

FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 30, 2018
IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
Missouri Synod



703 W 3RD Street
Mercedes
Texas 78570
956.565.1518
Immanuelmercedes
@gmail.com

Rev. Ed Weber,
Pastor
956.463.1305
eweber10@aol.com
Website:
Misionemanuel.com

Sunday
9:00 AM
Worship Service

10:30 am
Adult Bible Class
Sunday School

Holy Communion:
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

Website
lutheranmercedes.
com

www.facebook.com/
Lutheranmercedes/

Office Hrs, M-F
8:00 am to 12:00 pm
CCLI # 2585510



**"For my eyes have seen Your salvation
which You have prepared before the
face of all peoples," (Luke 2:30-31)**

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 30, 2018**

WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are the 3x5 white cards located in the pew racks in front of you.

This week we celebrate Holy Communion. We teach that in the receiving of the Lord's Supper each person receives the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and desire to partake of Communion, please ask to speak with Pastor Weber or one of the elders prior to the service.

A Prayer Upon Entering Church - Heavenly Father, Your love knows no bounds, and so You sent Your Son that I might be Your child. Enliven my faith so that I may give the gift of Your love to all whom I meet; help me to love them, forgive them, and sing Your praises with them; through Jesus Christ, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

AS WE GATHER - Simeon and Anna rejoiced when Mary and Joseph brought week-old Jesus to the temple. He was physical proof that God was keeping His promises made centuries ago. Firstborn males had to be consecrated to God because He had spared them at the time of the exodus. In our Psalm today, God promises redemption for His people, and in Christ we are His chosen people, holy and dearly loved, as Paul writes in the Epistle. Today is the Sunday after Christmas, and we focus on how we exhibit love, forgiveness, and peace, thanking God for His promises kept.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

(A quiet time for prayer and meditation in preparation for worship)

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE

PAGE 184

OPENING HYMN

The Candles Glow

(See Insert)

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.

(We take a moment of silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior.)

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (John 20:19-23)

C Amen.

INTROIT *Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a*

P To us a child is born, to us a son is given;

C and the government shall be upon His shoulder.

P And His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,

C Mighty God,

P Everlasting Father,

C Prince of Peace.

P Sing to the Lord a new song,

C for He has done marvelous things!

GLORIA PATRI



G Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

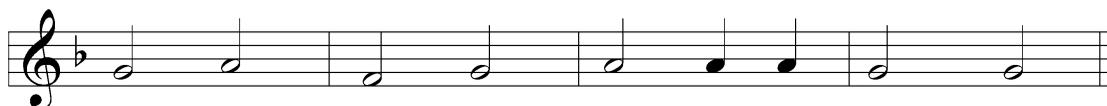


as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

KYRIE

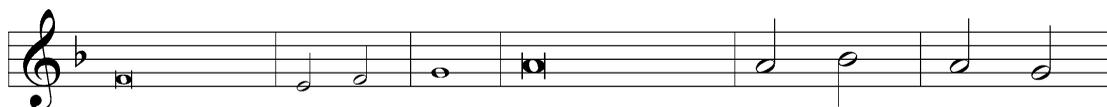


C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



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

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



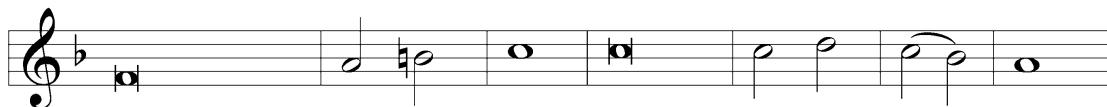
P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



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;



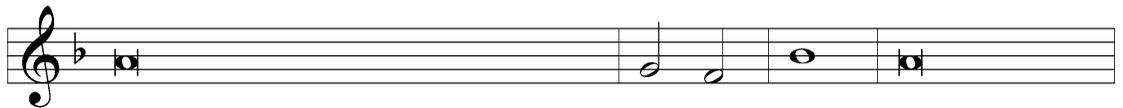
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



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.

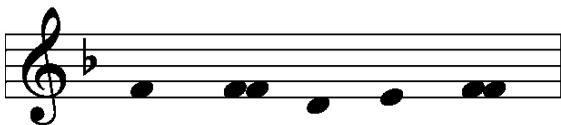


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

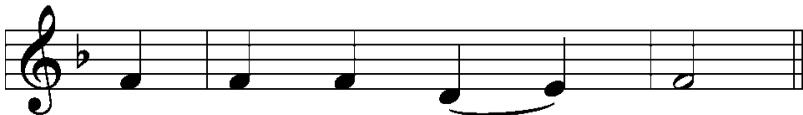


art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

SALUTATION



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

PRAYER OF THE DAY



P Let us pray.

P 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 A - men.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

(Every firstborn Israelite male must be redeemed, remembering the exodus.)

Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ² “Consecrate to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and beast; it is Mine.” ³ And Moses said to the people: “Remember this day in which you went out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the Lord brought you out of this place. ¹¹ “And it shall be, when the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as He swore to you and your fathers, and gives it to you, ¹² that you shall set apart to the Lord all that open the womb, that is, every firstborn that comes from an animal which you have; the males shall be the Lord’s. ¹³ But every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb; and if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck. And all the firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴ So it shall be, when your son asks you in time to come, saying, ‘What is this?’ that you shall say to him, ‘By strength of hand the Lord brought us out of

Egypt, out of the house of bondage. 15 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh was stubborn about letting us go, that the Lord killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of beast. Therefore I sacrifice to the Lord all males that open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.'

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God**

PSALM *Psalm 111*

C **Come, for God provided redeeming, in His covenant ordaining. Christ is born, God's love revealing. We are His eternally.**

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

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

P Great are the works of the LORD,

C **studied by all who delight in them.**

P Full of splendor and majesty is His work,

C **and His righteousness endures forever.**

P He has caused His wondrous works to be remembered;

C **the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

P He provides food for those who fear Him;

C **He remembers His covenant forever.**

P He has shown His people the power of His works,

C **in giving them the inheritance of the nations.**

P The works of His hands are faithful and just;

C **all His precepts are trustworthy;**

P they are established forever and ever,

C **to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

P He sent redemption to His people;

C **He has commanded His covenant forever. Holy and awesome is His name!**

P The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;

C **all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!**

Come, for God provided redeeming, in His covenant ordaining. Christ is born, God's love revealing. We are His eternally.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

EPISTLE

Colossians 3:12-17

("Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.")

12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. 14 But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. 15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonish-
ing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts

to the Lord. 17 And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

(Simeon and Anna praise God when they see the baby Jesus in the temple.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

22 Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord"), 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." 25 And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 So he came by 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, 28 he 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;

30 For my eyes have seen Your salvation

31 Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples,

32 A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles,

And the glory of Your people Israel."

33 And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against 35 (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

36 Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; 37 and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. 38 And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem. 39 So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. 40 And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



NICENE CREED

All: *I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.*

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

LSB 375

SERMON

“The Big Reveal”

(Luke 2:32)

OFFERING

SHARING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Colossians 3:12, 15; Matthew 5:23–24

P Holy and beloved, let us use the encouragement of the Epistle to guide our prayers to God for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various needs.

Put on compassion:

C Protect and guide all who serve in the healing professions, O Lord. Give them compassion so that they see their patients as Your dearly loved children.

P Put on kindness:

C Guide and strengthen all who teach and care for vulnerable teens and senior citizens. Give them wisdom to serve in kindness and love.

P Put on humility:

C Remind those who fill positions of authority here and around the world to rule with humility as they serve You and the people around them in making, administering, and adjudicating the laws of the land.

P Put on meekness:

C Protect and guide those who serve in law enforcement at home and armed forces deployed so that they make appropriate decisions at all times.

P Put on patience:

C Open doors of opportunity for the spread of the Gospel here and around the world. Give patience to clergy and lay leaders alike as they proclaim the news of Your Son's birth. Make them aware of Your gracious presence to bless their efforts.

P Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Heavenly Father, we remember before You those who are not at peace because of illness, conflict, loss, and sadness, [including . . .]. In Your great love,

C restore health, resolve conflict, console, and bring renewal of joy as fits Your gracious plans for them.

P Into Your hands, loving Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

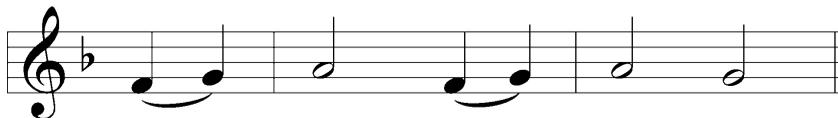
P Paul wrote, "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts," and Jesus said, "If your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift." The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

PREFACE



P The Lord be with you.



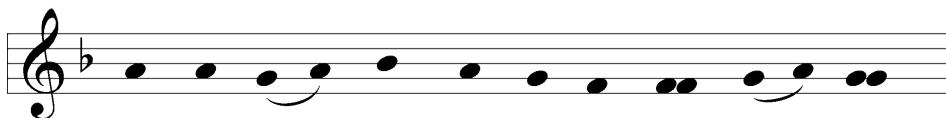
C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive

our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

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.



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

AGNUS DEI



☐ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

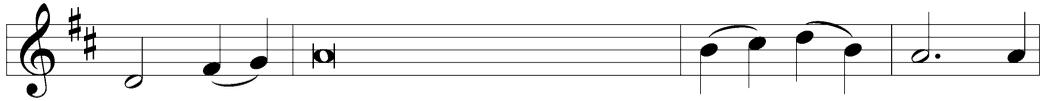
From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

LSB 358; vv. 1, 4, 10, 13, 15

Away in a Manger

LSB 365

NUNC DIMITTIS



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

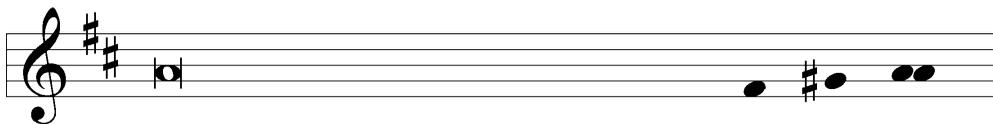


to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

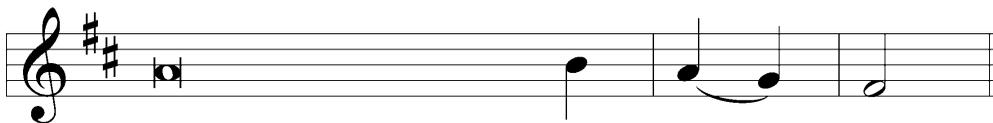


is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this Salutory gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BENEDICAMUS

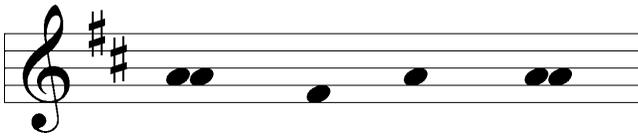


P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

(Continued on next page)



A Bless we the Lord.

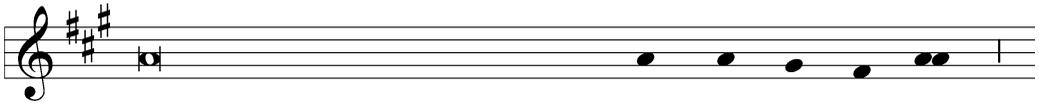


C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.



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

SENDING HYMN

Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

LSB 390

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Part 1. Copyright © 2015 Concordia Publishing House All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Happy New Year!

Filled with Love, Peace, Joy, and Hope

FROM PASTOR'S DESK

Portals of Prayer for January to March are available In the Narthrex.

Sunday School:

After service in the Fellowship Hall.
Enrich your spiritual life with the Word.

Pastor Weber will be leading the Adult Bible Study.

Children's Sunday School

is available with lots of fun activities.

Confirmation Classes

6:00 p.m.

Tuesdays, in the Pastor's Office

Elders' Meeting

Tuesday, January 8, 2019

7:30 p.m.

2019 **OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available in the Narthrex.

Game Night, Friday, January 11, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. ***Come and join the fun.***



Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule		
	December Sunday Servants:	January Servants:
Elder:	Ken Eilers	Joe Winston
Altar Guild:	Donna Jackson & Lori Marchant	B.J. Neuhaus & M. Perez
Music:	Bonny Winston	
This Week	First Sunday after Christmas	
Usher:	Don Vogel	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
<i>Next Week</i>	Epiphany of Our Lord	
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am

The Firstborn Son of God Is Our Redemption from Sin and Death

When the Lord destroyed the firstborn sons of Egypt, He spared the sons of Israel by providing a lamb in their stead. Hence, all the firstborn sons belong to Him. Every firstborn male animal was sacrificed, and every firstborn son of man was redeemed (Ex. 13:12-13). Therefore, the parents of Jesus “brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord” (Luke 2:22). However, He is not redeemed from priestly service but is consecrated for “the redemption of Jerusalem” and “the consolation of Israel” (Luke 2:25, 38). For God the Father did not spare His only begotten Son, but offered Him up as the true Passover Lamb, in order to redeem His people from bondage. His cross has caused many to stumble and fall, but His blood atoned for the sins of the world and delivers us from death. We now depart in the peace of Christ because we are also raised with Him. As we receive His body and blood, we join Simeon and Anna in “giving thanks to God the Father through him,” “singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,” including the Nunc Dimittis, with thankfulness in our hearts (Luke 2:28-32, 38; Col. 3:15-17).

12/23/2018

Sunday Worship	55	
Plate:		\$ 348.00
Envelopes:		\$ 2,012.00
Donations:		
Genesis PC		\$ 500.00
	Total:	\$ 2,860.00
Mid-Week Advent 3	12/19	28
Plate:		\$ 90.00
Envelopes:		\$ 140.00
	Total:	\$ 230.00
Bible Class:	19	\$ 15.00

The Epiphany of Our Lord *Readings:*

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-11
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

