done this for decades. A neighbor once asked, “Why do you keep lighting that lantern? No one even notices.” The old man smiled. “My son is a fisherman. When he was young, I told him that no matter how dark the night, he would always see a light in this window. He’s grown now, and I don’t know when he’ll return. But I want him to know I’m still watching, still waiting, still trusting.”

One stormy night, long after the man had grown frail, he heard footsteps on the path. His son had returned. “I saw the lantern,” he said. “I knew you were still here.”

The father's waiting wasn't wasted. It was love expressed in faithfulness.

Simeon and Anna: Faithful in the Waiting

Simeon had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before seeing the Lord's Christ. Anna had spent years in the Temple, worshiping, praying, and waiting. Neither knew the day or the hour. But they trusted.

And then — in the quiet — God kept His promise.

Simeon took the Child in his arms and declared:

“My eyes have seen Your salvation.”

Luke 2:30

Anna began praising God and telling everyone who would listen.

Their waiting was not wasted. Their faithfulness was not forgotten. Their hope was not misplaced.

What This Means for Us

The First Sunday After Christmas reminds us that God often works in the quiet places of our lives — long after the excitement fades, long after the crowds go home, long after the world moves on.

Maybe you're waiting for healing.

Maybe you're waiting for reconciliation.

Maybe you're waiting for clarity, peace, or strength.

Simeon and Anna teach us this truth:

God keeps His promises — even in the waiting, Even in the ordinary, Even in the quiet. Christ has come. Christ is with you. Christ will not abandon you.

As Paul writes:

“When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son...” Galatians 4:4

And because of Him:

“You are no longer a slave, but a child of God.” Galatians 4:7

You are held — just as surely as Simeon held the Christ Child — in the arms of God's unshakable promi

