

# Tuesday Tidings of Grace



This Tuesday is December 26, 2023

This past Sunday was:

4th Sunday in Advent

[Sunday Worship on YouTube](#)

[Sunday Sermon on Website](#)

This past Sunday we both ended Advent and celebrated Christmas Eve. In a very enjoyable combined morning service we heard about the angel's visit to Mary to let her know she would soon be the mother of our Lord. This gave way to the evening Christmas Eve worship in which we rejoiced in our Savior's birth. What an amazing day!

Next Sunday, December 24 is:  
1st Sunday after Christmas

The readings this year take us to the Temple where we meet Mary and Joseph at day 40 of Jesus' young life presenting him to God as the law of Moses required. This worship also falls within the 12 Days of Christmas and so we will continue to sing of and celebrate our Savior's birth.

*The readings are:*

[Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3](#)

[Galatians 4:4-7](#)

[Luke 2:22-40](#)

*The Hymn of the Day is:*

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" (LSB #384)

## Grace Events This Week

Sun 12/31 - New Year's Eve - Usually we have a 6pm service for New Year's Eve. Since it falls on a Sunday in 2023 we will only have the morning services.

Mon 1/1 - No Monday worship on New Year's Day

## Daily Bible Readings

<https://bit.ly/gracedailybible>

# 1st Sunday after Christmas

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December 31, 2023

**Psalm:** Psalm 111

**Old Testament Reading:** Isaiah 61:10—62:3

We have spent a fair amount of time in the last month talking about the meaning of Isaiah 61:10. Through our Advent Midweek series we talked of the “Clothing of the King” and the various images the scriptures use to describe our salvation as God “clothing us” with salvation and righteousness. When we couple the words of Isaiah 61:10 with our Gospel lesson for today we hear the idea of salvation in both and in particular we are led to this unmistakable image of Jesus as salvation. In Him we see salvation, in Him we are clothed with salvation, and in Him we have salvation.

**Epistle Reading:** Galatians 4:4-7

There is a lot of Gospel packed into these three short verses. We hear the idea of the “fullness of time” and are comforted with the notion that the timing of our Lord’s birth was certainly at God’s will. God chose that time out of the abundance of His wisdom. We’re left to wonder at what all the reasons may be. The latter half of this reading speaks to us the good news of our adoption into God’s family in Christ. We are no longer slave to sin. We are more than even servants of the master. We are adopted as sons and daughters, we are heirs of the King.

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 2:22-40

The Mosaic law called for every firstborn male to be presented before the Lord at age 40. It also called for every month to be purified ritually in the temple. Mary, Joseph and Jesus accomplish these rites in this passage. There are many items of interest here including the stories of Simeon and Anna. I would direct your attention to the interesting fact that while the long passage begins and ends with the temple ritual the middle actually tells of nothing of the fulfillment of this ritual. Instead it gives us very human stories with the likes of Simeon and Anna. It shows us that when we encounter Christ things will happen, relationships will grow, people will come to see their salvation in Him.