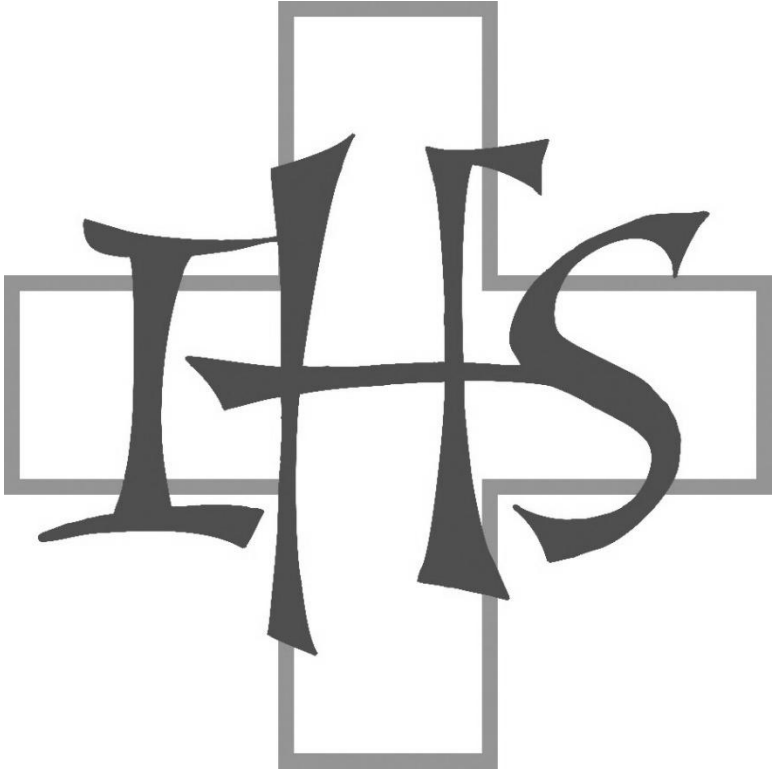


# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

**A Community of Faith:** *Centered in Christ – Called to Serve*



Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

*Colossians 3:16*

## Order of Worship

*December 29, 2024 9:00 AM*

# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730

church@lcsavior.org

781-275-6013

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## **Introit**

*Psalm 98:1–4; antiphon: Isaiah 52:10*

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

The LORD has made known his salvation;

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of  
Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

## Communion Theology and Practice

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper is intended for those:

- who have been baptized in the name of the Triune God,
- who have faith in Jesus Christ as God the Son in the flesh and their personal Savior from sin, death, and the devil;
- who believe that they have sin that needs forgiving, hurt that needs healing, and faith that needs strengthening;
- who are committed to amending their sinful ways; and
- who believe that in, with, and under the bread and wine they receive the true body and blood of the risen Christ, together with the forgiveness of all their sins.

*If you are a visitor with us this morning and wish to receive the  
Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor before the service.*

*Thank you.*

# First Sunday after Christmas

## Divine Service

Welcome

### Invocation & Christmas Litany

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

*John 8:12*

**C** The Light no darkness can overcome.

*John 1:5*

**P** The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,

**C** And we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.


*John 1:14*

### Opening Song


All Heaven Declares

*Richards, Richards*

*Verse 1, Verse 2, Verse 1, Tag*



All heav'n de - clares the com - ing of the  
I will pro - claim the com - ing of the



new born King: Who can com - pare with the beau - ty  
new born King: Who once was slain to rec - con - cile



of the Lord? For - ev - er He will be  
man to God. For - ev - er You will be

*continued on next page*

the Lamb up-on the throne; I glad-ly bow the  
the Lamb up-on the throne; I glad-ly bow the

knee and wor-ship Him a-lone,  
knee and wor-ship You a-lone,

### Prayer of Confession

- P** Holy Lord, as we stand in your presence, we are aware of our sins of thought, word, and action.
- C** **We have not always lived our lives according to your will.**
- P** We have often failed to live up to your expectations.
- C** **We all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**
- P** But we know your promise, that if we confess our sins,
- C** **you will hear our cry, and grant us your forgiveness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination*

- P** Hear us now, O Lord, as we confess our failings to you...
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

## Psalm

Psalm 111

*Spoken responsively*

<sup>1</sup>Praise the Lord!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**<sup>2</sup>Great are the works of the Lord,  
studied by all who delight in them.**

<sup>3</sup>Full of splendor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

**<sup>4</sup>He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;  
the Lord is gracious and merciful.**

<sup>5</sup>He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.

**<sup>6</sup>He has shown his people the power of his works,  
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.**

<sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy;

**<sup>8</sup>they are established forever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

<sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant forever.  
Holy and awesome is his name!

**<sup>10</sup>The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.  
His praise endures forever!**

## Prayer

**P** Let us pray.

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** Amen.

**Song****Speak, O Lord***Getty, Townend*

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to re -  
 2. Teach us Lord full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly  
 3. Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us



ceive the food of Your ho - ly word. Take Your truth, plant it  
 rev - er - ence, true hu - mil - i - ty. Test our thoughts and our  
 grasp the heights of Your plans for us. Truths un - changed from the



deep in us; Shape and fash - ion us in Your like - ness, that the  
 at - ti - tudes in the ra - di - ance of Your pu - ri - ty. Cause our  
 dawn of time, that will e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by



light of Christ might be seen to - day in our acts of love and our  
 faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic love and au -  
 grace we'll stand on Your prom - is - es; And by faith we'll walk as You



deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful - fill in us all Your  
 thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can nev - er fail; Let their  
 walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the



pur - pos - es, for Your glo - ry.  
 truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.  
 earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

**Old Testament Reading***Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses, <sup>2</sup>"Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine."

<sup>3</sup>Then Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . ."

<sup>11</sup>“When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, <sup>12</sup>you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD’s. <sup>13</sup>Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. <sup>14</sup>And when in time to come your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ you shall say to him, ‘By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. <sup>15</sup>For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

*Colossians 3:12–17*

<sup>12</sup>Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, <sup>13</sup>bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup>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.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**



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

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." <sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup>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. <sup>27</sup>And he 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, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup>"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; <sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation <sup>31</sup>that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

<sup>33</sup>And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup>And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup>(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

<sup>36</sup>And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup>and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup>And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**



## Nicene Creed

- ☩ 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.**



**Song of the Day**

**Ancient Words**

DeShazo

Verse 1, Verse 2, Chorus, Verse 3, Chorus x2, Verse 4, Chorus x2, Ending

VERSE 1



1. Ho-ly— words long pre - served for our walk in this world;—



— They re-sound— with God's own heart, O, let the

§ VERSES 2, 3 & 4



an-cient words im - part; 2. Words of life, words of  
(3.) words of our  
(4.) blood stains each



hope, give us strength,— help\_ us cope;—  
faith hand - ed down\_\_\_\_\_ to\_ this age,—  
page, they have died\_\_\_\_\_ for\_ this faith;—



— In this world\_\_\_ wher - e'er we  
— came to us\_\_\_ through sac - ri -  
— Hear them cry\_\_\_ through the

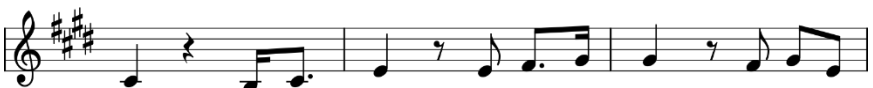


roam, an - cient words will guide us home.  
fice; O, heed the faith - ful words of Christ.  
years; Heed these words and hold them dear.

CHORUS



An-cient words, ev-er true, chang-ing me, chang-ing



you; We have come with o - pen hearts, O let the

1. an-cient words im - part. 2, 3. 3. Ho-ly\_ part. An-cient

CHORUS words, ev-er true, chang-ing me, chang-ing you; We have

2nd time to Coda  $\Phi$  come with o-pen hearts, O let the an-cient words im - part.

INSTRUMENTAL D.S. al Coda

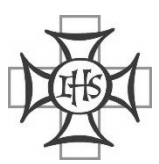
$\Phi$  Coda ENDING 4. Mar - tyr's\_ part. We have come with o-pen hearts, O let the

an - cient words im - part.

O let the an - cient words im - part.

**Sermon**

*Colossians 3:12-17*



## Prayers of the Church Family

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Response after each petition*

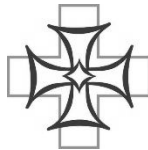
- P** Lord, in your mercy,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** All these things we pray, O Lord, in confidence of Your mercy, trusting that You will grant us all things needful and prevent all things harmful to our faith, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** **Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**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.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## Blessing

- P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**C** **Amen.**





— All the glo - ry to You, — God, —  
 D.S. al Coda %  
 The Light of the world. — Je - sus, Mes - si  
 CODA  
 Je - sus, Mes - si - ah, — Lord of all. —  
 The Lord of all! — The Lord of all. —

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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# Resources for Meditation this Week

## FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

29 December 2024

### Readings

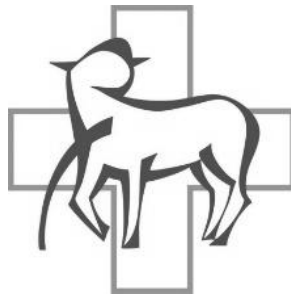
Exodus 13:1–3a, 11–15

Colossians 3:12–17

Luke 2:22–40

### ***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).



## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

5 January 2025

### Readings

1 Kings 3:4–15

Ephesians 1:3–14

Luke 2:40–52

### ***The Lord Jesus Is Found in the Temple of His Church***

The Lord Jesus *"grew and became strong"* (Luke 2:40); He *"increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man"* (Luke 2:52). As His body grew and developed, His mind also increased in knowledge and understanding. For as our brother in the flesh, that we might *"have redemption through his blood"* (Eph. 1:7), He lived by faith in the Word of His Father. Thus, He was catechized by His parents, who took Him up *"to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover"* (Luke 2:41); when He was of age, He gave attention to the Holy Scriptures in His Father's house (Luke 2:46, 49). Christ Jesus is still found in His Church, in *"the word of truth, the gospel,"* by which we are adopted by His Father and sealed with His Spirit (Eph. 1:5, 13). Thus do we gain *"an understanding mind"* to go about our vocations, discerning *"between good and evil"* (1 Kings 3:9). And so do we also go up to Jerusalem, to stand *"before the ark of the covenant of the Lord"* (1 Kings 3:15), that is, in the Holy Communion of His body and blood.

