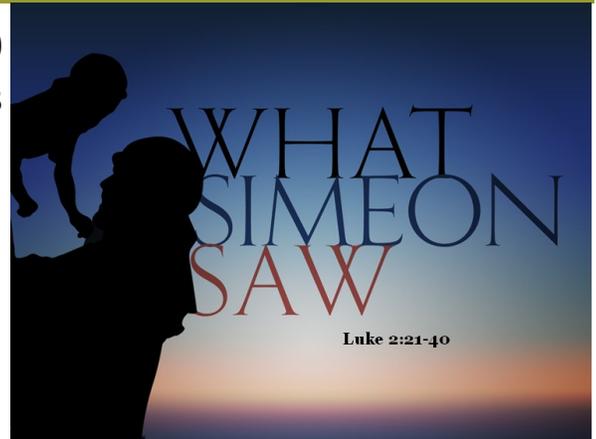




Sunday, December 27, 2020  
First Sunday of Christmas



## Welcome & Announcements

## Confession & Forgiveness

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## Opening Hymn: Let All Together Praise Our God

Let all together praise our God before the highest throne;  
today God opens heav'n again and sends the only Son, and sends the only Son.

From God's right hand the Son descends, is born an infant small,  
and lies in poverty, his bed a manger in a stall, a manger in a stall.

O tender Child, you veil in flesh the splendor of your might;  
a servant's garb now wraps the one who clothes the sky with light, who clothed the sky with light.

Your mother feeds you tenderly, sings you a lullaby,  
while angels, hailing David's heir, your glory magnify, your glory magnify.

## Greeting & Prayer

### Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Almighty God, **you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## Special Music: Michelle Lynch

### Scripture Readings

#### First Reading: Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

L: Word of God; word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 148

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;

praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels;

praise him, all his host!

Praise him, sun and moon;

praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens,

and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the LORD,

for he commanded and they were created.

He established them forever and ever;

he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise the LORD from the earth,

you sea monsters and all deeps,

fire and hail, snow and frost,

stormy wind fulfilling his command!

Mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle,

creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples,

princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and women alike,

old and young together!

Let them praise the name of the LORD,

for his name alone is exalted;

his glory is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up a horn for his people,

praise for all his faithful,

for the people of Israel who are close to him.

Praise the LORD!

L: Word of God; word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

#### Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

L: Word of God; word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel: Luke 2:21-40

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

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 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty- four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The gospel of the Lord.

### Praise to you, O Christ.

**Message:** Pastor Dwight Rudquist

### Sermon Notes:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Hymn of the Day: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (vs 1,2,4)

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright,  
amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in mind;  
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half-spent was the night.

O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe;  
O Savior, king of glory, who dost our weakness know:  
bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven and into endless day.

## Prayers

P: Hear us, O God, C: **Your mercy is great.**

## The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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

Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day through the Word made flesh. **Amen.**

Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God!**

## Closing Hymn: Go Tell It on the Mountain

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
go tell is on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
go tell is on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
go tell is on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;  
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
go tell is on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!



**PRAYERCARE** The family of Duane Rudquist, Caroline Greene, Nia Glynn, the family of Doris Fors, Ann Rue, Helen Swanson, the Hackmann Family, the family of Joe Mallery, Dan Petersen, Julie Valez, the family of Margaret Dale, Marcielle Rogers, Cleo Stomberg, the family of Brian Maloney, Leo Nelson, Caren Carlson, Rose Anderson, Gail Johnson & the rest of David Clow's family, Yutaro Nakanishi, the family of Annie Lindgren, Cheryl Slattengren, the family of John Solheim, Deb & Jerry Rhoads and the family of Marilyn Burnes, Don Grover, Donna Lindgren, Vicki Ford, Dave Danberg, Geri Swenson and the family of Andy Swenson.

**Need Pastoral Care?**

Call Pastor Dwight 651-829-4884

**Have questions or in need of something?**

Church Office: 651-465-5265

Office Hours:

Monday 12:00pm - 5:00pm

Tuesday 8:30am - 12:30pm

Thursday 8:30am - 11:30am

Email: [parishc@tflutheran.org](mailto:parishc@tflutheran.org)  
(this email is checked daily)

**COUNCIL** MEMBERS

Wendy Szczepanski

Miriam Flysjo

Rose Anderson

Craig Loen

Becky Hulden

**Video Credits**

Pastor Dwight Rudquist

Toni Brekke: Organ

Becky Hulden: Vocals

Natalie Landgreen: Vocals

Michelle Lynch: Special Music

Becky Hulden: Lector

Carli Linngren: Photography

Angie Linngren: Photography, Filming & Editing