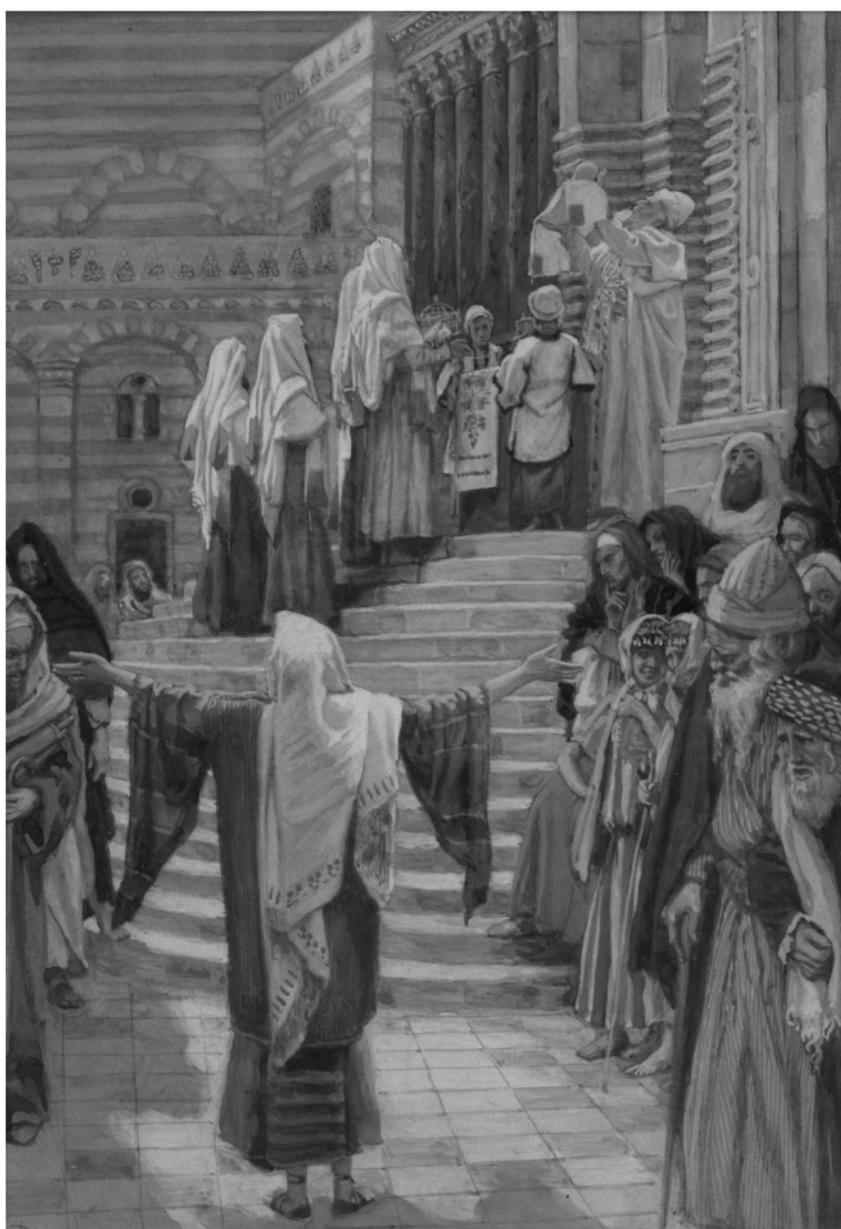


# Our Saviour Lutheran Church



The Sunday after Christmas  
30 December 2012



**They performed everything  
according to the Law of the Lord**

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The Parsonage, 65 Furzeshall Avenue, Fareham, PO16 8UD  
[www.oslc.org.uk](http://www.oslc.org.uk)

Pastor Tapani Simojoki  
Tel: 01 329 822 832  
Mobile: 07 825 447 475  
E-mail: [pastor@oslc.org.uk](mailto:pastor@oslc.org.uk)

### **A note to visitors**

We are delighted to have you with us this morning to receive the Lord's gifts of forgiveness, life and salva-

tion. Please stay for a cup of tea or coffee after the service.

Please also record your visit in the visitors' book at the back. If you would like a phone call or a pastoral visit, speak to the pastor or leave a note in the visitors' book.

### **The Offering**

At this time, members of this church are privileged to give to the Lord for the work of His church in this community and throughout the world. For God loves a cheerful giver. Visitors should not feel obliged in any way to contribute to the offering plate.

### **Children in the Service**

It is a delight and a privilege to have children in the service. Children as much as adults are members of God's family and Jesus welcomes little children to Him.

There is a Sunday School for children during the sermon. The children leave at the beginning of the sermon and return to church before the Service of the Sacrament.

Please do not worry if your child will not sit still or quietly throughout the service. Most young children won't manage that! There is plenty of space at the back of the room. If you do need to take a child outside, the smaller room is available for that purpose.

### **A note on the service:**

*Both the hymns and the order of service are found in the Lutheran Service Book. The outline of the service is given in this bulletin. The congregation stands for the parts of the service printed in italics and sits for the rest.*

*The numbers in the bulletin refer to page numbers in the hymnal, where Psalm 1 is also page one, and the first hymn is 331, following page 330.*

*It helps to follow the service if you mark your place in the liturgy with this bulletin.*

### ***Explanation of Symbols:***

- C** Congregation
- P** Pastor (ordained)
- A** Assistant minister (ordained or lay)
- L** Liturgist (ordained or lay)
- ✠ You may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism.
- ❖ You may bow at this point as a sign of reverence.

**Matins**

**LSB 219**

**359** *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

**219** *Opening Versicles and Responses*

**220** *Venite*

Antiphon: **L** Lo, to us the Christ is born.

**C** O come, let us worship Him.

## Psalm 89:1–8

### 389 Hymn: Let All Together Praise Our God

#### 205 The Readings

##### *The Seed of David Comes to His Temple*

A Rod has come forth from the stem of Jesse (Is. 11:1–5)—the Seed of David whose kingdom shall be established forever (2 Sam. 7:1–16). In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son Jesus to redeem us from the judgement of the Law (Gal. 4:1–7). Now He is presented in the temple in fulfilment of the Law and revealed to be “*a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel*” (Luke 2:22–40). Christ has enlightened us in baptism, giving us to be adopted as sons of God and heirs of eternal life. Receiving the Holy Sacrament of His body and blood, we are prepared to depart this world in peace, for our eyes have seen the salvation of God in Him.

#### Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 11:1–5

There shall come forth a shoot from the  
stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear  
fruit.

- <sup>2</sup> And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon  
him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of  
the LORD.

- <sup>3</sup> And his delight shall be in the fear of the  
LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

- <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he shall judge the  
poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of  
the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod  
of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill  
the wicked.

- <sup>5</sup> Righteousness shall be the belt of his  
waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

#### Epistle Reading—Galatians 4:1–7

The heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, <sup>2</sup>but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. <sup>3</sup>In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. <sup>4</sup>But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of

his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”  
7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

***Gospel Reading—Luke 2:33–40***

22 And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] 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”) 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” 25 Now 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 salvation  
31 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 marvelled 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 opposed 35 (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, worshipping 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 favour of God was upon him.

**221    *Responsory***

**Catechism**

**P** The First Commandment

**C** You shall have no other gods.

**P** What does this mean?

**C** We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

**Sermon**

**Offering**

**223    *Te Deum***

**227    *Prayers***

**228    *Collect of the Day***

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.

***Intercessions and Thanksgiving***

**228    *Benedicamus and Benediction***

**937    *Hymn: Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace***

## IN OUR PRAYERS

### **Members**

Ron, Forbes, Dot, Frank

### **Family of members**

Lucy, Diana (old age); Megan (pregnancy); Alex, Sarah & family; Jerry Harbin (cancer); Jean (multiple fractures)

### **Friends of members**

Ilse Kelly (old age); Paul (homeless); Marie & family (distress); Brian & Kay (distress); Mike (health); Kayleigh & unborn child (health); Cynthia (health); Claire and Phil (health); Pauline (health); Helen Kriewaldt (stroke); Johann Wiebusch (CP); Margaret & Patrick Tustin (Alzheimer's); Rob (depression); Debra (depression); Dave (mental illness); Claire (leukemia); Brian, Jan & family (cancer); Don & Julie Gardner (cancer); Graham (tumour); Ronnie (cancer); Lisa & children (cancer); Steve (cancer); Carol (cancer); Baby Thomas (operation); Christine (recovering from operation); Karina and family of †Alexey

### **ELCE**

ELCE; Pr. Jon Ehlers; Boor family (St. Andrew's)

### **The Church of God**

Lutherans in Africa, Pr. James May

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD**  
**APOLOGY OF THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION**  
**ARTICLE V: LOVE AND FULFILLING THE LAW**

Augustine well says, “All God’s commandments are fulfilled when whatever is not done, is forgiven.” Therefore, he requires faith even in good works. He says this to show that we may believe we please God for Christ’s sake, and even our works are not worthy and pleasing of themselves. Jerome, against the Pelagians, says:

Then we are righteous when we confess that we are sinners, and that our righteousness stands not in our own merit, but in God’s mercy.

Therefore, when starting to fulfil the Law, faith ought to be present, which certainly believes that we have a reconciled God for Christ’s sake. For mercy cannot be received except through faith, as has been repeatedly said above. Paul says in Romans 3:31, “Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.” Here’s what we ought to understand: People regenerated through faith not only receive the Holy Spirit, and have motives that agree with God’s Law, but we ought also to realize that they are far distant from the Law’s perfection. This point has the greatest importance by far, and we must add it to the argument also. We cannot conclude that we are counted righteous before God because of our fulfilling of the Law. Justification must be sought elsewhere in order that the conscience may become peaceful. For we are not righteous before God as long as we flee from God’s judgement and are angry with God. Therefore, we must conclude that we are counted righteous for Christ’s sake being reconciled through faith.

... Christ’s death and satisfaction ought to be placed far above our purity, far above the Law itself. This truth ought to be set before us so that we can be sure of this: We have a gracious God because of Christ’s satisfaction and not because of our fulfilling the Law.

Paragraphs 51–57

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

### The Week Ahead

Wed	<i>No Bible study</i>	
	12.30pm	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
Sun	10.30am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
	4.30pm	Divine Service with Confirmation at Brighton Lutheran Mission

### Further ahead

10 Jan	10.30am	Bible Study (Parsonage)
	12.30pm	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
	2pm	Devotion at Merry Hall
	3pm	Devotion at Hunters Lodge
13 Jan	10.30am	Morning Service (Scout Hall)

### ***Next Sunday's Readings:***

***Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12***

### ***Daily Readings:***

Sun: Isaiah 58:1-59:3, 14-21 Luke 1:26-38 *Large Catechism I: 276-291*

Mon: Is 60:1-22 Luke 1:39-56 *LC I: 292-302*

Tue: Is 61:1-11 Luke 1:57-80 *LC I: 303-310*

Wed: Is 62:1-12 Luke 2:1-20 *LC I: 311-323*

Thu: Is 63:1-14 Luke 2:21-40 *LC I: 324-333*

Fri: Is 63:15-65:2 Luke 2:41-52 *LC II: 1-8*

Sat: Is 65:8-25 Luke 3:1-20 *LC II: 9-24*