



*All the  
firstborn  
of my sons  
I redeem*

Exodus 13:15

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“Bringing Christ to the Tri-County Area”

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**December 29, 2024**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas**

**Worship Service at 10:30 am**

**Divine Service Setting Three (Page 184)**

Prelude

Announcements

Opening Hymn: Angels from the Realms of Glory #367

Sermon Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High #368

**Theme**

**“Anna and Simeon”**

- 1. Rituals That Bind Us Together .**
- 2. Habits That Bear Fruit in Due Season.**

Closing Hymn: Away in a Manger # 365

**Thank You** to Cecil Robinson for 20 + years of serving as Communion Assistant, Elder, and Church Council member. We appreciate you !

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**this day, the 1st Sunday after Christmas.**

**Prepare** for Worship. Enter reverently, pray thoughtfully, enjoy the time prior to worship in spiritual meditation.

**The Nursery/Lounge** is located just past the Ladies room, off the Narthex. Please be assured that children of all ages are encouraged to participate in the worship service.

**Fellowship Register:** We ask (members, friends, and visitors) to fill out The Fellowship Book which is located at the end of each pew. Please include your name, address and telephone number.



## 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.’”

## 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.

## Holy Gospel: Luke 2:22–40

<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.



**About the Cover:** The Lord commanded that two turtledoves or pigeons were needed to redeem the firstborn son. Moses instructed fathers to tell their children that this was a reminder of the Lord’s redemption of His people from the hand of Pharaoh. When the Father sent the Son, Christ Himself did the work of redemption as He stood in our place. Christ has bought us back from our outstanding debt of sin, not with silver or gold, but with His holy and precious blood.