

# Pastors' Bible Class

December 28, 2025

## The First Sunday of Christmas

### #386 "Now Sing We, Now Rejoice"



1 Now sing we, now re - joice,      Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
2 Come from on high to me;      I can - not rise to Thee.  
3 Now through His Son doth shine      The Fa-ther's grace di - vine.  
4 Oh, where shall joy be found?      Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth      Poor in a man - ger lies;  
Cheer my wea - ried spir - it,      O pure and ho - ly Child;  
Death was reign - ing o'er us      Through sin and van - i - ty  
Where the an - gels sing - ing      With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth      The sun in yon - der skies.  
Through Thy grace and mer - it,      Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,  
Till He o - pened for us      A bright e - ter - ni - ty.  
Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing      In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art!      Thou my Sav - ior art!  
Draw me un - to Thee!      Draw me un - to Thee!  
May we praise Him there!      May we praise Him there!  
Oh, that we were there!      Oh, that we were there!

### Read Isaiah 63:7-14

1. According to verse 7, what is the purpose of this text?
2. How does Isaiah portray the Lord's deliverance in verses 8 and 9?
3. What was the reaction of the people in verse 10?
4. In verses 11-14, Isaiah recalls what important Old Testament event?
5. Why is the Lord's deliverance from Egypt such a pivotal event in His plan of salvation?

### Read Matthew 2:13-23

6. What is the essence of the angel's command?
7. What does verse 14 tell us about Joseph's response and what does this response tell us about Joseph?
8. In Hosea 11:1, God refers to Israel as "My son." What is the connection of this prophecy to Jesus being called out of Egypt?
9. What motivated Herod's rage and murderous actions?
10. The "innocents" who are murdered by Herod are often referred to as the first martyrs in the New Testament. Why is this a fitting title?
11. Where did Joseph appear to be headed when he left Egypt?
12. The town of Nazareth was never even mentioned in the Old Testament and was, in fact, seen as a worthless village (See John 1:46 and 7:52). How does this further the rejection of Jesus by the Jewish establishment?
13. How is this also a fulfillment of prophecy? See Psalm 22:6-8 and Isaiah 53:2-3, 8.
14. Read Galatians 4:4-7 (today's epistle reading). What does reading tell us about God and the way He operates in our world?
15. What connection does this reading have to God's plan for our salvation? Read Genesis 3:15.

### **Devotional Thought from "The Lutheran Study Bible"**

God's revelation leads Joseph to take Mary as his wife. He later flees to Egypt and finally settles permanently in Nazareth with God's guidance. These events may have seemed confusing to Joseph, but God had a plan. All of the Lord's leading was to fulfill the Old Testament prophecies. We do not always know where God is leading us, but we can be sure that He will be with us and that His plans are for our good (TLSB, 1581).

### **Closing Prayer**

Loving Father, help me to pray with Jesus, "Your will be done," and follow where You lead. Amen.