

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

The Rev. Dr. Ronald A. Bogs, Pastor

The Rev. Arturo G. Mendez, Associate Pastor

21434 E. Hardy Rd., Houston, TX 77073
www.stmatthewlcms.com

281-443-2304 or 281-443-8463
office@stmatthewlcms.com

Pastor Bogs' Contact Info:

Cell Phone: 832-515-4830

pastorbogs@stmatthewlcms.com

Pastor Mendez's Contact Info:

Cell Phone: 832-883-1705

pastormendez@stmatthewlcms.com

The First Sunday after Christmas

December 26, 2021

Color of the Day: White-the festival color of the Church. It is reserved for celebrations that reflect themes of purity, light, innocence, holiness, and redemption, including special events in Jesus' life as His Birth, Baptism, Transfiguration, and Resurrection.



Opening Hymn #367 - Angels from the Realms of Glory

Confession and Absolution Page 184

☩ ☩ ☩ Service of the Word ☩ ☩ ☩

Introit Page 186

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 salva- | tion for him.

The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;*

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 be- | ginning,*

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 Page 186

Hymn of Praise (Gloria in Excelsis) Page 187

Salutation & Collect of the Day Page 189

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.

Old Testament Reading Page 190

Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²“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.” ³Then 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. No leavened bread shall be eaten. ⁴“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, ¹²you 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. ¹³Every 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. ¹⁴And 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. ¹⁵For 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.’”

Gradual Page 190

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

To us a child is born, to us a son is | given,*
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder.

And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God,*
Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

Sing to the Lord a | new song,*
for he has done | marvelous things!

Epistle Reading Page 190

Colossians 3:12-17

¹²Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing 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. ¹⁴And above all these put on 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 one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let 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. 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.

Alleluia & Verse Page 190

Holy Gospel Page 190

Luke 2:22-40

²² When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” ²⁵Now 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.²⁶ 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.²⁷ 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,²⁸ he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,²⁹ "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."³³ And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him.³⁴ 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 opposed³⁵ (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."³⁶ 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,³⁷ 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.³⁸ 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.³⁹ And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Creed Page 191/192

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day #389 – *Let All Together Praise Our God*

The Sermon *Jesus Is the Christ - Luke 2:22-40*

Want to read along, miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine? Check out Pastor Bogs' blog at: rabswritings.blogspot.com or Pastor Mendez's blog at: pastormendez.blogspot.com.

Introduction

This morning we travel with Mary and Joseph _____ .

Simeon

Simeon was _____ .

As Mary and Joseph enter _____ .

Luke tells us _____ .

Simeon does not stop _____ .

Probably the hardest words _____ .

Anna

Luke, the faithful doctor _____ .

She came to _____ .

A Nazarene

Finally, our text tells us _____ .

We are told by Luke _____ .

This morning _____ .

Our Assurance

Luke's words assure us _____ .

Luke's words assure us _____ .

Which means _____ .

This morning _____ .

So What?

We say, to God _____ .

Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:

Offertory Page 192

Offering & Prayer of the Church Page 193

Our First Fruits and Tithes are our regular, top priority, proportionate, grateful gifts to the Lord for the work of the Gospel. Our Offerings are special gifts for special causes over and above our tithes. This is an act of worship for members and friends of St. Matthew who are moved by God's love to respond to the Gospel. Guests should not feel obligated to participate.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘ **Service of the Sacrament** ⌘ ⌘ ⌘

Preface Page 194

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus Page 195

Lord's Prayer Page 196

The Words of Our Lord & Pax Domini Page 197

Agnus Dei Page 198

Distribution Page 199

Before partaking of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you read our communion statement on the pew insert behind the Bible. Thank you.

Distribution Hymns #379 – *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

#374 – *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

#519 - *In His Temple Now Behold Him*

Nunc Dimittis Page 199

Thanksgiving Page 200

Salutation & Benedicamus Page 201

Benediction Page 202

Closing Hymn #897 - *O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly*