A QUICK GLANCE AT LUKE’S GOSPEL AS A WHOLE

If one believes what Luke says in the prologue, his book is composed «in an orderly way» (1,3). His gospel is actually arranged in four sections, of which it may be said as a first approximation that they recount the four great stages of the life of Jesus, starting before his birth and ending with his death:

| A. Christ’s coming | prepared by the messengers | of the Lord |
| B. Jesus constitutes | the community of his disciples | in Galilee |
| C. Jesus leads | the community of his disciples | to Jerusalem |
| D. Christ’s Passover | announced by the Scriptures | of Israel |

THE PROLOGUE

of the Gospel of Luke

(Luke 1,1-4)

1 Since many have undertaken to compose a narration of those that have been accomplished among us as acts, just as they delivered to us those who from the beginning were eye-witnesses and servants of the word, it seemed-good also to me who have followed from the origin all (things) accurately in an orderly manner to write to you, most excellent theophilus, so that you may know concerning those of which you have received (as) words the solidity.

The prologue to Ben Sira

1 Many and great (things) to us have been given through the law, the prophets and the others that followed them, due to these Israel should be praised for (its) science and for (its) wisdom, and it is because of not only by reading that one has to become instructed but also for those outside friends-of-learning that they might become useful by speaking and by writing, my grandfather Jesus having long given himself to the reading of the law, the prophets and the other books of the fathers and having acquired a considerable capacity, was led himself also to write something pertaining to science and to wisdom, so that those friends-of-learning by assimilating this also might make greater progress in a life conforming to the law.
The prologue of the First Letter of John (1John 1,1-3)

\[1\] That which was from the beginning, 
+ That which we have heard,  
+ That which we have seen with our own eyes,  
+ That which we have contemplated  
− and (that) our hands have touched,  

| about the Word of THE LIFE; |

\[2\] and The life has been manifested,  
: and We have seen and testify: and PROCLAIM to you: The life eternal,  
• which was with the Father,  
• and it has been manifested to us;  

\[3\] That which we have seen and we have heard,  
\:: WE PROCLAIM to you also,  
− so that you also may have with us the communion;  
: and the communion of us is with the Father  
: and with the Son Jesus Christ;  
\:: 4\] and These we are writing to you,  
− so that the joy of us may be full.
PART ONE

The coming of Christ
prepared by the messengers of the Lord

Section A
(Luke 1,5–4,13)

The first section contains eight sequences, organized in four sub-sections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First sub-section: THE TWO ANNUNCIATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A1: <em>The announcement of the birth of John</em> 1,5-25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A2: <em>The announcement of the birth of Jesus</em> 1,26-56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Second sub-section: THE TWO BIRTHS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A3: <em>The birth of John</em> 1,57-80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A4: <em>The birth of Jesus</em> 2,1-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Third sub-section: THE TWO CONSECRATIONS OF JESUS AT THE TEMPLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A5: <em>Jesus is consecrated to the Lord</em> 2,21-40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A6: <em>Jesus consecrates himself to his Father</em> 2,41-52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fourth sub-section: THE TWO PREPARATIONS OF THE COMING OF JESUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A7: <em>John prepares the coming of the Christ</em> 3,1-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A8: <em>Jesus prepares himself for his coming</em> 3,21–4,13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The announcement of the birth of John  
Sequence A1: Luke 1,5-25

Introduction: “They had no child” 5-7

The angel of the Lord appears to Zechariah 8-12

The announcement of the angel: “Your wife will bear you a son” 13-14

DOUBLE PROPHECY ABOUT JOHN 15-17

The incredulity of Zechariah: “My wife is advanced in years” 18

The angel of the Lord chastises Zechariah 19-22

Conclusion: “Elizabeth conceived” 23-25
1. INTRODUCTION AND CONCLUSION (1,5-7; 23-25)

+ 5 IT HAPPENED, that in the DAYS of Herod, the king of Judea,
   (there was) a priest, his name Zechariah, of the class of Abijah,
   and his wife of the daughters of Aaron, and her name Elizabeth.

:: 6 Now they were righteous both of them, before God walking on,
   in all the laws and precepts of THE LORD blameless.

− 7 But there was not for them any child, because Elizabeth was barren
   and both of them were advanced in their DAYS.

[…]

+ 23 And IT HAPPENED, that when were fulfilled the DAYS of his service,
   (that) he went away to his house.

− 24 Now after these DAYS, his wife Elizabeth conceived
   and she hid herself for five months, saying:

:: 25 «Thus has done for me the LORD, in the DAYS
   in which he concerned himself to take away my shame
   among men.»
2. THE PRIEST AND THE PEOPLE (1,8-12; 19-22)

**COMPOSITION**

: 8 It happened that while **he was on duty** in the turn of his class **BEFORE GOD**,

: 9 according to the custom of **the priestly office**, he was chosen by lot to **burn incense**, having entered **IN THE SANCTUARY** of the Lord.

: 10 And all the multitude of the **PEOPLE** was praying outside at the hour of **incense**.

: 11 Appeared to him **an angel of the Lord**, **standing at the right of the altar** of **incense**

: 12 and Zechariah **was troubled** having seen him, and fear fell upon him.

[...]

: 19 And answering, the angel said to him:

+ “I am Gabriel who stands **BEFORE GOD**;

. and I was sent to speak to you **these**.

: 20 But behold you will be **SILENT** and **NOT ABLE TO SPEAK**

. because you did not believe to my **WORDS**,

: 21 until the days in which will come to pass these,

: which will be accomplished at their proper time.”

: 22 The **PEOPLE** were waiting for Zechariah and wondering at his delaying **IN THE SANCTUARY**.

: 22 When he came out, **he was not able to speak** to them,

. and they recognized that he had seen a vision **IN THE SANCTUARY**.

: 22 But he was making signs to them, **DEAF AND MUTE**.

3. THE INCREDULITY OF ZECHARIAH (1,13-14.18)

13 Now said to him the angel:

+ «Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your supplication has been heard:
  – your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son,
  :: and you shall call the name of him John.

+ 14 There will be joy for you and gladness and many at the birth of him will rejoice.

[..]

18 Zechariah said to the angel:

+ «According to what shall I know this,
  :: for I myself am an old man
  – and my wife is advanced in her days?»

4. THE PROPHECY (1,15-17)

+ 15 For he will be great BEFORE THE LORD.
  . “Wine and strong drink he shall not drink”,
  . but of the Holy SPIRIT he will be full
  - even from the womb of his mother;

+ 16 and many of the sons of Israel will he turn TO THE LORD THEIR GOD.

+ 17 And he will walk on BEFORE HIM
  in the SPIRIT and power of Elijah,
  . “to turn the hearts of the fathers to the sons”
  . and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous,

+ to make ready FOR THE LORD a people well prepared.
5. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF JOHN (1,5-25)

COMPOSITION OF THE SEQUENCE

5 *It happened*, that in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, there was a priest by name of Zechariah, of the class of Abijah, and his wife was a daughter of Aaron and her name was Elizabeth. 6 Both of them were righteous, walking on *Before God*, blameless in all the commandments and observances of the Lord. 7 But they had no child because Elizabeth *was barren* and both of them were advanced in their days.

8 *It happened*, that while Zechariah was on duty *Before God* in the turn of his class, 9 that according to the priestly office, he was chosen by lot to burn incense, after having entered *in the sanctuary* of the Lord.

* 10 All of the multitude of *the people* was praying outside at the hour of incense.

11 The angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right of the altar of incense. 12 Zechariah was troubled while seeing him and fear fell upon him.

13 *But the angel said to him*: «Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your supplication has been heard: *Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son*, and you shall call his name John. 14 You will have joy and gladness and many will rejoice for his birth.

15 He will be great *before the Lord*; he shall not drink wine neither strong drink but he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from the womb of his mother *and he will turn* many of the sons of Israel *to the Lord*

16 And he, himself, will walk *before him* in the spirit and the power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the sons and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready *a people well prepared* for the Lord.»

18 *Zechariah said to the angel*: «How shall I know this? *For I myself am an old man* and *my wife is advanced in her days*.»

19 Answering, the angel said to him: «I am Gabriel who stands *before God*; I was sent to speak to you and to announce you these good news. 20 But behold, you will be silent and you will not able to speak until the days in which these will come to pass, because you did not believe to my words, which will be accomplished at their time.»

* 21 And *the people* were waiting for Zechariah and they were amazed that he had seen a vision *in the sanctuary*; he was making signs to them and he remained deaf and mute.

25 *It happened*, that when the days of his service were fulfilled, he went away to his house. 26 After these days, *his wife Elizabeth conceived* and she hid herself for five months, saying: 25 «Thus the Lord has done for me, in the days in which he was so kind as to take away my shame among men.»

2

The announcement of the birth of Jesus

Sequence A2: Luke 1,26-56

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Introduction</th>
<th>26-27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Annunciation to Mary</strong></td>
<td>28-38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Visitation</strong></td>
<td>39-45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Canticle of Mary</strong></td>
<td>46-55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Conclusion | 56 |
1. INTRODUCTION (1,26-27)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>In the sixth month, was sent the angel GABRIEL from GOD into a city of GALILEE, by name of NAZARETH, to a virgin espoused to a MAN by name of JOSEPH, from the house of DAVID, and the name of the virgin (was) MARY.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2. The Annunciation to Mary (1,28-38)

#### 28 ENTERING UNTO HER, [the angel] said:

> «Rejoice, full of grace, the Lord is with you.»

#### 29 At this WORD, she was troubled and she was asking what kind of this greeting might be.

#### 30 The angel said to her:

* «Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor WITH GOD."

  . **31 And behold,** YOU WILL CONCEIVE in (your) womb,
  . and you will bear a son
  . and you shall call his name Jesus.

  = **32 He will be GREAT and will be called SON OF THE MOST HIGH.**

  - The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father;
  - **33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob for the ages**
  - and of his reign there will be no end.»

#### 34 Mary said to the angel:

<ins>«HOW SHALL THIS BE, SINCE I DO NOT KNOW A MAN?»</ins>

#### 35 Answering, the angel said to her:

- «The Holy Spirit will come upon you,
- and the power of the Most High will cover you with his shadow.

  = **Therefore he to be born HOLY will be called SON OF GOD.**

  . **36 And behold, Elizabeth your relative, has also CONCEIVED a son in her old age,**
  . and this is the sixth month for her (who was) called barren,
  . because nothing will be impossible WITH GOD.»

#### 37 Now Mary said:

. Behold, the maid-servant of the Lord,
. let it happen to me according to your WORD.»

And the angel DEPARTED FROM HER.
3. THE VISITATION (1,39-45)

39 Having stood up Mary in those days, went in haste towards the hill country into a city of Judah.

40 She entered into the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

= 41 And IT HAPPENED, that WHEN Elizabeth heard THE GREETING of Mary, THE BABY LEAPED IN HER WOMB.

And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit

42 and she exclaimed an outcry and said:

: «BLESSED are you among women
: and BLESSED is the fruit of your womb!»

43 And whence is this to me that the mother of my Lord may come to me?

= 44 For behold, WHEN IT HAPPENED the voice of YOUR GREETING into my ears, THE BABY LEAPED in a great joy IN MY WOMB.

: «HAPPY is she who has believed
: that there would be a fulfilment to what was spoken to her by the Lord.»
4. THE CANTICLE OF MARY (1,46-55)

46 Then Mary said:

«My soul proclaims the greatness (of) THE LORD
and my spirit exults in GOD, my savior,
because he has regarded THE HUMILIATION of HIS MAID-SERVANT.

For behold, from now on I will call me happy all ages,
because THE MIGHTY HAS DONE for me great (things).

And holy (is) his Name
and HIS MERCY (is) from age to age
to those who fear him.

HE HAS DONE might with his arm,
the arrogant in mind of their heart.

He has put down THE MIGHTIES from thrones,
and he has lifted up THE HUMBLES.

The hungry he has filled with good things,
the rich he has sent away empty.

He has helped Israel, HIS SERVANT,
remembering HIS MERCY,

as he has said to our fathers,
and his descendants into the age.»
The canticle of Hannah (1Sam 2,1-10)

1 Then Hannah prayed and said:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verse</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>:</td>
<td>Has exulted my heart in THE LORD;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>:</td>
<td>is lifted up my horn in THE LORD;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>:</td>
<td>- my mouth has been large over my enemies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>:</td>
<td>- for I have rejoiced in your salvation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>There is no one Holy as THE LORD;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indeed</td>
<td>there is no one except you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td>there is no Rock as our God.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Do not multiply,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(do not) speak haughty discourses,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(do not) let out arrogance from your mouth.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>–</td>
<td>Indeed God of knowledge is THE LORD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– and by him actions are estimated.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 4     | The bows of the MIGHTIES are broken, |
|       | the STUMBLING gird on strength. |
| 5     | The SATIATED for bread hires himself, |
|       | the HUNGRY are fat with spoil. |
| 6     | The BOWED bears seven times, |
|       | the ABOUNDING with sons languishes. |
| 7     | THE LORD puts to death and gives life, |
|       | he brings down to Sheol and raises-up. |
| 8     | THE LORD dispossesses and enriches, |
|       | he humbles and exalts. |

| 9     | THE LORD raises from the dust the POOR and from the dunghill he lifts up the NEEDY |
| to seat them with the NOBLES and a throne of glory he makes INHERIT. |

| 10    | Indeed to THE LORD the pillars of the earth: |
| – and he has set upon them the world. |
| 11    | The feet of his faithful he guards |
| – and the wicked in the darkness are silenced. |
| Indeed | not by power does man be mighty; |
| THE LORD, | shall be shattered his adversaries. |
| Against them in the heaven he will thunder; |
| THE LORD | will judge the ends of the earth. |

He gives strength to his King, he lifts up the horn of his Messiah.

5. CONCLUSION (1,56)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verse</th>
<th>Translation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>:</td>
<td>Now Mary REMAINED with her about three months,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>:</td>
<td>and she RETURNED to her house.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 The horn, like that of the bull, is a symbol of power.
6. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS (1,26-56)

26 In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God into a city of Galilee by name of Nazareth, to a virgin, espoused to a man by name of Joseph, from the house of David, and the name of the virgin was Mary.

28 Coming in unto her, the angel said: «Rejoice, FULL OF GRACE, the Lord is with you.» 29 To this word, she was troubled and she was asking what kind of greeting this might be. 30 The angel said to her: «Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 Behold, you will conceive in your womb and you will bear a son and you shall name him Jesus. 32 He will be GREAT and WILL BE CALLED SON OF THE MOST HIGH. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father 33 and he will reign for ever over the house of Jacob and his reign will have no end.»

34 Then Mary said to the angel: «How shall this be, since I do not know a man?» 35 Answering, the angel said to her: «The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the POWER of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore he who is to be born HOLY WILL BE CALLED SON OF GOD. 36 And behold, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age and this is the sixth month for her who was called BARREN. 37 Because nothing will be impossible for God.»

38 Mary said: «Behold, the MAID-SERVANT of the Lord, let it happen to me according to your word.» And the angel left from her.

39 In those days Mary set out to travel in haste towards the hill country into a city of Judah. 40 She entered in the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41 And it happened, that when Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit 42 and she exclaimed in a loud voice and said: «Blessed are you among women and BLESSED is the fruit of your womb! 43 And how is it happened to me that the mother of my LORD may come to me? 44 For behold: at the moment the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the baby leaped in a great joy in my womb. 45 Happy is SHE WHO HAS BELIEVED that there would be a fulfilment to what was spoken to her by the Lord.»

46 Then Mary said: «My soul MAGNIFIES the Lord 47 and my spirit exults in God my Savior, because he has regarded THE HUMILIATION of HIS MAID-SERVANT. From now on all generations will call me HAPPY, 49 because THE MIGHTY has done for me GREAT THINGS. HOLY is HIS NAME 50 and his mercy is from generations to generations to those who fear him.

51 He has done might with his arm, he has dispersed the arrogant in mind of their heart. 52 He has put down the mighty from thrones and he has LIFTED UP the HUMBLES. 53 The hungry he has filled with good things and the rich he has sent away empty. 54 He has helped ISRAEL, HIS SERVANT, remembering his mercy, 55 as he has said to our fathers, in favor of ABRAHAM and his descendants for ever.»

56 Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her house.
### The birth of John

**Sequence A3: Luke 1,57-80**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Pages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The birth of the child</td>
<td>57-58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The circumcision of John and of Zechariah</td>
<td>59-64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question about the child</td>
<td>65-66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The blessing of God and of John</td>
<td>67-79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The growth of the child</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. THE BIRTH OF JOHN (1,57-58)

\[+ 57\] For Elizabeth was fulfilled the time in which she (had) to bear and she gave birth a son.
\[+ 58\] And heard the neighbors and the relatives of her — that the Lord had magnified his mercy with her and they were rejoicing-with her.

2. THE CIRCUMCISION OF JOHN AND ZECHARIAH (1,59-64)

\*[59] And it happened, that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child.
\[+\] They were calling him by name of his father Zechariah.
\[+60\] Answering, his mother said: «No, but he shall be called John!»
\[+61\] They said to her: «There is nobody among your relatives who is called by this name!»

\*[62] They were making signs to his father how he would want him to be called.
\[+\] Having asked for a tablet, he wrote: «John is his name!»
\[+63\] And all were amazed.

\*[64] His mouth was opened immediately and his tongue and he was speaking blessing God.
3. QUESTION ABOUT THE CHILD (1,65-66)

+ 65 And fear came upon all the neighbors of them.

And in the entire hill country of Judea were discussed all these things and all who heard put (them) in their heart saying:

«WHAT, THEN, WILL THIS CHILD BE?»

+ For indeed the hand of the Lord was with him.

4. THE BLESSING OF GOD AND JOHN (1,67-79)

A. The first part (68-75)

– THE FIRST SUB-PART (68a) is a bimember in four terms:

Blessed be the Lord, God of Israel,

– THE SECOND SUB-PART (68b-75)

a) The first piece (68b-71)

+ because he has visited and done redemption for the people of HIM
+ 69 and he has raised up a horn of SALVATION for us
  . in the house of David, servant of HIM,
  . by the mouth of his holy from ancient times prophets of HIM,
+ 71 SALVATION from enemies of us,
+ 73 and from the hand of all who hate us.

b) The second piece (72-73a)

+ 72 to do mercy with THE FATHERS of US
and to remember the holy covenant of him
+ 73 an oath he swore to Abraham THE FATHER of US
c) *The third piece* (73b-75)

+ to **GRANT** us, **74 without fear,**
  . rescued from the hand of enemies
  + **serve** him **in piety and justice,**
  . before him all the days of us.

---

d) *The whole of the second sub-part* (68b-75)

+ because he has visited and **done redemption** for the people of him
  + **69 and he has raised up a horn of salvation for US**
    in the house of **DAVID,** his servant,
    + **70 as he has spoken**
      by the mouth of his **holy** prophets from ancient times,
  : **71 salvation from our ENEMIES,**
  : and **FROM THE HAND OF ALL WHO HATE US,**

  + **72 to do mercy with the fathers of US**
    and to remember his **holy** covenant,
    + **73 an oath he swore to ABRAHAM, the father of US,**

  : to grant us, **74 without fear,**
  : **rescued FROM THE HAND OF OUR ENEMIES,**
  + **serve him in sanctity and justice**
  + before him (for) all the days of US.

---

B. The second part (76-79)

– **THE FIRST SUB-PART** (76ab)

  : **76 And you also, child,**
  : **prophet of the Most High** you will be called!
THE SECOND SUB-PART (76c-79) contains three pieces.

a) The first piece (76c-77) is formed by two bimember segments.

| 76c | For You will walk on before the LORD | 77 | to PREPARE the ways of HIM, |
| + 77 | to GIVE knowledge of salvation to people of him |
| + | in the forgiveness of sins of them |

b) The second piece (78)

through the bowels of MERCY of God of us in which WILL VISIT us he who rises from on high.

c) The last piece (79)

to SHINE ON those who sit in the darkness and the shadow of death to GUIDE the feet of us into the way of peace

d) These three pieces form a sub-part of concentric construction:

+ 76c For YOU WILL WALK ON before the Lord
+ to prepare his ways,
  : 77 to GIVE KNOWLEDGE of salvation to his people
  : in the forgiveness of their sins,

78 because of the bowels of mercy of our God in which will visit us he who rises from on high,

: 79 to SHINE ON those who sit in the darkness and the shadow of death
+ to GUIDE our path in the way of peace.”
C. The whole song

67 Zechariah his father was filled with THE HOLY SPIRIT and he PROPHESIED saying:

= 68 «Blessed be the Lord, God of ISRAEL, for he has visited and made redemption FOR HIS PEOPLE in the house of David his servant, as he has spoken by the mouth of his holy PROPHETS from of old, SALVATION from our ENEMIES and from the hand of all who hate us. 69 and he has raised up a horn of SALVATION for us in the house of David his servant, as he has spoken by the mouth of his holy PROPHETS from of old, SALVATION from our ENEMIES and from the hand of all who hate us. 70 as he has spoken by the mouth of his holy PROPHETS from of old, SALVATION from our ENEMIES and from the hand of all who hate us.

71 to do MERCY with our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, an oath he swore to Abraham our father. 72 to do MERCY with our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, an oath he swore to Abraham our father. 73 an oath he swore to Abraham our father. 74 without fear, rescued from the hand of our ENEMIES, 75 to serve him in sanctity and justice, 76 And you also, CHILD, you will be called PROPHET of the Most High, to serve him in sanctity and justice, 77 to give knowledge of SALVATION FOR HIS PEOPLE in the forgiveness of their SINS, 78 because of the heart of MERCY of our God in which he will visit us one who rises from on high. 79 to shine on those who are seated in the darkness and the shadow of DEATH + to guide our path in the way of peace.»

5. THE GROWTH OF THE CHILD (1,80)

+ 80 The child grew up and became-strong in spirit: and he was in the deserts: until the days of his manifestation to Israel.
6. THE BIRTH OF JOHN (1,57-80)

**COMPOSITION OF THE SEQUENCE**

57 For Elizabeth, the time in which she had to bear a son was fulfilled and she gave birth to a son. 58 Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had made great his mercy with her and they were rejoicing with her.

59 And it happened, that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child. They were calling him by name of his father Zechariah. 60 Answering, his mother said: «No, but he shall be called John!» 61 They said to her: «There is none among your relatives who is called by this name!» 62 Then they were making signs to his father how he would want him to be called. 63 He asked for a tablet and wrote: «John is his name.» They were all amazed.

64 Suddenly was opened his mouth and his tongue and he was speaking by blessing God.

65 And it happened that fear came upon all their neighbors. And in the entire hill country of Judea were being discussed all these words. 66 And all those who heard them put them in their hearts saying: «What, then, will this child be?» For indeed the hand of the Lord was with him.

67 Zechariah his father was filled with the Holy Spirit and he prophesied saying: «Blessed be the Lord, God of Israel, for he has visited and made redemption for his people. 68 And he has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of David his servant, 69 as he has said by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, 70 salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us 71 to do mercy with our fathers 72 and to remember his holy covenant, 73 an oath he had sworn to Abraham our father 74 to grant us, 75 without fear, rescued from the hand of our enemies, 76 to serve in sanctity and justice before him for all our days.

76 And you also, child, you will be called prophet of the Most High: For you will walk on before the Lord to prepare his ways, 77 to give knowledge of salvation for his people in the forgiveness of their sins, 78 because of the heart of mercy of our God 79 in which he who rises from on high will visit us 80 to shine on those who are seated in the darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our path in the way of peace.»

80 The child grew up and became strong in spirit and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel.
The birth of Jesus
Sequence A4: Luke 2,1-20

THE BIRTH OF THE SON OF DAVID IN BETHLEHEM 1-7

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ANGELS TO THE SHEPHERDS 8-14

THE VISIT OF THE SHEPHERDS TO THE INFANT OF BETHLEHEM 15-20
1. THE BIRTH OF THE SON OF DAVID IN BETHLEHEM (2,1-7)

1. IT HAPPENED in those DAYS that came out a decree from CAESAR AUGUSTUS to take a census of all the world.

: 2 This was THE FIRST census happened under the governor of Syria QUIRINIUS.

: 3 And all were going to be registered, everyone into his own city.

+ 4 Went up also Joseph from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, towards Judea, to the city of DAVID, because he was of the house and of the lineage of DAVID, to be registered with Mary his spouse, being pregnant.

+ 5 IT HAPPENED, while they were there that were fulfilled THE DAYS of her giving birth.

: 7 And she gave birth HER SON THE FIRST-born.

And she wrapped up him in cloths and put him to sleep in a manger, because there was no place in the inn.
2. THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ANGELS TO THE SHEPHERDS (2,8-14)

| + 8 Some shepherds | were in that region |
| + lodging | in the fields and guarding by night |
| + over the flock | of them. |

. 9 An ANGEL of the LORD stood before THEM. and the GLORY of the LORD shone around THEM.

| And they feared of a great fear |
| and THE ANGEL said to them: |
| «Do not be afraid!» |

| I announce for you |
| a great joy, |
| which will be FOR ALL THE PEOPLE: |

| 11 because was born for you today |
| a SAVIOR who is CHRIST LORD |
| in the city of David. |

| And this for you a sign: |
| you will find an infant wrapped up in cloths |
| and laid in a manger.» |

| + 13 And suddenly there was with THE ANGEL |
| + a multitude of the host of heaven |
| + praising God and saying: |

| «GLORY in the highest to God |
| and on the earth peace FOR MEN of (his) good will!» |
3. THE VISIT OF THE SHEPHERDS TO THE CHILD OF BETHLEHEM (2,15-20)

\[+15\] And it happened, that just as the angels went away from them into heaven, THE SHEPHERDS were saying among them:

\[\text{«Let us go then to Bethlehem and LET US SEE this FACT that has happened} \]

\[\text{that THE LORD HAS MADE KNOWN to us.»} \]

\[\text{----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------}\]

\[:16\] And they went in haste: and found Mary and Joseph: and THE NEW-BORN laid in the manger.

\[=17\] HAVING SEEN, THEY MADE KNOWN about the FACT that had been said to them about this INFANT,

\[=18\] And all those who HEARD were amazed about what had been said by the shepherds to them.

\[\text{----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------}\]

\[:19\] And Mary was keeping all these FACTS meditating in her heart.

\[\text{----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------}\]

\[+20\] And returned THE SHEPHERDS, glorifying and praising GOD for all that they HAD HEARD AND SEEN,

\[\text{just as it had been said to them.} \]
4. THE BIRTH OF JESUS (2,1-20)

2 It happened, that in those days came out a decree from Caesar Augustus to COUNT all the universe. 3 This first COUNT took place when the governor of Syria was Quirinius. 4 And all were going to be COUNTED, everyone into his own city. 5 Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth towards Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and of the descendants of David, to BE COUNTED with Mary, his spouse who was pregnant.

6 It happened, that while they were there, the days were fulfilled for her bearing. 7 And she bore her son first-born infant; she wrapped him up in cloths and put him to sleep in a MANGER because there was no place FOR THEM in the guest-room.

8 Some shepherds were in the same region lodging out-in-the fields and passing the night to guard over their flock. 9 An Angel of the Lord stood before them and the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were struck with a great fear but the Angel said to them: «Do not be afraid! For behold, I announce to you a great joy which will be for all the people: 11 has been born FOR you today a savior who is Christ Lord in the city of David. 12 And this will be FOR you a sign: you will find a new-born wrapped up in cloths and laid in a MANGER.» 13 And suddenly there was with the Angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 14 Glory in the highest to God and on the earth peace for men whom he loves!»

15 And it happened, that just as the Angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds were recounting to one another: «Come, let us go to Bethlehem, and see these words that have happened as the Lord has made known to us.» 16 They went in haste and found Mary and Joseph and the new-born laid in a MANGER.

17 Having seen, they made known about the word that had been recounted to them concerning the infant. 18 And all those who heard were amazed at what had been recounted to them by the shepherds.

19 As for Mary, she was keeping all these words, meditating in her heart. 20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen just as it had been recounted to them.
Jesus is consecrated to the Lord

Sequence A5: Luke 2,21-40

- Circumcision and presentation of Jesus at the Temple 21-24
- The prophet Simeon receives the consolation of Israel 25-28a
- The double blessing of the prophet 28b-35
- The prophetess Anna receives the redemption of Jerusalem 36-38
- Return and growth of Jesus at Nazareth 39-40
1. CIRCUMCISION AND PRESENTATION OF JESUS AT THE TEMPLE (2,21-24)

+ 21 WHEN WERE FULFILLED THE EIGHT DAYS of his circumcision

. he WAS CALLED by name JESUS
. (as) it had BEEN CALLED by the angel
+ before he was conceived in the womb.

+ 22 WHEN WERE FULFILLED THE DAYS of their purification,

: ACCORDING TO THE LAW OF MOSES, they brought him up to Jerusalem,
+ (to) be presented to the Lord,

: 23 AS it is written in THE LAW OF THE LORD:

--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
= «Every male opening the womb = HOLY for the Lord HE SHALL BE CALLED»
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
+ 24 and (to) give an offering sacrifice,

: ACCORDING TO what is said in THE LAW OF THE LORD,

= «a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.»

2. THE PROPHET SIMEON RECEIVES THE CONSOLATION OF ISRAEL (2,25-28a)

+ 25 Behold, there was a man in Jerusalem by name of Simeon,

– and this man was just and pious, WAITING FOR THE CONSOLATION OF ISRAEL.

: And THE HOLY SPIRIT was upon him.

26 It had been revealed to him by the HOLY SPIRIT that he would not see the death before he had seen THE CHRIST OF THE LORD.

: 27 And he came in the SPIRIT to the Temple.

+ And when the parents brought in the child Jesus

– to do according to what is said in the Law about him,

+ 28 HE RECEIVED HIM in his arms.
### 3. THE DOUBLE BLESSING OF THE PROPHET (2,28b-35)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>28b</th>
<th>And he blessed God AND HE SAID:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ 29 «Now, Master, let go your servant in peace according to your word;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ 30 because my eyes have seen your salvation,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ 31 which you have prepared before the face of all the peoples,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ 32 a light FOR REVELATION to the nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ and glory of your people Israel.»</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 33  | His father and his mother were amazed at WHAT WAS SAID ABOUT HIM. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>34</th>
<th>And Simeon blessed them AND HE SAID to Mary, his mother:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ «Behold: this (one) is set FOR the fall of many in Israel,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ and the rise of many hearts.»</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ to be a sign (that is) contradicted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ 35 — and you your soul, will be passed through by a sword —</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ so that may be REVEALED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>+ the reasoning of many hearts.»</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 4. THE PROPHETESS ANNA RECEIVES THE REDEMPTION OF JERUSALEM (2,36-38)

There was also Anna the prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher, — she (was) advanced in many days, having lived with a husband seven years from her virginity, and she (was) a widow until she was eighty-four — she never left the Temple, by fasting and praying serving night and day.

And at that hour coming forward, she was giving thanks to God and was speaking about Him to all who were waiting for The Redemption of Jerusalem.

### 5. RETURN AND GROWTH OF JESUS AT NAZARETH (2,39-40)

When had been accomplished all (that it is) according to The Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their city of Nazareth,

[as it had been said by the Prophet: «NAZARENE HE WILL BE CALLED»].

The child grew up and became strong, being filled with wisdom and The Grace of God was upon him.
6. JESUS IS CONSECRATED TO THE LORD (2,21-40)

**COMPOSITION OF THE SEQUENCE**

21 When the eight days were fulfilled for his circumcision, he was called by name Jesus, as (it had been) called by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

22 And when the days were fulfilled for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to be presented to the Lord. 23 as it is written in the Law of the Lord: «Every male that opens the womb will be called Holy for the Lord,» and to give an offering sacrifice, according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, «a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.»

25 Behold, there was a man in Jerusalem by name of Simeon and this man was just and pious, awaiting the consolation of Israel. And the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 It had been revealed by the Holy Spirit that he would not see the death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord. 27 And he came in the Spirit to the Temple. And when the parents brought the child Jesus in to do according to what is said in the Law about him, 28 he received him in his arms. And he blessed God and he said: 29 «Now, Master, let your servant go in peace according to your word 30 because my eyes have seen your salvation 31 which you have prepared in the sight of all the peoples, 32 a light for revelation to the nations and glory of your people Israel.»

33 His father and his mother were amazed at what was said about him.

34 And Simeon blessed him and he said to Mary his mother: «Behold, this one is set for the fall and the rise of many in Israel, to be a contradicted sign — and you, a sword will pierce through your soul — so that may be revealed the reasoning of many hearts.»

36 There was also Anna the prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very advanced in days; having lived with a husband seven years from her virginity, 37 she had remained a widow until she was eighty-four years old. She never left the Temple, serving night and day with fasting and praying. 38 Came forward at that time, she was giving thanks to God and she was speaking about him to all who were awaiting the ransom of Jerusalem.

39 And when all that is according to the Law of the Lord had been accomplished, they returned to Galilee, to their city of Nazareth [as it had been said by the prophet: «He will be called Nazarene»]. 40 The child grew up and became strong, being filled with the wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.

R. Meynet, Luke, RhBibSem 4, Rome 2015 — Section A
Jesus consecrates himself to his Father

Sequence A6: Luke 2,41-52

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jesus goes up</th>
<th>to Jerusalem</th>
<th>for the Passover</th>
<th>41-43b</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The parents of Jesus do not know that he has remained at Jerusalem</td>
<td>43c</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They look for him</td>
<td>among their relatives</td>
<td>44-46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>but they find him</td>
<td>in the Temple</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All are amazed of the intelligence of the boy</td>
<td>47-48a</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary rebukes him</td>
<td>for his conduct to his parents</td>
<td>48b-49</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>but he answered</td>
<td>that he should have to be with his Father</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The parents of Jesus do not understand his word</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesus returns</td>
<td>to Nazareth</td>
<td>in which he grows up</td>
<td>51-52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COMPOSITION OF THE SEQUENCE

+ 41 His parents were going  
  . every year TO JERUSALEM  
  for the feast of Passover.

+ 42 When he was twelve years old,  
  . his parents WENT UP with him  
  according to the custom of the feast.

+ 43 Having accomplished the days,  
  . while they were returning,  
  the boy Jesus stayed behind IN JERUSALEM.

: And his parents did not know (it).

– 44 Now thinking  
  . that he was  
  IN THE CARAVAN,

– they went a day’s journey,  
  . and they were looking for him  
  AMONG THEIR RELATIVES AND ACQUAINTEANCES.

45 Not finding him, they returned TO JERUSALEM looking for him.

– 46 And it happened that after three days  
– they found him  
– sitting IN THE TEMPLE,

. listening to them  
. and questioning them.

47 And all were amazed in hearing him  

AT THE INTELLIGENCE OF HIS ANSWERS.

48 Having seen him they were astonished.

– And his mother said to him:  
  «My child, why have you done to us like this?  
  Behold, YOUR FATHER AND I being anxious  
  WERE LOOKING FOR YOU.»

– 49 And he said to them:  
  «Why were you looking for me?  
  Did you not know  
  that I must be WITH MY FATHER?»

– 50 But they did not understand the word that he said to them.

+ 51 And he WENT DOWN with them  
  . and came TO NAZARETH  
  and he was subject to them.

And his mother was keeping all these words in her heart.

+ 52 And Jesus was increasing  
  . in wisdom, stature and grace  
  before GOD and MEN.
John prepares the coming of Christ

Sequence A7: Luke 3,1-20

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verse Range</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>God sends John to preach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-9</td>
<td>John announces to the crowds the coming of God’s judgment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>JOHN CALLS ON EVERYONE TO PRACTICE JUSTICE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-17</td>
<td>John announces to all the coming of Christ’s Judgment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-20</td>
<td>Herod prevents John from evangelizing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. GOD SENDS JOHN TO PREACH (3,1-3)

+ 1 In the fifteenth year of the empire of Tiberius Caesar,

- governor Pontius Pilate of Judea,
  and tetrarch of Galilee Herod,
  Philip his brother, tetrarch of Iturea and Trachonitis,
  and Lysanias of Abilene tetrarch,

+ 2 at the time of the high priest Annas and Caiaphas,

= came the word of God upon John the son of Zechariah in the desert,

= and he came into the entire region of the Jordan,

= proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
2. JOHN ANNOUNCES TO THE CROWDS THE COMING OF GOD’S JUDGMENT (4-9)

As it is \textit{WRITTEN} in the book of the \textit{WORDS} of Isaiah the prophet,

+ «A voice of one crying out in the desert:

\begin{itemize}
\item Prepare the \textit{way} of the Lord,
\item make \textit{straight} the paths of him!
\end{itemize}

\begin{itemize}
\item Every ravine shall be filled
\item and every mountain and hill shall be lowered.
\end{itemize}

\begin{itemize}
\item And shall be the crooked \textit{straight}
\item and the rough \textit{ways} smooth
\item shall see \textbf{ALL FLESH} the salvation of God!»,
\end{itemize}

he \textit{SAID} then to the crowds who were coming out to be baptized by him:

\begin{itemize}
\item «Brood of vipers, who taught you that to flee from the wrath that is coming?
\item \textbf{MAKE therefore} \textbf{FRUITS}
\item worthy of the repentance.
\item Do not begin to \textit{say} to yourselves: “As \textbf{FATHER} we have \textbf{Abraham}!”
\item For I \textit{say} to you:
\item - God can from these stones
\item - raise up \textbf{CHILDREN} to \textbf{Abraham}.
\end{itemize}

\begin{itemize}
\item But already \textit{the axe}
\item at the root of the trees is placed:
\item \textbf{EVERY TREE} therefore that does not \textbf{MAKE} good \textbf{FRUIT}
\item will be cut down and into fire will be thrown.»
\end{itemize}
Isa 40,1-11

+ 1 Comfort, comfort MY PEOPLE, says YOUR GOD;

+ 2 Speak to the heart of JERUSALEM and CRY to her

. that is ended her service,

. that is expiated her iniquity,

. that she has received from the hand of THE LORD
double for all her sins.

+ 3 A VOICE CRYING:

: «In the desert prepare the way of THE LORD,
: make straight in the steppe a highway for OUR GOD;

. 4 every ravine shall be lifted up
. every mountain and hill shall be lowered,
. and shall be the sheer cliff a plain
. and the escarpment a plateau.

: 5 And will be revealed the glory of the Lord,
: and will see it all flesh together,
* for the mouth of THE LORD HAS SPOKEN.»

+ 6 A VOICE says: «CRY!» And he said: «What shall I CRY?»

. «Every flesh is grass
. and its every beauty like the flower of the field.

- 7 Dries up the grass, fades the flower,
. when the breath of THE LORD blows on them;

Indeed the grass is THE PEOPLE!

- 8 Dries up the grass, fades the flower,
* but THE WORD of OUR GOD stands forever.»

+ 9 On a high mountain go up, joyous messenger for ZION,

+ lift up with strength YOUR VOICE, joyous messenger for JERUSALEM,

+ lift it up, do not be afraid, say to the cities of JUDAH:

. Behold YOUR GOD!
. with power he comes and his arm rules for him.
. Behold his reward with him and his recompense before him.

- 10 Behold ADONAI THE LORD;

- 11 As a shepherd he pastures his flock, by his arm he gathers them;
- the small lambs he carries in his bosom, and the mother sheep he leads.
3. JOHN CALLS ON EVERYONE TO PRACTICE JUSTICE (3, 10-14)

COMPOSITION

10 And interrogating him were the CROWDS, saying:
   + «WHAT SHALL WE DO then?»

11 And answering he said to them:
   - «Whoever has two tunics, let him share with the one who has none
   - and whoever has food, let him do likewise.»

12 Came also the PUBLICANS to be baptized and they said to him:
   + «Master, WHAT SHALL WE DO?»

13 And he said to them:
   - «Exact nothing more than what is fixed for you.»

14 And interrogating him were also some SOLDIERS saying:
   + «And we also WHAT SHALL WE DO?»

   And he said to them:
   - «Do not extort by violence nor defraud any one
   - and be content with your wages.»
4. JOHN ANNOUNCES THE COMING OF CHRIST’S JUDGMENT (3,15-17)

+ 15 The people were waiting and ALL were asking in their hearts, about John, whether he might be THE CHRIST.

+ 16 John answered saying to ALL:

```plaintext
: «I am with water baptizing you,
- but one is coming more powerful than me,
- of whom I have no right to untie the latchet of his sandals.

:: HE will baptize you WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND FIRE,
- 17 who (has) a winnowing fan in his hand
  . to cleanse out his threshing floor
- and to gather the wheat into his granary;
  . but the chaff, he will burn with unquenchable FIRE.»
```

5. HEROD PREVENTS JOHN FROM EVANGELIZING (3,18-20)

+ 18 So with many of (words) and others EXHORTING,
+ 19 But Herod the tetrarch, BEING REBUKED by him

```plaintext
- because of Herodias, the wife of his brother,
- and because of all the evils that Herod had committed,
```

+ 20 added also this to all (the others): he shut John up in prison.
6. JOHN PREPARES FOR THE COMING OF CHRIST (3,1-20)

COMPOSITION OF THE SEQUENCE

1 In the fifteenth year of the empire of Tiberius Caesar, while Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod Tetrarch of Galilee, and Philip, his brother, tetrarch of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, under the high-priests Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came upon John the son of Zechariah in the desert, and he came through all the region of the Jordan, PROCLAIMING a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

2 As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:
   «Voice of one crying out in the desert: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths! Every ravine shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be lowered. The crooked way shall become straight and the rough shall become smooth; and all flesh will see the salvation of God!»

3 He said then to the crowd who were coming out to be baptized by him:
   «Brood of vipers, who taught you to flee from the wrath that is coming? Make therefore fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves: “We have Abraham as father!”, for I say to you, God can raise up from these stones children for Abraham. Even the axe is already placed at the root of the trees: every tree therefore that does not make good fruit will be cut down and will be thrown into fire.»

4 And the crowds were interrogating him: «What therefore do we have to do?»
5 Answering, he said to them: «Whoever has two tunics, let him share with the one who has none and whoever has food, let him do likewise.»

6 Some tax collectors came also to be baptized, and they said to him: «Master, what do we have to do?»
7 And he said to them: «Exact nothing more than what is fixed for you.»

8 And some soldiers also were interrogating: «And we, what do we have to do?»
9 He answered them: «Do not extort by violence nor defraud anyone and be content with your wages.»

10 The people were waiting and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be the Christ,
11 John answered to them:
   I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than me is coming, of whom I am not able to loose the latchet of his sandals: he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. He has in hand the winnowing fan to cleanse up his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff, he will burn into the unquenchable fire.»

12 With many other exhortations he was proclaiming the good news to the people.
13 But Herod, the tetrarch, rebuked by him because of Herodias the wife of his brother and because of all the evils that Herod had done, added also this to all the rest: he shut up John in prison.
8
Jesus prepares for his coming
Sequence A8: Luke 3,21–4,13

Jesus is revealed as Son by God at the Jordan 3,21-22

JESUS, SON OF JOSEPH AND SON OF GOD 23-38

Jesus is tempted as Son by the devil in the desert 4,1-13

1. JESUS IS REVEALED AS SON BY GOD AT THE JORDAN (3,21-22)

+ 21 It came to pass that, when all the people were baptized
+ and while Jesus having been baptized and was praying,

– was opened the HEAVEN

= 22 and the Holy Spirit descended
= in bodily form like a dove upon him

– and a voice from HEAVEN came out:
= You are my Son, the beloved;
= with you I am well pleased.»
2. JESUS, SON OF JOSEPH AND SON OF GOD (3,23-38)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>23</th>
<th>JESUS, beginning (his ministry), was about thirty years old; he was, as it was supposed, son of Joseph, of Heli, of Matthat, of Levi, of Melchi, of Jannai,</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>of Joseph, of Mattathias, of Amos, of Nahum, of Esli, of Naggai, of Maath, of ZERUBBABEL, of Shealthiel, of Neriah, of Melchi, of Addi, of Cosam, of Elmadam, of Er,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>of Joseph, of Jonam, of Eliakim, of Melea, of Menna, of Mattatha, of Nathan,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>of Jesus, of Eliezer, of Jorim, of Matthat, of Levi, of Simeon, of Judah,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>of Joseph, of Jessé, of Obed, of Boaz, of Sala, of Nahshon, of Amminadab, of Abraham,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>of David, of Aram, of Hezron, of Perez, of Judah, of Jacob, of Isaac, of Abraham,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>of Terah, of Nahor, of Serug, of Reu, of Peleg, of Eber, of Shelah,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>of Cainan, of Arphaxad, of Shem, of Noah, of Lamech, of Methuselah, of Enoch,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>of Jared, of Mahaleel, of Cainan, of Enos, of Seth, of Adam, of God.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. JESUS TEMPTED AS SON BY THE DEVIL IN THE DESERT (4,1-13)

1 Now JESUS filled with the Holy Spirit returned from the Jordan and he was led by the Spirit into the desert, TEMPTED for forty days by THE DEVIL.

2 He ate nothing during those days and, when they were finished, he was hungry.

3 Now the devil said to him: «IF YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD, say to this stone to become bread!»

4 And JESUS answered him: «It is WRITTEN: “It is not by bread alone, man shall live”.

5 Leading him up to a height, he showed him all the kingdoms of the world at an instant.

6 And the devil said to him: «I will give you all this power, with their glory, for it is to me that it has been given and I give it to whom I wish. You then, if you would worship before me, all shall be yours.»

7 And answering, JESUS said to him: «It is WRITTEN: “Before the Lord your God you shall worship and him alone you shall serve”.

8 He led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the Temple.

And he said to him: «IF YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD, throw yourself down from here.

For it is WRITTEN: “He will command for you his angels to guard you”

and: “On their hands they will support you so that you may not dash your foot against a stone”.

9 Having finished every TEMPTATION, THE DEVIL departed from him until a (fixed) time.

R. Meynet, Luke, RhBibSem 4, Rome 2015 — Section A
4. JESUS PREPARES HIMSELF FOR HIS COMING (3,21–4,13)

COMPOSITION OF THE SEQUENCE

21 It happened, that when all the people were baptized and while Jesus, having been baptized, was praying, the heaven was opened and THE HOLY SPIRIT descended upon him in bodily form like a dove and from heaven came out a voice:

«YOU ARE MY BELOVED SON, with you I am well pleased.»

Jesus, beginning his ministry, was about thirty years old; he was, as it was supposed, SON of Joseph, of Heli, of Matthat, of Levi, of Melchi, of Jannai, of Joseph, of Mattathias, of Amos, of Nahum, of Esli, of Naggai, of Maath, of Mattathias, of Semein, of Josech, of Joda, of Joanan, of Rhesa, of Zerubbabel, of Shealtiel, of Neri, of Melchi, of Addi, of Cosam, of Elmadam, of Er, of Jesus, of Eliezer, of Jorim, of Matthat, of Levi, of Simeon, of Judah, of Joseph, of Jonam, of Eliakim, of Melea, of Menna, of Mattatha, of Nathan, of David, of Jesse, of Obed, of Boaz, of Sala, of Nahshon, of Aminadab, of Aram, of Hezron, of Perez, of Judah, of Jacob, of Isaac, of Abraham, of Terah, of Nahor, of Serug, of Reu, of Peleg, of Eber, of Shelah, of Cainan, of Arphaxad, of Shem, of Noah, of Lamech, of Methuselah, of Enoch, of Jared, of Mahaleel, of Cainan, of Enos, of Seth, of Adam, OF GOD.

4:1 Now Jesus, filled with THE HOLY SPIRIT, returned from the Jordan and was led by THE SPIRIT into the desert, tempted for forty days by the devil.

He ate nothing during those days and, when they were finished, he was hungry. Now the devil said to him:

«SINCE YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD, say to this stone to become bread!» Jesus answered him: «It is written: “It is not by bread alone that man shall live.”»

5 Leading him up to a height, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world at an instant. And the devil said to him: «I will give you this power, all entirely, with their glory, for it is to me that it has been given and I give it to whom I wish. You then, if you would worship before me, all will be yours.» Answering, Jesus said to him: «It is written: “It is before the Lord your God that you shall worship and it is him alone that you shall serve.”»

9 He led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the Temple and the devil said to him:

«SINCE YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD, throw yourself down from here.» For it is written: “He will command for you his angels to guard you” and: “On their hands they will support you so that you may not dash your foot against a stone”. Answering, Jesus said to him: «It is said: ‘You shall not tempt the Lord your God’.»

13 Having finished every temptation, the devil departed from him until a fixed time.
The coming of Christ
prepared by the messengers of God

Section A: Luke 1,5–4,3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First sub-section:</th>
<th>THE TWO ANNUNCIATIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A1:</td>
<td>The announcement of the birth of John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A2:</td>
<td>The announcement of the birth of Jesus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Second sub-section:</th>
<th>THE TWO BIRTHS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A3:</td>
<td>The birth of John</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A4:</td>
<td>The birth of Jesus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Third sub-section:</th>
<th>THE TWO CONSECRATIONS OF JESUS AT THE TEMPLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A5:</td>
<td>Jesus is consecrated to the Lord</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A6:</td>
<td>Jesus consecrates himself to his Father</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fourth sub-section:</th>
<th>THE TWO PREPARATIONS OF THE COMING OF JESUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A7:</td>
<td>John prepares the coming of the Christ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequence A8:</td>
<td>Jesus prepares himself for his coming</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
R. Meynet,  

The two annunciations (sequences A1 and A2)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sequence A1 (1,5-25)</th>
<th>Sequence A2 (1,26-56)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 5 It happened that, in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the class of Abijah, and his wife was a daughter of Aaron and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous, walking on before God, blameless in all the commandments and observances of the Lord. But they had no child for Elizabeth was barren and both of them were advanced in their days. 8 It happened that, while Zechariah was on duty before God in the turn of his class, that, according to the priestly office, he was chosen by lot to burn incense, after having entered in the sanctuary of the Lord. All the multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of incense. An angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right of the altar of incense. Seeing it, Zechariah was troubled and fear fell upon him. But the angel said to him: «DO NOT BE AFRAID, Zechariah, for your supplication has been heard: your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call him by name of John. You will have joy and gladness and many will rejoice because of his birth.»

15 HE WILL BE GREAT before the LORD; he shall not drink wine neither fermented drink but he will be filled with the Holy Spirit from the womb of his mother. And he will turn many of the sons of Israel to the LORD our God.

17 And he, himself, will walk before him in the spirit and the power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the sons and of the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to prepare to the LORD a people well prepared.»

18 Zechariah said to the angel: «Why shall I know this, SIR? I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years?» 19 Answering, the angel said to him: «I am Gabriel who stands before God; I was sent to speak to you and to announce these good news. But behold, you will be silent and you will not be able to speak until the days in which these come to pass, because you DID NOT BELIEVE to my WORDS, which WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED at their proper time.» And the people were awaiting Zechariah and they were amazed that he was delaying in the sanctuary. When he came out, he was not able to speak to them and they recognized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary; and he was making signs to them and he remained deaf and mute.

It happened that when the days of his service were fulfilled, 22 When he came out, he was not able to speak until the days in which he was to be silent were accomplished.»

26 In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God into a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin, espoused to a man named Joseph, from the house of David, and the name of the virgin was Mary. Coming in unto her, he said: «Rejoice, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.» 27 TO THIS WORD, she was troubled and she was asking what kind of greeting this might be. The angel said to her: «DO NOT BE AFRAID, Mary, FOR you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and you will bear a son and you shall call him by name Jesus. HE WILL BE GREAT and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, who is to be born holy will be called Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren, Because nothing will be impossible for God.» Mary said: Behold, the maid-servant of the Lord, let it happen to me according to your word.» And the angel left her.

28 Mary set off in those days and went in haste towards the hill country into a city of Judah. She entered in, the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And it happened, that when Elizabeth HEARD Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and she exclaimed in a loud voice and said: «Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb!»

42 And how is it happened to me That the mother of my LORD may come to me?

44 For behold: at the moment the voice of your greeting came to my EARS, the baby leaped in a great joy in my womb. And he has helped Israel, his servant, because he has regarded the humiliation of his maid-servant. From now on all generations will call me happy, because the Mighty has done for me great things. Holy is his name 46 and his mercy is from generations to generations to those who fear him. He has done might with his arm, he has dispersed the arrogant in mind of their heart. He has put down the mighty from their thrones and he has lifted up the humbles. The hungry he has filled with goods and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy, as he has said to our fathers, in favor of Abraham and his descendants for ever.» 50 Mary remained with her about three months, then she returned to her house.»
The two births (sequences A3 and A4)

Sequence A3 (1,57-80)

57 For Elizabeth the time in which she had to bear was fulfilled and she gave birth to a son. 58 Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had made great his mercy with her and they were rejoicing with her. 59 And it happened that on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child and they were calling him by name of his father Zechariah. 60 Answering, his mother said: «No, but he shall be called John!» 61 They said: «There is none among your relatives who is called by this name!» 62 They were making sign to his father how he would want him to be called. 63 He asked for a tablet and wrote: «John is his name.» 64 Suddenly his mouth was opened and his tongue and he was filled with the Holy Spirit and he was in the wilderness and in the entire hill country of Judea, all the people were hearing him. 65 And all those who heard him put them in their hearts saying:

«What, then, will be this child?  
For the hand of the Lord is with him.»

66 Zechariah his father was filled with the Holy Spirit and he was prophesying saying: «BLESSED IS THE LORD, GOD OF ISRAEL, for he has visited and made redemption for his people. 67 Zechariah was prophesying from of old, SALVATION for us in the house of David his servant, 68 as he has said by the mouth of his prophets from of old, SALVATION from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us 69 to do mercy with our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, 70 an oath he had sworn to Abraham our father to grant us, 71 without fear, rescued from the hand of our enemies, 72 to serve in sanctity and justice before him for all our days. 73 And you also, child, you will be called prophet of the Most High: For you will walk on before the Lord to prepare his ways, 74 to give knowledge of SALVATION for his people in the forgiveness of their sins, 75 through the heart of the mercy of our God in which he who rises from on high will visit us 76 to shine on those who are seated in the darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our path in the way of PEACE.» 77 The child increased and became strong in Spirit and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel.

Sequence A4 (2,1-20)

2:1 It happened, that in those days came out a decree of Caesar Augustus to count all of the universe. 2 This first count took place when the governor of Syria was Quirinius. 3 And they were going all to be counted everyone into his own city. 4 Joseph also went up from Galilee from the city of Nazareth towards Judea, to the city of which is called Bethlehem, because he was the house of and of the descendants of David, to be counted with Mary his spouse who was pregnant. 5 It happened, that while they were there the days of her bearing were fulfilled and she bore her son first-born child; she wrapped him up in cloths and put him to sleep in a manger because there was no place for them in the inn. 6 Some shepherds were in the same region staying out in the fields and passing the night to guard over their flock. 7 An angel of the Lord stood before them and the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were struck with a great fear 8 but the angel said to them: «Do not be afraid! For behold, I announce you a great joy which will be for all the people:

«A child has been born for you today  
a SAVIOR who is Christ Lord  
in the city of David.»

And this will be for you a sign: you will find a new-born baby wrapped up in cloths and laid in a manger.» 9 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, rejoicing with him and saying: «Glorify to God in the highest and on the earth PEACE for men whom he loves!»

And it happened, that just as the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds WERE RECOUNTING to one another: «Let us go to Bethlehem, and see this WORD happened as the Lord has made known to us.» 10 They went in haste and found Mary and Joseph and the new-born baby laid in a manger. 11 Having seen, they made known about the WORD that HAD BEEN RECOUNTED to them concerning the child. 12 And all those who had heard were amazed at what HAD BEEN RECOUNTED to them by the shepherds. 13 As for Mary, she was keeping all these WORDS, meditating in her heart, 14 And the shepherds returned, GIVING TO THE PEOPLE GLORY for all that they had heard and seen just as it HAD BEEN RECOUNTED to them.
The two consecrations of Jesus in the Temple (A5 and A6)

Sequence A5 (2,21-40)

21 When the eight days were fulfilled for his circumcision, he was called by name Jesus, as (it had been) called by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

22 And when the days were fulfilled for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to be presented to the Lord. 23 as it is written in the Law of the Lord: ‘Every male that opens the womb will be called holy for the Lord,’ 24 and to give an offering sacrifice, according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons’.

25 Behold, there was a man in Jerusalem by name of Simeon and this man was just and pious, awaiting the consolation of Israel. And the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 It had been revealed by the Holy Spirit that he would not see the death before he had seen Christ of the Lord. 27 And he came in the Spirit to the Temple. And when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do according to what is said in the Law about him, 28 he received him in his arms.

And he blessed God and said: 29 «Now, Master, let go your servant in peace according to your word 30 because my eyes have seen your salvation 31 which you have prepared in the sight of all the peoples, 32 a light for revelation to the nations and glory of your people Israel.»

Sequence A6 (2,41-52)

41 His parents were going every year to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. 42 When he was twelve years old, his parents went up with him according to the custom of the feast of the unleavened bread.

43 Having accomplished the days, while they were returning, the child Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. And his parents did not know it. 44 Thinking that he was in the caravan, they went a day’s journey, and they were looking for him among their relatives and acquaintances. 45 Not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem looking for him. 46 And it happened, that after three days they found him in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and questioning them.

47 And all were amazed at hearing him at the intelligence of his answers.

48 Having seen him they were astonished.

49 His father and his mother were amazed at what was said about him.

50 And Simeon blessed them and he said to Mary his mother: «Behold, this one is set for the fall and the rise of many in Israel, to be a contradicted sign — and you, your soul will be pierced through by the sword — so that the reasoning of many hearts may be revealed.»

51 There was also Anna the prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very advanced in days; having lived with a husband seven years from her virginity, 37 she remained a widow until she was eighty-four years old. She never left the Temple, serving night and day by fasting and praying. 52 Coming forward at that time, she was giving thanks to God and she was speaking about him to all who were waiting for the ransom of Jerusalem.

53 And when all that is according to the Law of the Lord had been accomplished, they returned to Galilee, to their city of Nazareth as it had been said by the prophet: «He will be called Nazarene».

54 The child grew up and became strong, filled with the power, and the grace of God was upon him.

The two preparations (sequences A7 and A8)

3:1 In the fifteenth year of the empire of Tiberius Caesar, while Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, and Philip, his brother, tetrarch of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, under the high-priests Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came upon John the son of Zechariah in the desert, and he came through all the region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

As IT IS WRITTEN in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: «Voice of one crying out in the desert: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths!» Every ravine shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be lowered. The crooked way shall become straight and the rough shall become smooth; and all flesh will see the salvation of God!», he said then to the crowd who were coming out to be baptized by him: «Brood of vipers, who taught you to flee from the wrath to come?» Make therefore fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves: “We have as father Abraham!”; for I say to you, God can raise children to Abraham. Even the axe is already placed at the root of the trees: every tree therefore that does not make good fruit will be cut down and will be thrown into fire.

– 10 The crowds were interrogating him: «What do we have to do then?» Answering, he said to them: «Whoever has two tunics let him give one to another; and whoever has nothing let him do likewise.»

– 12 Some tax collectors also came also to be baptized, and they said to him: «Master, what do we have to do?» He said to them: «Exact nothing more than what is fixed for you.»

– 13 Some soldiers also were interrogating him: «Teacher, what do we have to do?» He answered them: «Do not extort by violence nor defraud anyone and be content with your wages.»

17 The people were waiting and all were asking in their hearts whether John might be THE CHRIST. John answered them: «I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than me is coming, of whom I am not able to loose the latchet of his sandals: he will baptize you with HOLY SPIRIT and fire.»

18 With many other exhortations he was proclaiming the good news to the people. But the tetrarch Herod who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias the wife of his brother and because of all the evils that Herod had done, added also this to all the rest: he shut up John in prison.

21 It happened that when all the people were baptized, and while Jesus, having been baptized, was praying, the heaven was opened and the HOLY SPIRIT descended upon him in bodily form like a dove and from heaven came out a voice: «You are MY SON the beloved, with you I am well pleased.»

23 Jesus, beginning his ministry, was about thirty years old; he was, as it was supposed, SON of Joseph, of Heli, of Mattha, of Levi, of Melchi, of Jannai, of Aaron, of Abinadab, of Abiram, of Rahuel, of Jared, of Mahalaleel, of Methuselah, of Enoch, of Jared, of Mahaleel, of Cainan, of Noah, of Lamech, of Methuselah, of Enoch, of Jared, of Methuselah, of Methuselah, of Enoch, of Jared, of Mahaleel, of Cainan, of Enoch, of Seth, of Adam, of GOD.

4:1 Now Jesus, filled with the HOLY SPIRIT, returned from the Jordan and was led by the HOLY SPIRIT into the desert, tempted for forty days by the devil. He ate nothing during those days and, when they were accomplished, he was hungry. Then the devil said to him: «Because you are THE SON OF GOD, say to this stone to become bread!» Jesus answered him: «IT IS WRITTEN: “It is not by bread alone that man shall live”».

– 13 Leading him up to a height, the devil showed him the kingdoms of the world at an instant. And the devil said to him: «I will give you all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; for IT IS WRITTEN: “You shall worship and it is him alone that you shall serve.”»

– 20 The devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the Temple and said to him: «Because you are THE SON OF GOD, throw yourself down from here.» For IT IS WRITTEN: “He will command for you his angels to guard you” and “On their hands they will guard you” and “On their feet they will support you so that you may not dash your foot against a stone”. Answering, Jesus said to him: «IT IS SAID: ‘You shall not tempt the Lord your God’.»

13 Having finished every temptation, the devil departed from him until a fixed time.