



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

3600 25th St, Columbus, IN 47203

Phone: (812) 372-1256 Web site: www.flccolumbus.org

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday

Facebook: First Lutheran Church (Columbus, IN)

CASUAL WORSHIP

December 26, 2021 - 11:15 a.m.

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S HOUSE!

We are so glad to have you with us this morning! There is an extended time of praise and worship at the beginning of the service, and we want you to worship your Lord as you feel comfortable. All forms of worship are acceptable, such as singing, clapping, standing, sitting, kneeling, and dancing. Please worship your God in a way that draws you closer to Him!

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER:

Almighty God, Jesus' vocation came from beyond nation, clan, and tribe. Help us to see that our true calling is the same. Let us grow into our true identity. Through The Holy Spirit we pray. Amen.

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

¹⁸Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹His 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. ²⁰Then 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.

²⁶Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

WORSHIP & PRAISE

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12-17

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear 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. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let 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. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

WORSHIP & PRAISE

TIME OF OPEN PRAYER

GOSPEL READING: Luke 2:41-52

⁴¹Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming 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. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When 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." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

SERMON: "Whose Child is This?"**Pastor Larry Isbell****BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

You may either stand or kneel.

P: Holy and loving God,
Here, in public worship, we confess
Our sins We fall short of your
Intentions for us.

**C: We find it hard to believe your good news
Is for us. We fail to care for all the gifts
You give us--our time, our talent, and
Our possessions. We fall short of your
Intentions for us.**

P: We fail to truly see our neighbors.
We look past the stranger.

**C: We find it convenient to be self-righteous
When it comes to politics and ethics.**

P: Forgive us Lord God! Help us to do
Better—to be better. We ask through
Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, the
One who emptied himself just to be
With us and save us.

C: Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:

P: Paul teaches us in Romans chapter 5: If in Adam and Eve all have died—so now--in Jesus Christ--all are made alive. Let us rejoice in the lifegiving power of God's unconditional love. Our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake.

C: Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

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**

THE BLESSING OF THE OFFERING**COMMUNION LITURGY**

P. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

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 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.**

HOLY COMMUNION:

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We trust and teach the "real presence" of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine.

As you approach the altar rail, please keep a good space between yourself and others. The floor is marked where you may stand or kneel.



BENEDICTION

P: Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING WORSHIP & PRAISE**SERVING FIRST TODAY**

Pastor: Pastor Larry Isbell

Greeters/Usher: John & Mary Ellen Wyman, & Dave Stocks

WOUNDED HEALER PRAISE BAND

Erika East, Annette Hull, Jennifer & Mike Langevin, Matt Pillar

Today's altar flowers are given by Ann & Bill Haas in honor of the birth of our Lord and Savior.