

## (Historic) Scripture Lessons for the First Sunday after Christmas

### Old Testament

**Isaiah 11:1-5 NIV** A Shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. 2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him – the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD – 3 and He will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what He sees with His eyes, or decide by what He hears with His ears; 4 but with Righteousness He will judge the needy, with justice He will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth; with the breath of His lips He will slay the wicked. 5 Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.

### Epistle

**Galatians 4:1-7** What I am saying is that as long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate. 2 He is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by his father. 3 So also, when we were children, we were in slavery under the basic principles of the world. 4 But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, 5 to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. 6 Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, the Spirit Who calls out, "Abba, Father." 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

### Historic Gospel

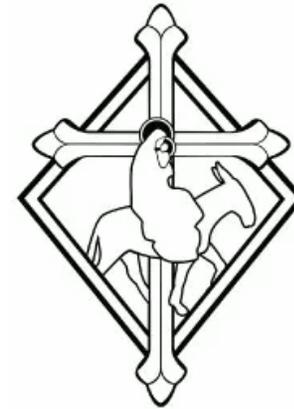
**Luke 2:33-40** 33 The Child's father and mother marveled at what was said about Him. 34 Then Simeon ... 7

blessed them and said to Mary, His mother: ... 39 When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the LORD, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. 40 And the Child grew and became strong; He was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon Him.

### 3-Year-C Gospel (Sermon Text)

**Luke 2:41-52** Every year His parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. 42 When He was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. 43 After the Feast was over, while His parents were returning home, the Boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. 44 Thinking He was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. 45 When they did not find Him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for Him. 46 After three days they found Him in the Temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 Everyone who heard Him was amazed at His understanding and His answers. 48 When His parents saw Him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have You treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for You." 49 "Why were you searching for Me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's House?" 50 But they did not understand what He was saying to them. 51 Then He went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But His mother treasured all these things in her heart. 52 And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL  ELS  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas ✦ *Presentation of Christ*



# OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

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Phone: (863) 859-3400 ~ Web: [www.OSLLakeland.org](http://www.OSLLakeland.org)

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

✱ Rev. Andrew R. Burmeister 863-430-5859 ✱ Organ: A.R. Burmeister

## December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Christmas-1 ✱ Jesus Grows ✱

**WELCOME to Our Savior!** We are so happy to have you worship with us today. If you are visiting us for the first time (or in a long time), we ask that that you please fill out a visitor card found in the pew cardholder and place it in the offering plate. Come and worship with us again! **The LORD bless you.**

**OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP** On gold liturgy sheets or in red TLH Hymnal p.5

Suggested Hymn	TLH# (vv)	...First Line
Opening Hymn	CW 54 (4v)	(NOT in..) Where Shepherds Lately Knelt
Psalm 98	Ps. 98 '4v'	All the Ends of the Earth Have Seen ... 7
Hymn of the Day	647 (4v)	O Little Town of Bethlehem
Offertory Verses	79 (1v)	Sing 1v Rejoice, Rejoice, This Happy Morn
Third Hymn	106 (7v)	The People that in Darkness Sat
Closing Hymn	97 (4v)	Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

**Suggested Bible readings for the weekdays of the 1st Sunday after Christmas**

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday  
 Isa. 55:1-13 Isa. 61:1-11 Micah 4:1-8 Isa. 56:1-8 Isa. 12:1-6 Isaiah 60:1-6  
 Luke 2:21 Matt 2:16-18 Matt. 2:19-23 Matt. 3:1-12 Luke 3:1-9 Matt. 2:1-12

**PROPERs for PRESENTATION = 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY after CHRISTMAS 8 DEC 30<sup>th</sup>**

**INTROIT** Your testimonies are very sure; holiness adorns Your House, O LORD, forever. Your throne is established of old; You are from everlasting. The LORD reigns, He is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed, He has girded Himself with strength. ...from Psalm 93

**COLLECT** Almighty and everlasting God, direct our actions according to Your gracious will, that in the Name of Your beloved Son, we may be made to abound in good works; through the same, Jesus Christ, our LORD; Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One True God... **C: J A---men.**

**GRADUAL C: You are fairer than the children of men; grace is poured into Your lips. My heart is inviting a good matter, I speak of the things which I have made touching the King; my tongue is the pen of a ready writer. Alleluia! Alleluia! The LORD reigns, He is clothed with majesty; the LORD is clothed, He has girded Himself with strength. Alleluia! Ps. 110**

**SCRIPTURE LESSONS** (printed on the outside back page of the bulletin →)

O.T. Isaiah 11:1-5 (Jesus =) A Shoot will spring up from Jesse's stem.  
 Epi. Galatians 4:1-7 When the exact right time came, God sent His Son.  
 Gos. Luke 2:25-40 Simeon and Anna rejoice in seeing their Savior, Jesus.

**SERMON** (Gospel-C) Luke 17:39-55 **THEME: "LOSING THE SON ...OF GOD!"**

**NEW Psalm 98 ALL THE ENDS OF THE EARTH, HAVE SEEN THE POWER OF GOD.**

**Refrain C: J All the Ends of the Earth, Have Seen the Power of God. All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God.**

Verse 1. Sing to the Lord a new song, \_\_\_ for He has done wondrous deeds; \_\_\_ His Right Hand has won the Vict'ry for Him, His ho-ly Arm. \_\_\_\_\_

**J All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God. All the ends...**

Verse 2. The Lord has made His Salvation known, His justice revealed to all; \_\_\_ Remembered His kindness and faithfulness, to Is-rael. \_\_\_\_\_

**J All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God. All the ends...**

Verse 3. All the ends of the earth have seen, salva—tion by our God; \_\_\_ Joyfully sing out all you lands, break forth- in song. \_\_\_\_\_

**J All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God. All the ends...**

Verse 4. Sing to the Lord with harp and song, \_\_\_ with trumpet and with horn; \_\_\_ Sing in your joy before the King, The King-, our Lord. \_\_\_\_\_

**J All the ends of the earth, have seen the power of God. All the ends of the...**

**TLH #79 1. Rejoice, rejoice, this happy morn, - A Savior unto us is born, The Christ, the Lord of Glory. - His lowly birth in Bethlehem The angels from on High proclaim - And sing Redemption's story. My soul, - extol - God's great favor, - Bless Him ever - For salvation, Give Him praise and adoration.**

**PRAYER REQUESTS: (Member or Relation) Pray for...**

**Dee Kurczewski** (David) Dee - rehabbing. David back working  
**DuWayne & Shirley Marquardt** Health for both. Shirley has hernia surgery  
**Jon & Andrea Sawyer** Jon's heart, changing work. Andrea started new work  
**James Vanesky & Delores Platt** Both rehabbing. We enjoy seeing them

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>Elaine Jones</b>	<b>Bev Foster &amp; Joe Thacker</b>
<b>Treaters</b>		

Statistics	Last week	Year To Date / Avg.
<b>Sunday, Attendance(Communion)</b>	<b>25+24+20 / (- -)</b>	<b>24 / 19</b>
<b>Bible Class Attendance: Sunday</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Sunday Offering (Needed) &amp; YTD</b>	<b>\$. (\$1,350)</b>	<b>YTD \$., (\$70.K)</b>

Calendar of Events		
<b>Today December 30</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Bible Study Christ Figures: Tree/Vine</b>
<b>First Sunday after Christmas</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship (NO Communion)</b>
	<b>10:45 ff...</b>	<b>"FFF" = Food, Fun &amp; Fellowship ... Stay!</b>
<b>Monday, 12/31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>Special New Year's Eve Worship W/ L.S.</b>
<b>Next Sunday 1/6/19</b>	<b>8:30 am</b>	<b>Bible Study Christ Figures: Bonus Figures</b>
<b>Epiphany Sunday</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Divine Worship (WITH Communion)</b>
<b>Jesus is Manifest</b>	<b>10:45 ff...</b>	<b>"FFF" Stay...&amp; UNdecorate church (Xmas)</b>

**Elders: Tom Temple 213-4622; John Weber 853-5458; Don Wienke 815-8892**

**Monday 12/31 New Year Eve 7:00 PM (p.15 L.S.) TLH #s 123 125 118 110 552**

**Next Sun. 1/6 Epiphany! (p.5 No L.S.) TLH #s 128 Ps.98 127 343.1 343.2-7 133**

✿ A very blessed, healthy & Happy New Year 2019 to all! ✿

## CHRISTMAS.1/C Luke 2:41-52 "LOSING THE SAVIOR (SON OF GOD)" 12.30.18 OS

### "HOME" ALONE

Can you imagine **losing the Son of God?** It's bad enough losing your car keys, your wallet, some important papers. But losing the Son of God? You parents know the anxiety all too well. You turn around at the grocery store, and your child has wandered off. Or your attention is diverted for just a moment at the mall, and you lose your kid in the crowd. Well, Mary and Joseph lost Jesus for an anxious three days in Jerusalem. That is one of **several paradoxes in today's Gospel**, and they all revolve around the great grand Mystery of the Eternal Son of God come in Human Flesh to save us.

### (PRE)TEEN JESUS

Today's Gospel reading from Luke deals with the **only other childhood story of Jesus**. Again, it happens in the temple in Jerusalem. This time when Jesus was **twelve years old**. The "custom" Luke is referring to is the custom of twelve year old boys appearing before the teachers of the Torah in the temple before they turn thirteen and are obligated to take their place with the men of Israel at the annual pilgrimages. Up until then, they were considered children and did not have to come to Jerusalem for the annual feasts. Age twelve was the turning point. This is "**God the Junior-Higher.**"

### AMAZING!!!

The custom was for the teachers of the Torah to examine the young boy to see if he had learned his lessons well in the home and at the synagogue. A kind of "final exam" before he became a man of Israel. What they found utterly amazed them. His understanding, His answers, His grasp of the Torah. Who was this Kid? Well, it turns out that this twelve year old is the Word of God in the Flesh, the **Torah enFleshed**. He's the Holy Wisdom of God come to dwell with us, here in the humble form of A (pre-)teen. Again we are confronted with the mystery and the humility. God takes on Human Flesh and appears before the teachers of the Torah as a Student! If only they had known **to Whom** they were speaking!

### MOM & DAD FRANTIC

Mary and Joseph also are perplexed, and **who could blame them?** How many parents can claim to have the Son of God as their Child? They were traveling with a large group of extended relatives and, **you know how it goes**, everyone assumes the kid is with someone else. Amazingly, they travel about a day's journey before taking head count and realizing that Jesus is nowhere to be seen. And after asking all the friends and relatives in their party, they rush back to Jerusalem to search for Him.

### WHY WORRY?!

Now you might wonder that if they had believed that Jesus was actually the Son of God in the flesh, they wouldn't have had an anxious second. He's God of God, Light of Light, True God of True God...He can take care of Himself, right? Can God be lost? (Not really)

### IN TEMPLE

They found Jesus in the most logical place to look for Him. The Temple. Where else would you look for the Son of God but

the dwelling place of God with men? This was the second Temple appearance of Jesus, the first being when He was forty days old at His redemption. He was in His Father's house, doing His Father's business, a fact that at least momentarily escaped His mother Mary. "*Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.*" She seems to have forgotten, at least for the panicked moment, Who her Son was. And who could really blame her? Who thinks of God in terms of **a middle-school kid?!**

### (SIMPLE) FACTS

I love this aspect of Luke's Gospel. He paints a very realistic picture for us, a very **historical** picture. In an ideal mythical world, Mary and Joseph would always be marveling at Jesus' Divinity, and Jesus would always be a perfect chubby cherub with a glowing nimbus floating over His head. But the reality is different. The glory of God is buried, hidden from sight. Jesus **appears as any other twelve year old**, except that His Wisdom amazes His teachers. And Mary and Joseph are prone, as we are, to forget Who Jesus really is and trip over the seeming weakness of His humanity.

(CAN IT BE) THAT SIMPLE? The same is true of Jesus' Sacramental presence among us. We see the water of **Baptism and forget the Word** that makes this a washing of rebirth and renewal. We see the humanity of the Scriptures and forget that it is the **very Word of God**. We see the bread and the wine of the Supper and forget the fact that it is, by the Lord's own Words, **His very Body and Blood**. In the same way, we too trip over the ordinariness, the humility, the mundane-ness of the Word in the Flesh.

### IN/FINITE

The mystery of the Incarnation, the Reason for the season of Christmas, truly does boggle the mind. How can the Creator of all things become a creature? How can the God become Man? How can the infinity and holy become the finite and the lowly? And whether we ponder the **Baby** in the manger, the **40 day old Child** in the arms of Simeon, the **12 year old** in the Temple among the teachers of Israel, or the Man on the Cross bearing the sin of the world, we are confronted with this same wondrous mystery – the eternal Son of God has come into our Human Flesh to save us.

### HIS (& DAD'S) HOUSE

Jesus had to be in His Father's House. **This was His place**. The Temple and Jesus run together as **old and new**. The "building" was the old Temple, the **dwelling of God with Man**. Jesus is the new Temple, His own Flesh being the ultimate dwelling place that brings God and humanity together as one forever. His place was to be the Head under which Heaven and earth come together as one. His work was to **reconcile the creation with the Creator**, to bring all things together in His all-embracing death on the Cross. This was His eternal Destiny, a Plan established in the Godhead from before the foundations of the world.

### GOOD(/PERFECT) CHILD

Jesus is the obedient Child for all of **us rebel children**. Where Adam rebelled, and where we His children rebel, Jesus was obedient. Think of it. The Lord of All became subject to His

parents. Lived under their authority. Obeyed them. When they said, “*Clean your room,*” He did it. When they said, “*Take out the trash,*” He took out the trash. ... **With love and honor and respect.** He honored the authority of the Temple Rabbis, though He Himself was **The Wisdom of God.**

LAW (LOWERING) When **St. Paul** writes in **Philippians (2)** that Christ humbled Himself and become obedient even to death on a Cross, he’s saying (writing). *Christ as Lord of all became the Servant of all, and humbled Himself in obedience to His own Law even to taking the punishments of the Law on Himself and dying on a Cross to save rebel humanity ...that’s you and me!*

(LAW) HONOR YOUR... The focus is (also) on the **4th Commandment** here. Honoring father and mother, and in doing so, **honoring God.** Usually, that word “**honor**” is reserved only for God, but in this Commandment He gives it to His “deputies,” to **father, mother, and other authorities.** We do not obey, love, honor, and cherish those over us as we ought. We do not see them as gifts from God. We bridle against restrictions to our liberty, we rage against those who would say “no” to us. From our birth, we are natural born rebels. And when we rebel against father and mother, **we are rebelling against our Father in Heaven** who is the Source of all authority in Heaven and on earth.

WE CAN’T DO IT So when Jesus comes as the **Perfect Child,** He **does NOT** do so as an Example for you to follow. You **don’t need** an example. You have the 4th Commandment. The problem is that you and I can’t **DO** the 4th Commandment, and as soon as the Commandment comes into view, we become worse than ever. This is our condition as rebellious children. And no matter how many “rules” (= Commandments) you throw in our face, **it’s NOT going to make us any better.**

GOOD NEWS... The Good News for today, and what **we** can treasure up in our hearts, is that Jesus’ Perfect Obedience **is ours through faith** in Him. He takes up our sin so that we might receive His Righteousness. He becomes the Sinner for us, even though **He is without sin.** Even this little episode when Jesus is twelve demonstrates this. He gets “chastised” by His mother for being in the Temple with the teachers doing the Will of His Father in Heaven. It’s what Jesus came to do. To keep the Law perfectly for us and to **receive our punishment** under the Law in His own Perfect Innocence.

ALL GROWED UP He **grew and became strong,** filled with **wisdom.** He increased in wisdom and in stature, He grew up, (**God grew up!!**) in the favor of God and men so that He might embrace the **totality of our humanity** in all of its rebellious sinfulness. Look on that Young Man sitting among the teachers in the Temple, look at that 12 year old confounding the experts with His Wisdom, and see your Savior Who comes to you **humbly and hiddenly.** The eternal Son became a Child Who grew in Wisdom and stature so that **you and I, Baptized into Him** and believing His promises, might be a child of God living under His favor. **IJ’N, Amen. SDG**

## **Possible Prayer of Church ✧ 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas December 30<sup>th</sup> 2018**

*Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. (Possible Brief silence)*

Father in Heaven, You made Your Son the **Firstborn** among many brothers. Open our eyes to see Your salvation for all the world. Stir our hearts by Your Holy Spirit to support the **Mission of Your Church.** As we share Your love and truth, encourage sons and daughters to consider Your call to serve as called servants in Your Church and to give sacrificially to provide for the work of proclaiming Christ to the nations. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal God, our lives are in Your hands. Preserve the lives of little children — protecting them in the womb, at birth and as they grow. Guide their parents to provide for them in all things, but especially in bringing them to Baptism and nurturing them in faith. Bind us to You in every stage of earthly life, and as You kept **Simeon and Anna** in faith, give to all Your people true faith until this life’s end when You take us to be with You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, as Your Baptized children, holy and beloved, clothe us in Christ’s righteousness, putting on His compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, patience, forgiveness and, above all, love, that His peace might rule in our hearts with thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, whose praise is sung by all creation, we give thanks for the gift of music and for the musicians whose discipline, skill and love for You lead us to sing Your praise. Let the Word of Christ ever dwell in us richly, so that Your Church is filled with joyful songs. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, our King, You rule the nations of the world, giving government to oppose injustice and oppression. Give wisdom and truth to all who rule this land, that they may serve faithfully to promote all that is good and right and prevent and punish evil. Wherever our courts or laws are unjust and contrary to Your will, reform them for Your mercy’s sake. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Precious Lord, Your mercies are new each day. Show forth Your mercy to those who are in great distress of body or soul [*especially* **OSL Prayer List**].

<b>PRAYER REQUESTS:</b>	<b>(Member or Relation)</b>	<b>Pray for...</b>
<b>Dee Kurczewski</b>	(David)	Dee - rehabbing. David back working
<b>DuWayne Marquardt</b>	(Shirley)	Safe travels this Season and good health (DW)
<b>Jon &amp; Andrea Sawyer</b>		Jon’s heart, changing work. Andrea started new work
<b>James Vanesky &amp; Delores Platt</b>		Both rehabbing. We enjoy seeing them

Grant healing, relief from pain and a peaceful spirit to these, Your children, in accord with Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Holy Spirit, give faith to all who will receive Christ’s body and blood in the Sacrament of the Altar, trusting His promises and assured of forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen. Then, Lord’s Prayer ...**