

December 27, 2015

First Sunday of Christmas

**FIRST READING. 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26**

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord"; and then they would return to their home. Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and with the people.

**SECOND READING. Colossians 3:12-16a**

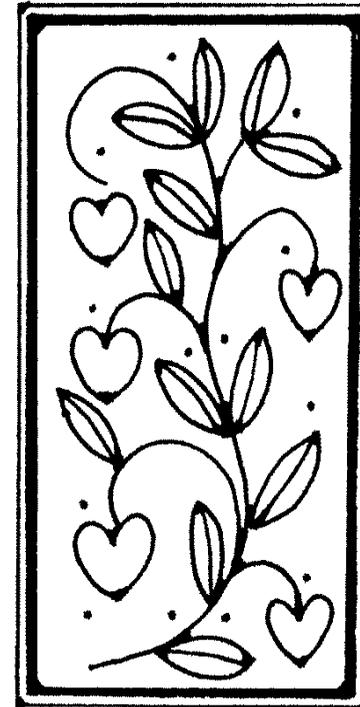
As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

**GOSPEL. Luke 2:41-52**

Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

# First Sunday of Christmas

LOVE  
COMES



FROM  
G·O·D

# December 27, 2015

**First Sunday of Christmas**  
December 27, 2015  
10:00 a.m.

First Lutheran Church  
Fergus Falls, Minnesota  
(218) 739-3348

Online  
Giving  
(QR Code)



[www.firstlutheranchurch.org](http://www.firstlutheranchurch.org) [firstlc@live.com](mailto:firstlc@live.com)

In Colossians, God declares the amazing truth that you and I are “God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved.” And he urges us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. And, above all, we are to clothe ourselves in love. How can we do this?

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

\* **Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness** ELW Page 94

\* **Opening Hymn** *Angels, From the Realms of Glory* **ELW 275**

\* **Apostolic Greeting** ELW Page 147

\* **Kyrie** ELW Page 147

\* **The Hymn of Praise** *Glory to God* ELW Page 148

\* **Prayer of the Day**

P Let us pray. . . .

C Amen

**First Lesson** 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

*Having dedicated her son Samuel to God’s service, Hannah visits him every year when she and her husband, Elkanah, come to the Lord’s house to offer sacrifices. God grants Hannah more children, and Samuel himself gains favor in the sight of all.*

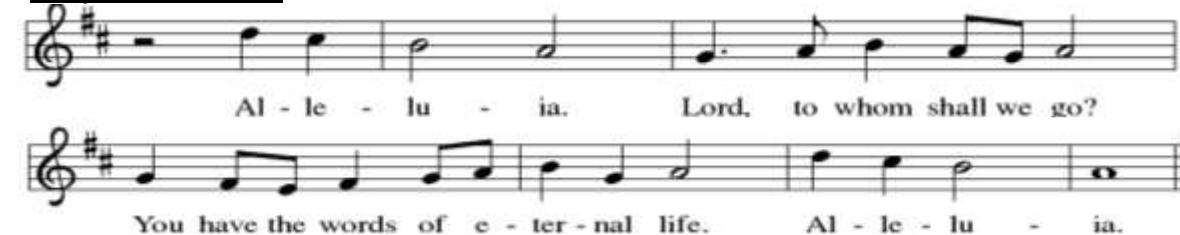
(Congregational response after reading: **Thanks be to God**)

**Second Lesson** Colossians 3:12-16a

*Just as newly baptized Christians in the early church were clothed with white robes upon arising from the baptismal waters, so all who have received God’s gift of life in Jesus Christ are covered with the character of Christ.*

(Congregational response after reading: **Thanks be to God**)

\* **Gospel Acclamation**



(Congregation responds after Gospel is announced: **Glory to you, O Lord.**)

**Radio Broadcast & Altar Flowers** are given by Jack & Sandy Pearson in celebration of Kari & Adam Vaughn’s wedding anniversary on December 22<sup>nd</sup> and their wedding anniversary on December 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Roses on the Altar** is in celebration of the baptism of twins Gwendalyn Maria and Henrik Arthur, children of Ross & Carrie Anderson. Sponsors are Shannon Anderson, Maria Levin, Nathan Clifford, Erik & Lindsay Brise. Guardian Angel is Madison Muchow.

**Large Print Edition** of the order of worship, the lessons, and the hymns for today are available. If you would like copies for worship, please ask an usher.

**2015 Donations:** In order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2015, checks must be mailed to the church by no later than December 31. Checks must be written, postmarked, and mailed in 2015 to qualify for a 2015 deduction. All other contributions will not qualify for this year, even if the check was actually written in 2015. Please keep this in mind when making your year-end donations.

**2016 Offering Envelopes** are ready to be picked up from the info counter. They are in alphabetical order. If you don’t see your envelopes, stop in the church office and see Katrina.

**This Week at First Lutheran:**

- Today: **10 am ONLY Worship**
- Monday: 9-3 pm WELCA Love Days  
5 pm AI-Anon  
5 pm Boy Scouts
- Tuesday: 9 am Staff Meeting
- Wed.: **No Youth Activities or Confirmation**  
9:30 am AI-Anon  
10 am AA
- Thursday: 8:45 am Morning Watch – Pastor Saul  
**No Senior Coffee and Bible Study (resumes on Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>)**
- Friday: **Church Office closed**

**Next Sunday, January 3**

**10:00 am ONLY Worship/H. Communion**  
**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL – RESUMES ON JANUARY 10**

\* Gospel Luke 2:41-52  
(Congregation responds after Gospel is read: **Praise to you, O Christ**)

Sermon *Clothed in Love* Pastor Saul

Hymn of the Day *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love* ELW 708

Sacrament of Holy Baptism ELW Page 227

\* The PEACE is shared

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Offering

\* Offertory

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -  
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way with your pres- ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re- store to me the  
joy of your sal- va - tion, and up- hold me with your free Spir - it.

\* The Prayers

P ...Lord, in your mercy,

OR

P ... Let us pray to the Lord,

C hear our prayer.

C Lord, have mercy.

\* THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 today 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

\* Three-Fold Amen

\* Sending (Congregational response: "Thanks be to God")

\* Closing Hymn

*Good Christian Friends*

ELW 288

\* Postlude

---

Senior Pastor:	Saul Stensvaag
Associate Pastor:	Jennifer Rose
Visitation Pastor:	Stan Satre
Sunday School Superintendent:	Cindy Larson
Council President:	Lisa Wolfe
Organist:	Keith Melberg
Ushers:	Erin, Presley & Zoey Warren and Jessica, Ella & Anna Sem
Sacristan:	Mark & Susan Hermes
Greeters:	John & Judy Mouritsen
Lector:	Dolores Simdorn
Acolyte:	Ethan Menge
PA Operator:	Margaret Ness-Ludwig