

# FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

*“Prepared for Heaven!”*

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH, TEMPE

December 26, 2021

10:00 a.m.



*Are you prepared for heaven? Admittedly...*

## AS WE GATHER

Are you prepared for heaven? Admittedly, this is an odd question when we are celebrating Jesus' birth. Yet, Jesus was born to die to save His people from their sins. As Simeon held the Christ Child, he couldn't help but say, "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word," while also telling Mary, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed." That opposition eventually brought about His death on a cross. Yet, Jesus was born to die and rise to life again so that all who believe in Him might live! That is the best Christmas gift ever.

## **PRELUDE**

"The First Noel" -Arr. Dan Forrest

## **PASTORAL WELCOME**

## **OPENING PRAYER**

Pastor: Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, Simeon once took your son Jesus, into his arms, mirroring how the priests of the Old Covenant accepted the gifts offered by the faithful for use in the temple sacrifices. Anna also praised you as she spoke about the role your son would play in the redemption of us all. Help us to be like Simeon and Anna. By your spirit, make us people of intense and ongoing prayer, who wait upon you but also are ready to serve and proclaim you as your hands and feet to the world. Like Simeon, help us to see in Jesus a great light and help us to boldly proclaim the salvation that has come through him.

## **OPENING HYMN** "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"

**LBB #915, St. 1, 3, 8, 13 & 15**

- 1 "From heav'n above to earth I come To bear good news to ev'ry home; Glad tidings of great joy I bring, Whereof I now will say and sing:**
- 3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your sad and bitter cry; He will Himself your Savior be From all your sins to set you free.**
- 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, Through whom the sinful world is blest! You came to share my misery That You might share Your joy with me.**
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled, A quiet chamber set apart For You to dwell within my heart.**

**15 Glory to God in highest heav'n, Who unto us His Son has  
giv'n! While angels sing with pious mirth A glad new year to  
all the earth.**

*Stand*

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**Page 151**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**C** **Amen.**

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our 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.****

**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.**

*Be seated*

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

**INTROIT** (*Read responsively*)

*Ps. 98:1– 4; antiphon: Is. 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!**

**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.**

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** (*Chanted*)

**Page 152**

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the

Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

## **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

**Page 154**

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**C Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father: We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.**

**For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Stand*

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

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.**

*Sit*

## **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 READING**

*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.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC** “The Friendly Beasts” Traditional Children’s Song

*Stand*

**ALLELUIA AND VERSE** *& sing*)

**C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*Luke 2:22–40*

**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.

## **APOSTLE’S CREED**

**All: 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. (Sit)**

*Be seated*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” LSB #393**

- 1 Infant holy, Infant lowly, For His bed a cattle stall; Oxen lowing, Little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all. Swiftly winging, Angels singing, Bells are ringing, Tidings bringing: Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!**
- 2 Flocks were sleeping, Shepherds keeping Vigil till the morning new Saw the glory, Heard the story, Tidings of a Gospel true. Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow, Praises voicing, Greet the morrow: Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!**

**SERMON**

**Salvation in His arms.**

*Luke 2:22-40*

**ORGAN VOLUNTARY**

**“Some Children See Him” -Alfred Burt**

*(Stand)*

**OFFERTORY (Sing)**

**Page 159**

- C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call**

on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** (*Congregation response to petitions:  
Hear our prayer.*)

**LORD'S PRAYER** (*Spoken*)

**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.

**BENEDICTION**

**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.**

*Be seated*

**CLOSING HYMN**

“Let All Together Praise Our God” LSB #389 St. 1-2, 4 & 7

- 1** Let all together praise our God Before His glorious throne;  
Today He opens heav'n again To give us His own Son,  
To give us His own Son.
- 2** He leaves His heav'nly Father's throne, Is born an infant small,  
And in a manger, poor and lone, Lies in a humble stall,  
Lies in a humble stall.
- 4** He undertakes a great exchange, Puts on our human frame,  
And in return gives us His realm, His glory, and His name,  
His glory, and His name.

**7 Your grace in lowliness revealed, Lord Jesus, we adore  
And praise to God the Father yield And Spirit evermore;  
We praise You evermore.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Sunday Bible Study: Sundays from 8:30-9:30am in fellowship hall.**

**Gloria Worship Team meeting will meet on Monday Jan 10th at 10:00 a.m. to plan for the spring, including Holy Week services. If you have any hymn suggestions and cannot attend the meeting, please let either Ellen or Pastor Tim know.**

**Midweek Bible Study: "Psalms & Sandwiches" This group will meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the Month at 12:30 for Lunch with Pastor and to go through the book of Psalms. We will be meeting again until January 12, 2022, at Yvonne's Cafe.**

## **POSTLUDE**

**"Angels We Have Heard on High" -French Carol/Arr. Fred Bock**

### **BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m-12:30 p.m.**

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**Email for BSLC: [office@beautifulsaviortempe.org](mailto:office@beautifulsaviortempe.org)**

## **SERVING US AT WORSHIP TODAY:**

**Officiant Preacher:**

**Rev. Tim Anderson**

**Organist/Director:**

**Ellen Brown**

**Song Leader:**

**Doug & Debby Bergman**

**Lector:**

**Don Schumm**

**Special Music:**

**The Beautiful Savior Singers**

**Greeters:**

Kathy Held

**Acolyte:**

Joe Carlin

Visitors, please sign (with a complete address) our **Guest Book** on the podium in the entryway before you leave and/or complete a **grey/cream “Worship Information” card** found in the pew in front of you. Members are also encouraged to complete a “Worship Information” card (you can update address and phone number, request a pastoral visit)

**Pastor Tim Anderson** is available to you for pastoral and spiritual needs (prayer support, hospital calls, counseling, private communion, etc). He can be reached at the office Monday & Wednesday, 9 AM – 2 PM. Cell phone #480596-2256.

**WE CAN ASSIST THOSE UNABLE TO HEAR WELL...We have 3 cordless headsets available to use in the pews. Just let an usher know and they will be happy to bring you one.**

**Attendance for 12-19-21 week Bible Study—8; Worship Service—34; 12--20 Midweek Advent 3 Worship—28 total.**

**Income report for 12-19-21: Loose Plate \$40; Weekly Envelopes \$2787; Designated Gifts \$10,138; Other \$525; Total \$13,490. Midweek 3: : Loose Plate \$30; Weekly Envelopes \$315; Designated Gifts \$160; Other \$560; Total \$1065.**

## **THIS WEEK AT BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR**

### **December 26, Sunday**

8:30 AM Adult Bible Study

9:30 AM Music Rehearsal

**10 AM The First Sunday after Christmas Worship**

*(Also, being streamed on Facebook online)*

### **December 27-31, Mon.-Fri.**

**Church office will be closed. In case of emergency, Pastor, the Elders and Cyndi Calender, are available by phone.**

**January 2, Sunday**

**10 AM The Second Sunday After Christmas w/Holy Communion**

**Prayer list:** For continued recovery for **Pastor Tim & Annie, Kathryn Odle**. Also, for **Jim Schutkowski, Dorothy McShee** at home, **Cyndi Calendar, Bev Dase, Maebell Beard, Glenn Brown, & Lisa Miguel**. For **Doris Reith & Len Lacy** in memory care facilities. For strength, comfort & healing for those who have cancer **Alice, Tim Jackson, Gerri Koski & Amina Kruck** .

**Lutheran Hour Broadcast - KFNX RADIO (1100) @ 10 AM:**

January 2 "**Gospel Power for Personal Patience**" Lutheran Hour  
Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz. No one likes to wait! Hear God's promises for impatient people. (Luke 2:40-52)

**FOR AT HOME WORSHIPERS WHO STILL VIEW SERVICES ONLINE INSTRUCTIONS ARE BELOW:**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE YOU CAN GO ONLINE & VIEW AT**

- 1) Open a webpage browser (internet explorer, chrome, Firefox, etc.)**
- 2) Type or paste the following link into your address bar:  
[www.facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorLutheranChurchTempe/](http://www.facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorLutheranChurchTempe/)**
- 3) Option 1 - Scroll until you find a post that shows a “Live” feed titled for the Sunday service, or**
- 4) Option 2 - Click on the “Videos” button on the left-hand sidebar (ignore anything asking you to sign up or sign in to Facebook)**
- 5) Look for the video titled for the date of the Sunday service. Video stream will be live starting at or around 10am. If it does not show up, try refreshing the page. The video of the service will remain on the page if you would like to view it at a later time, or to replay it again at your discretion.**

