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**1st Sunday after Christmas**

“And he [Simeon] 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, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God.” *Luke 2:27-28*

**AS WE GATHER**

Are you prepared for heaven? Admittedly, this is an odd question when we are celebrating Jesus’ birth. Yet, Jesus was born to die to save His people from their sins. As Simeon held the Christ Child, he couldn’t help but say, “Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word,” while also telling Mary, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed.” That opposition eventually brought about His death on a cross. Yet, Jesus was born to die and rise to life again so that all who believe in Him might live! That is the Christmas gift.

**+ CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION +**

(*LSB*, Divine Service, Setting Three, pg. 184-185)

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**HYMN** *“Now Sing We, Now Rejoice”* (*LSB* 386)

**PSALM 111** (w/ Gloria Patri, *LSB*, pg. 186)

**KYRIE** (*LSB*, pg. 186)

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** (*LSB*, pg. 187-189)

**SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY** (*LSB*, pg. 189)

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15 *(bulletin insert)*

**GRADUAL** *(bulletin insert, below Collect of the Day)*

**EPISTLE** Colossians 3:12-17 *(bulletin insert)*

**ALLELUIA** (*LSB*, pg. 190)

**HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 2:22-40 *(bulletin insert)*

**NICENE CREED** (*LSB*, pg. 191)

**HYMN** *“What Child Is This”* (*LSB* 370)

**SERMON *“Salvation Seen”***

**OFFERTORY** (*LSB*, pg. 192-193)

**RETURNING OF OUR FIRST FRUITS**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**Divine Service and the Close Fellowship of Holy Communion**

*Our Lord speaks and we listen. His Word bestows what it says. Faith that is born from what is heard acknowledges the gifts received with eager thankfulness and praise. The gifts include the Holy Supper in which we receive His true body and blood to eat and drink. Those welcome to the table acknowledge the real presence of the body and blood of Christ, confess their own sinfulness, and in true faith wish to receive the forgiveness and strength promised through this Holy Sacrament, as* ***instructed*** *… and* ***in unity of faith*** *… with God’s people here in this congregation. It is our sincerest desire that you join in the intimacy of this fellowship. However, if you are not, yet, an instructed and confirmed member-in-good-standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please visit with the pastor about such a fellowship before communing. If you wish to come forward for a blessing, you are welcome to join us at the rail to receive such. Please cross your arms in front of you to indicate that desire.*

**LITURGY** (*LSB*, pg. 194-198)

**DISTRIBUTION**

*“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”* (*LSB* 621)

**NUNC DIMITTIS** (*LSB*, pg. 199-200)

**THANKSGIVING** (*LSB*, pg. 200-201)

### SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS (LSB, pg. 201-202)

**BENEDICTION** (*LSB*, pg. 202)

**HYMN** *“Angels from the Realms of Glory”* (*LSB* 367)

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH,**

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[www.faithlutheran-tn.org](http://www.faithlutheran-tn.org), Dec. 26, 2021

**All are welcome …**

**… Christ is honored.**