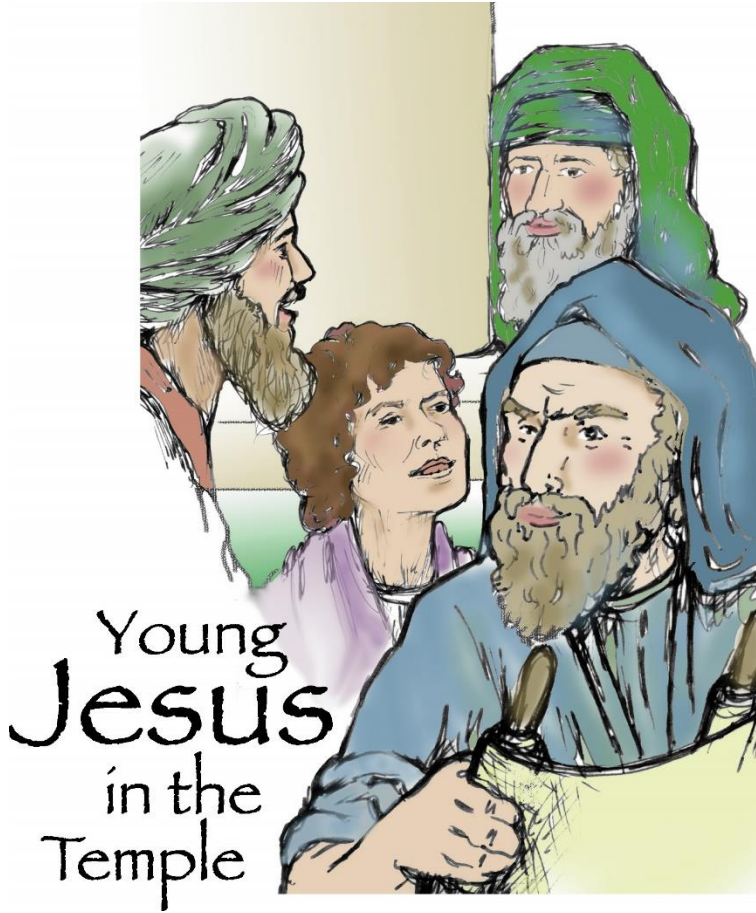


**First Sunday after Christmas**  
**December 29, 2024**



*"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"*

444 Abbot Road | East Lansing, MI 48823 | (517) 332-0778  
[www.martinlutherchapel.org](http://www.martinlutherchapel.org)

*During Christmastide, our attention is drawn to the holy family: Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. We, too, are God's children and part of a holy family, set apart through the baptismal waters in which we have been washed. As we end one year and begin another, we ask how God's likeness in Christ may become more visible in us, God's new offspring.*

## **WELCOME**

## **HYMN SING**

Today, instead of a printed order of worship, we will have a 'Hymn Sing.' Through the course of the service, we will sing selected verses of as many hymns as we can, while also taking time for prayer, scripture lessons, a sermon and communion. Anyone in the congregation may choose any song or hymn from any of the hymnals available at each chair. Please indicate your selection on one of the scraps of paper included in this bulletin; include the number and the hymnal and the title of the hymn. Place your selection in the basket near the baptismal font, and we will draw at random from these suggestions throughout the service.

## **FIRST LESSON** 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

*Like Mary and Joseph in the gospel text, Hannah and Elkanah were faithful parents. At the time of their annual pilgrimage to visit their son, the high priest blesses them with a prayer for more children in return for the dedication of Samuel.*

Ⓜ 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 LESSON** Colossians 3:12-17

*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 clothed with those qualities that reflect the Lord's presence.*

Ⓜ 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; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom;

and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. 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** The Gospel comes from Luke, chapter 2, beginning at verse 41.

**MESSAGE**      **“In My Father’s House”**

### **APOSTLES’ CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator 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 again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **LORD’S PRAYER**

*Recognizing that the church, and this congregation, are comprised of people from many cultures, languages, and backgrounds, please speak this prayer in the language or version closest to your heart.*

**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.**

**THE DISTRIBUTION** *You are invited to approach the altar to receive communion elements along with an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Gluten-free available.*

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Our Confession about Communion

1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.
2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible, and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."
3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

- a. have been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord, and concur in our confession;
- b. are not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.

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