

About our text

In Jesus' day and age, following the birth of a son, the mother had to wait forty days before going to the temple to offer sacrifice for purification. If she could not afford a lamb and a pigeon or dove) then two pigeons or doves would be acceptable (Leviticus 12:2-8).



The firstborn of both man and animal were to be dedicated to the Lord (see Exodus 13:12-13). The animals were sacrificed, but the

human beings were to serve God throughout their lives. The Levites actually served in the place of all the firstborn males in Israel (see Numbers 3:11-13; 8:17-18).

Jesus' purification followed the usual practice. What made it unusual were the responses of both Simeon (known as the "Nunc Dimittis") and Anna. Here is more confirmation that there is truly something special about Jesus. Remember, *He saves!* †



Pilgrim Lutheran Church

5500 Massachusetts Ave. ♦ Bethesda, MD 20816-1933

Phone: 301-229-2800 ♦ FAX: 301-320-7085

www.pilgrimbethesda.org ♦ office@pilgrimbethesda.org

Rev. James Kreft, Pastor: 301-922-2690 or pjk@pilgrimbethesda.org

Michael Rossi, Director of Music: 703-867-8876 or mrossi229@gmail.com

Ministers: each member in daily life

Pilgrim Lutheran Church

Bethesda, Maryland, December 28th, 2008



Jesus Presented in the Temple