



Reach out to all

Embrace His Gifts

Announce His coming

Commit to Christian Living

Honor His Word

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Ron Moritz, Deacon Ed Smallcombe

Sunday, December 29, 2024

Opening Hymn- "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

THE INVOCATION

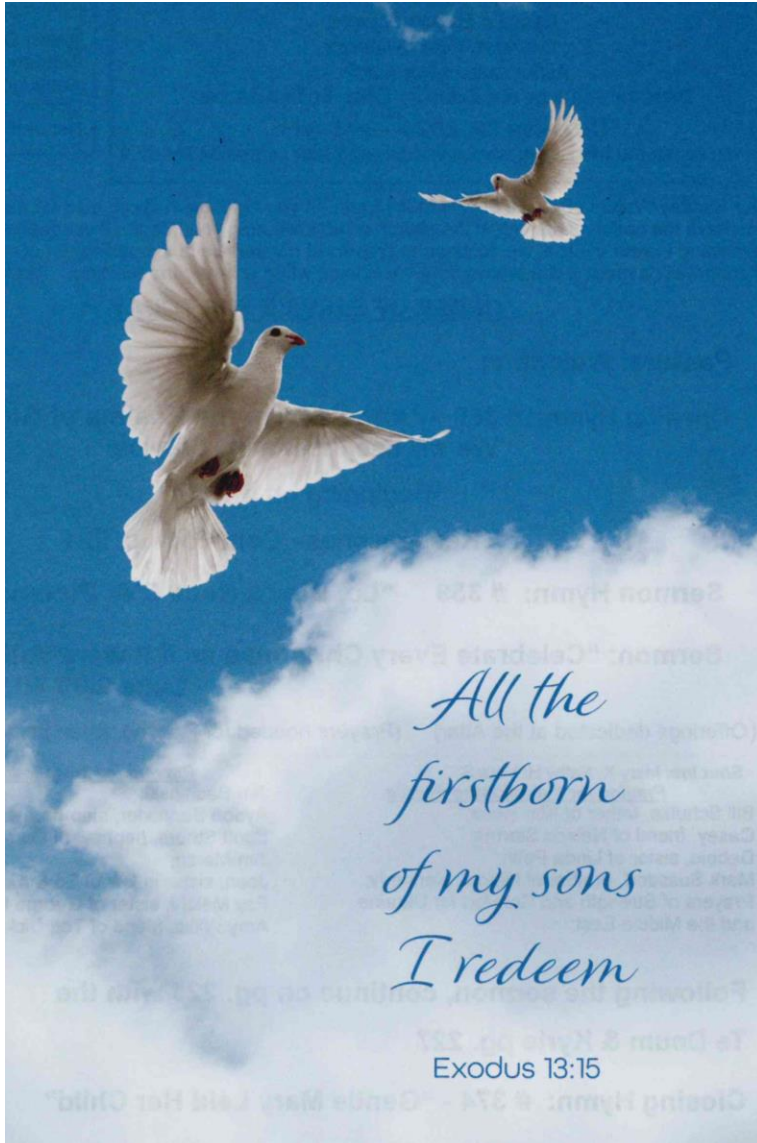
P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P: Let us then confess our sins to God the Father.

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.



4th Sunday in Advent

O.T. – Exodus 13:1-3, 11-15: The Lord said to Moses, ²“Consecrate to me every firstborn male. The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to me, whether human or animal.” ³Then Moses said to the people, “Commemorate this day, the day you came out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery, because the Lord brought you out of it with a mighty hand. ¹¹“After the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites and gives it to you, as he promised on oath to you and your ancestors, ¹²you are to give over to the Lord the first offspring of every womb. All the firstborn males of your livestock belong to the Lord. ¹³Redeem with a lamb every firstborn donkey, but if you do not redeem it, break its neck. Redeem every firstborn among your sons.

¹⁴“In days to come, when your son asks you, ‘What does this mean?’ say to him, ‘With a mighty hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ¹⁵When Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the Lord killed the firstborn of both people and animals in Egypt. This is why I sacrifice to the Lord the first male offspring of every womb and redeem each of my firstborn sons.’

Epistle: – Colossians 3:12-17 ¹²Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. ¹³Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

¹⁵Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. ¹⁷And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it

all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Gospel- Luke 2:22-40: ²²When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰For my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.”

³³The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.” ³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. ³⁸She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

39 When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. 40 And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn: "Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming"

Sermon: Celebrate Every Christmas as if it were Your Last. Luke 2:38-40



Pray for our country, for our military, for our healthcare workers & first responders, for those that are sick, for those in need, for those who have lost loved ones, for our home-bound, for wisdom for our leaders, and for all of your concerns. Prayers of Strength and Comfort for the Ukrainian People and wisdom for all NATO Members. Pray for all your concerns.

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn: "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"

SERMON REVIEW FOR December 29, 2024 Celebrate Every Christmas as if it were Your Last. Luke 2:38-40

Introduction: Two unusual people within the Christmas Gospel.

An old P_____ named Simeon and

A prophetess named A_____

Both were present when the 8 day old Jesus was taken to the T_____ Both were part of "The Q_____ in the Land" who waited patiently for God's Messiah. For them the birth of their Messiah was a "one time E_____"

I. Anna demonstrated three spiritual traits:

A. Endured sorrow without growing B_____

B. At Age 84 she never lost H_____

C. She was Faithful on W_____.

II. From Anna we learn:

A. To Savor the M_____

B. To keep the F_____

C. True C_____ consists of worship and praise.

Illustration: speak the name of Jesus over and over.



Today, Adult Bible Class meets today after the Service

JR. BIBLE Class meets today & Jan 12th & 26th

Ladies Aide: Next meeting will be on January 14th at 10 am

During our Voter's meeting October 27th, it was decided to collect money to be sent to the Nazareth Lutheran Church in Baltimore MD. This is the former church of Jean Schulze, a member of our church. They are having some hard times financially as they try to keep the Spanish Ministry going. If anyone is interested in making a donation please mark it on your envelope "Nazareth Lutheran Church". We will be collecting donations now until December 31st.



. On Sunday's where there is severe weather, Church may be cancelled. Notice of a cancellation will be on WWMT-TV-Channel 3. Also, to those who we have an email for an email will be sent.



Through the winter months the ground level door will be open on Sunday mornings for those who wish to avoid climbing the hill

**St. Peter's Annual Mission of the Month for
December
COMMISSION ON AGING**



The St. Joseph County COA serves as the focal point for services and activities for older adults. Some services provided are home care assistance, transportation to medical appointments, respite care, home repair, arts & crafts, meals at home and many more.

De-Decorating the Church

On January 12th after church service, we will be taking down the Christmas decorations. There will be no Adult Bible Class that week.

