



Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church
First Sunday of Christmas
December 28 & 29, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Introduction

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God “to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God,” who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, “let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.” It is Christmas, still.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God-with-us,
**we confess that we have turned away
those seeking shelter,
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.
We have made power and wealth our idols,
while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.
We have overlooked the shepherds,
expecting good news in prettier packaging.
Too often, we have valued violence
instead of your peace.
Turn us from our ways to your ways.
Grant us the grace to begin again.
Free us from all that keeps us bound,**

**and forgive our sin,
through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.
Amen.**

Hear the good news and rejoice!
You are God's chosen ones,
holy and beloved,
✠ forgiven in Christ,
and freed to respond in joy. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG - #270 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

Having dedicated her son Samuel to God's service, Hannah visits him every year when she and her husband Elkanah come to the temple to offer sacrifices. God grants Hannah more children, and Samuel himself gains favor in the sight of all.

¹⁸ Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰ Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the LORD repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the LORD"; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶ Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 148

R The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:13)

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.

² **Praise the LORD, | all you angels;
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**

³ Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.

⁴ **Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.**

⁵ Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,

⁶ **who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not | pass away. R**

⁷ Praise the LORD | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;

⁸ **fire and hail, | snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;**

⁹ mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;

¹⁰ **wild beasts | and all cattle,
creeping things and | flying birds;**

¹¹ sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;

¹² **young | men and maidens,
old and | young together. R**

¹³ Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and heaven.

¹⁴ **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all | faithful
servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. |
Hallelujah! R**

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-17

Just as newly baptized Christians in the early church were clothed with new garments upon arising from the baptismal waters, so all who have received God's gift of life in Jesus Christ are covered with the character of Christ.

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your

hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

Jesus grew up in a family that went to the Passover festival each year. It was in this environment of faithful adherence to the law that Jesus grew into spiritual maturity and an understanding of his identity and mission.

⁴¹ Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹ He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY - #296 What Child Is This

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A brief silence.

For those who teach and those who learn, we pray. Bless the education ministries of your church. Guide Sunday school teachers, college and seminary professors, and Bible study leaders (*specific institutions or instructors may be named*) in our ongoing faith formation and curiosity. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the thriving of creation, we pray. Protect the habitats of pangolins and porcupines, penguins and parrots, and all wild animals and creeping things. Increase our knowledge of the natural world and the care of its inhabitants. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the nations of the world, we pray. Raise up rulers who lead with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Let your peace rule in their hearts and in all lands (*places of war and conflict may be named*). God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the well-being of your people, we pray. Keep watch over all who travel this holiday season. Accompany those who are alone or ill (*especially*). Console parents

and children whose relationships are strained or severed. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

For the ministry of this place (*the local congregation or ministry setting may be named*), we pray. Let the word of Christ dwell among us. In times of conflict, clothe us in love and move us to forgiveness. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For your holy, beloved, and chosen ones of every time and place, we give thanks. Draw us all into everlasting praise and joy. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**God of heaven and earth,
from the beginning, you have called forth life,
in which you take delight.
The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.
Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
that we may join the chorus of creation
to tell of your salvation from day to day.
Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

A child has been born for us, a Son given to us.

Come, receive the gift of Jesus.

All who desire communion on this day are welcome to commune with us and partake in the promise of eternal life by Jesus Christ himself. In solidarity with our siblings in recovery, we use non-alcoholic wine. Please indicate if you would like a gluten free communion wafer. If you do not wish to take communion, you are still invited to ask Pastor for a blessing before you leave. Traditionally, those who commune are baptized into the Christian faith. If you are not baptized and would like to learn more about what it means to be baptized and share in the meal at the Lord's Supper Table, please talk with Pastor Lon.

COMMUNION HYMN – #496 One Bread, One Body - Sunday

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Merciful God,

we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.

Strengthened by this goodness,

send us forth to announce your peace,

comfort the afflicted,

and share the good news of great joy.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

The God of love,

Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,

lavish you with grace,

illumine your path,

and increase your joy,

today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN - #290 Go Tell It on the Mountain

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

Thanks be to God.

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Please remember the following people in your prayers: Anne Balko, Gary Boldt, Cindy Little, Arlene Posont, Marilyn Cook, Nick Brock, Tara Henry, Larry, Family of Jan Belen, and Family of Guy Frederick.

Nursing Home: Norma Secreast, Pauline Elavsky

Assisted Living: Pepper Van Landschoot (Jacobetti)

In Service: Craig Oas, Zac Culter, Mike Knickerbocker, Peter Peterson, Mathew Moilanen, Mikala Robinson, and our veterans who have returned to their communities.

PRESIDING MINISTER: Pastor Lon Hider

ASSISTING MINISTER: George – Saturday

Volunteer - Sunday

USHERS:

Dave & Carol – Saturday

Volunteer - Sunday

ALTAR GUILD:

Bruce Dausey

MUSICIAN:

Matt Tulla

FELLOWSHIP HOST:

EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Saturday, Jan. 4th – Saturday Worship Service 3:30pm – In person

Sunday, Jan. 5th - Sunday Worship Service 10:30am-In person & Facebook



GIVE USING VANCO ONLINE OR IN THE APP

You can now use Vanco to give online or using the mobile app. Make a one-time gift, or set up a recurring offering.



The Prayer Group meets on Tuesdays at 10:00am.

The Quilting Group will meet on Thursday, January 9th at 10:00a.m.

Support our Youth Fund by dropping off returnable cans and bottles to the church. Thank you.

VOIUNTEERS NEEDED – Eden is looking for two volunteers who would like to join the offering counters team. This involves one Sunday a month following the worship service. Please contact Ruth Lindquist or Joanie Hinsa or the office.

CHURCH CONTACT INFO: Please note the email addresses you should use for contacting the office and the pastor.

Office: eden@jamadots.com

Pastor: lonhider@gmail.com

Please be sure to update your email contacts to use these email addresses. Former addresses will no longer be used, and you should get an email response through your email provider stating that the message cannot be sent.

In addition, if you have changed any of your contact information (address, phone, email), please complete the directory update form in narthex or contact the church office to update your information.

For Pastoral Care needs, please contact Pastor Lon Hider
906-450-3258, or lonhider@gmail.com