



Jesus in the Temple

New Life Ev. Lutheran Church

Lake Zurich, IL

...rooted in the word, growing in faith, reaching out to our uprooted world.

Pastor Andrew Bauer
(847) 438-5018

www.newlife-wels.org

+++++

First Sunday After Christmas

December 26, 2021

Before Service Prayer: Accept our praise, heavenly Father, for the mystery of Your Son becoming flesh. We thank You for the gladness You have provided for all the world and to which we may this day give expression. Allow this joy to fill our hearts and permeate our lives. Let the true joy of Christmas shine on those in any trouble or adversity. Let the bright beams of heavenly love illumine the paths of those who are walking in darkness or who have fallen into sin. May all, from the greatest to the least, kneel in humble adoration before Your Son, our King and newborn Savior. Amen.

Today's Service: *Service of Word and Sacrament, NPH; used with permission under the OneLicense.net copyright agreement #A-800156 and under CCLI license #11327771.*

Today's Theme: In the family of believers, it is our brother Jesus who changed the future for Abraham's descendants. To be about the Father's will meant sharing in our humanity and destroying the power of death.

Pastor's Welcome

Opening Hymn: **CW 349 "A Great and Mighty Wonder"**

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Opening Sentences *(Psalm 124:8; Ephesians 1:3-4)*

P: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
C: who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing.

P: He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,
C: that we should be holy and blameless before Him.

Confession and Absolution

P: Dear friends, our own sin and our inability to free ourselves are the reasons a Savior was born. We now confess our sins to God, confident that He has first chosen and loved us, giving us forgiveness for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Silence for reflection.

P: Almighty God,
C: I confess to You all my sins in thought, word, and deed. Some of my sin I know; some is known only to You. I am by nature sinful. My works do not show a life of faith and repentance, nor do they glorify You.

P: We have not lived according to the purpose of God's will, but have neglected the richness of His grace with indifference and disobedience.
C: Have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

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 our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

The Kyrie

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all Your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.
C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from Your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.
C: Christ, have mercy.

P: For the well-being of Your holy church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.
C: Lord, have mercy

P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by Your power and keep us in Your tender care:
C: Amen.

P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; His name is worthy of praise!

Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;
Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies.
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!

Come from on high to me; I cannot rise to Thee.
Cheer my wearied spirit, O pure and holy Child;
Through Thy grace and merit, Blest Jesus, Lord most mild,
Draw me unto Thee! Draw me unto Thee!

Now through His Son doth shine The Father's grace divine.
Death o'er us had reigned Through sin and vanity;
He for us obtained Eternal joy on high.
May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!

Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'nly ground?
Where the angels singing With all His saints unite,
Sweetest praises bringing In heav'nly joy and light.
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there! (CW 34)

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, in mercy You sent Your one and only Son to take upon Himself our human nature. By His gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of His glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

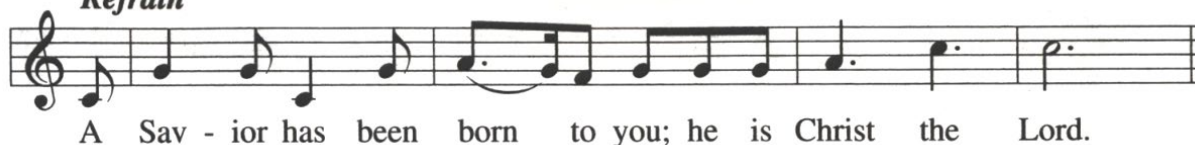
The First Lesson: **1 SAMUEL 2:18-20, 26** *(The similarities between the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus are striking: a gracious gift to his mother, the boy Samuel was dedicated to the Lord's service, ministering in the Tabernacle. By grace he would grow "in favor with God and men." By grace he would willingly carry out the "Father's things/business" all the days of his life.)*

¹⁸ But Samuel was ministering before the LORD—a boy wearing a linen ephod.¹⁹ Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice. ²⁰ Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, "May the LORD give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to the LORD." Then they would go home.

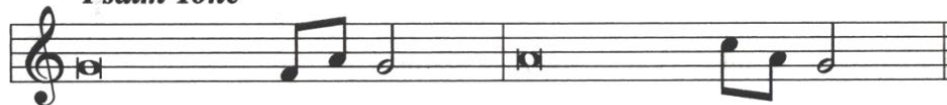
²⁶ And the boy Samuel continued to grow in stature and in favor with the LORD and with people. (NIV 2011)

Psalm of the Day: **Psalm 96** (CWS)

Refrain



Psalm Tone



Sing to the Lord, 'praise His name;
proclaim His salvation day 'after day.

Declare His glory among the 'nations,
His marvelous deeds among all 'peoples.

Worship the Lord in the splendor of His 'holiness;
tremble before Him, 'all the earth.

Refrain

Let the heavens rejoice, let the 'earth be glad;
let the sea resound, and all that 'is in it;

let the fields be jubilant, and every'thing in them.
Then all the trees of the forest will 'sing for joy;

for He comes to judge the world in 'righteousness
and the peoples 'in His truth.

Glory be to the Father and 'to the Son
and to the Holy 'Spirit,

as it was in the be'ginning,
is now, and will be forever. 'Amen.

Refrain

The Second Lesson: HEBREWS 2:10-18 (The writer to the Hebrews lays out the loving purpose of God in Christ Jesus. It is fitting that the Author of Salvation should make His One and Only Son like those He came to save. As our brother, He knows our weaknesses and temptations. Yet, in service to God, He carried out the Father's will. Having overcome death and made atonement for our sins, He now claims us as members of His family.)

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what He suffered. ¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. ¹² He says, "I will declare Your name to my brothers and sisters; in the assembly I will sing Your praises."

¹³ And again, "I will put my trust in Him."

And again He says, "Here am I, and the children God has given Me."

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, He too shared in their humanity so that by His death He might break the power of Him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels He helps, but Abraham's descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason He had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that He might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because He Himself suffered when He was tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted. (NIV 2011)

Verse of the Day: Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. Alleluia. (Colossians 3:15a)



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Stand

Gospel Lesson: **LUKE 2:41-52** (With an emphasis on the two natures of Christ, these words from Luke reveal Jesus' growth "in favor with God and men." Yet, very clearly, Jesus always understood His purpose was to carry out the Father's plan of salvation. Though He willingly obeyed Mary and Joseph, more striking is His willing obedience to the Father's will.)

⁴¹ Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover.⁴² When He was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. ⁴³ After the festival was over, while His parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it.⁴⁴ Thinking He was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for Him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find Him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for Him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found Him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard Him was amazed at His understanding and His answers. ⁴⁸ When His parents saw Him, they were astonished. His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for You."⁴⁹ "Why were you searching for Me?" He asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in My Father's house?"⁵⁰ But they did not understand what He was saying to them.⁵¹ Then He went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But His mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. (NIV 2011)

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ.

Be seated

Hymn of the Day: **CW 355 "Let All Together Praise Our God"**

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

We believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one being with the Father.

Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, He came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Offering

The Offertory

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

The Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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:

Holy, Holy, Holy



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

Words of Institution (spoken by the Pastor)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

O Christ, Lamb of God



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



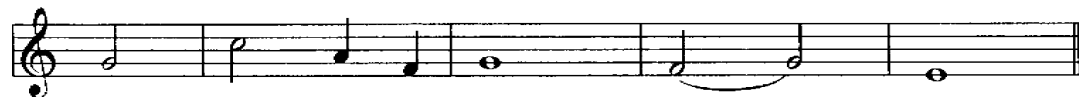
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

Our Communion Practice

New Life Lutheran Church practices “close communion.” We ask that only members of New Life or other WELS or ELS churches partake of the sacrament. We ask our visitors to please respect our communion practice.

Distribution Music, no Distribution Hymn

Thank the Lord



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

P: O God the Father, who loves Your dear Son, we thank You that in this Sacrament You have given us what we need: pardon and peace. You have made us Your children; keep and preserve us in Your family, and in this Supper also strengthen us as one family in You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

The Closing Hymn: CW 330 "Peace Came to Earth"

Announcements