



**WELCOME TO
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

2415 Silas Creek Parkway
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

www.stjohnswn.com

Traditional Service
The First Sunday After Christmas
(Divine Service Setting Four)
December 27, 2015 – 10:45 a.m.

***St. John's Mission: To help one more person get to Heaven
by pointing them to Jesus Christ.***

RECOGNIZE THE SAVIOR! One gift that could never come in the wrong size is Christ. He will always be exactly what we want and need: a sacrifice who takes our place on the cross and in the tomb. Simeon and Anna recognized this when they held the gift of a Savior in their arms at the temple. Through God's mercy, grace, and love, the gift of Jesus for us is one that we especially treasure this Christmas season and each day of every year.

† Prayer Before Worship †

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the blessed news that Jesus was truly born for us. Come O Holy Spirit and bless us with continued joy as we celebrate Jesus who came to be our Savior. Bless our hearing of Your Word, strengthen our faith and guide us as we prepare to enter a new year. May it be lived to Your honor and glory, O Father. In Jesus' name I come. Amen.

Prelude

Welcome

(Please Stand)

Processional Hymn #386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

Confession and Absolution

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

C: Amen.

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

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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 † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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

P: 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.

C: 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.

P: The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

C: 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.

P: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: 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.

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Hymn of Praise-Gloria in Excelsis



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

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: Amen.

(Be Seated)

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 13: 1-3a, 11-15

(Jesus, the first born, belongs to but also is the Son of God.)

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²“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.” ³Then 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. No leavened bread shall be eaten. ¹¹“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, ¹²you 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. ¹³Every 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. ¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵For 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.’”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson

Colossians 3:12-17

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

¹²Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing 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. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let 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. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please Stand)

Alleluia and Verse



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



These things are writ - ten that you 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.

Holy Gospel Lesson

Luke 2:22-40

(Simeon and Anna meet Jesus, Mary, and Joseph at the temple.)

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

C: **Glory to You, O Lord!**

²² When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now 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. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And 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,

²⁸he 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; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation ³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.” ³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And 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 ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.” ³⁶And 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, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And 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. ³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And 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.**

(Be Seated)

Children's Message — Sarah Strahm

Hymn of the Day #519 *In His Temple Now Behold Him* (Tune: LSB 924)

Sermon

“God’s Law Fulfilled”

Luke 2:22 ff.

Offering

Voluntary

(Please Stand)

Prayer of the Church

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

Almighty God, we give You praise and honor and glory and thanksgiving as we come before You today, grateful for the love and peace You have shown us and the whole world in the gift of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. As He was born into our world, we rejoice in our rebirth to life in Baptism, such that our hearts may be clothed in compassion, kindness, love, and forgiveness toward one another. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Grant Your grace and peace to Your whole Church on earth and especially to Your pastors and other servants of Your Word, that they may rightly preach Your Word and administer Your Holy Sacraments in a spirit of humility and patience to the blessing of Your people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Inspire all leaders of governments to serve in godly humility, desiring peace and mutual understanding between nations. Grant that our nation prosper in peace and safety. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Hear our prayers for all who are suffering from illness, injury, or disability, [*especially* . . .]. According to Your will, grant healing, comfort, and peace to all people in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: In this Christmas season, lift up those who feel isolated and alone and those who feel the sting of grief and sorrow. Fill them with the hope of salvation by Your continued presence. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Give those who travel in this season Your safety and protection. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Give humble repentance, faith, and joy to all who approach Your altar this day to receive the blessed body and blood of our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

(Other petitions offered here.)

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

TODAY WE WILL CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER... St. Paul wrote, "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup". Ask yourself: Am I sorry for my sins? Do I believe that Jesus died for my sins? Am I resolved, by the work of the Holy Spirit, to use the power of Christ which is offered in this Sacrament, to amend my sinful life? St. Paul also wrote, "He who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly". Do you believe that you receive the TRUE/REAL BODY AND BLOOD of Christ in, under and with the bread and wine for the full pardon of sins? This is judging it rightly. This is what scripture teaches. (Please use pages 329-330 in the front of your hymn book to examine yourself.)

† Service of the Sacrament †

Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

Proper Preface

Sanctus



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



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Agnus Dei



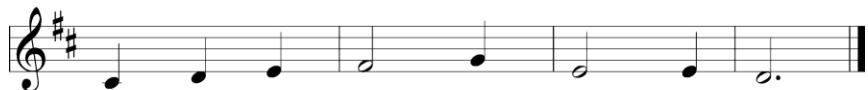
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be Seated)

**Distribution Hymns: #375 Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising
 #379 O Come, All Ye Faithful
 #383 A Great and Mighty Wonder**

(Please Stand)

Post-Communion Canticle – Nunc Dimittis



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post- Communion Prayer

Benedicamus and Benediction

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

Recessional Hymn #332 *Savior of the Nations, Come* (vs.1, 6-8)

Dismissal

P: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Did you pick up the Separate Announcement sheet "Weekly News " in the church entry?



St. John's LUTHERAN

Church & School

Our Sunday Worship - Morning services are at
8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sunday School and
Adult Bible Class both begin at 9:45 a.m.

A Great Place to Grow in Christ

*As a part of our outreach ministry, we have a
Preschool/Pre-K program and Kindergarten through 8th grade.
All programs/grades have full-time care available.*

**Rev. Roger P. Schoolcraft,
Intentional Interim Pastor**

725-1651 x406 (office)

336-655-5710 (cell)

pastor@stjohnsww.org

Mark Edmiston, Principal

Tom Baldwin, Director of Admissions and Community Relations

Michael Zeoli, Director of Music for Contemporary Worship

Frances Burmeister, Director of Music for Traditional Worship

Ushers: Bob Hoisington, Holly Richardson, Butch Roberts & John Williams

Worship Assistants Dave Lundmark & Mark Meier