



**“MY EYES HAVE SEEN**

*your salvation.”*

LUKE 2:30

Complete Worship Folder

February 2, 2025 – 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

February 5, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Julie Bailey, Pastor

Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday Worship 7:00pm

## **Presentation of Our Lord**

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### Welcome and Announcements

#### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

**C: Amen.**

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Merciful God, ...you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.**

P: God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

**C: Amen**

Hymn: "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" (ELW 275)

Angels, from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
once you sang creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
yonder shines the infant light.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

Sages, leave your contemplations,  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great desire of nations,  
you have seen his natal star.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

All creation, join in praising  
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
evermore your voices raising  
to the eternal Three in One.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

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Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray... **Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Children's Message (10:30 a.m.) & Dismiss to Children's Church

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

<sup>1</sup> See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like washers' soap; <sup>3</sup> he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD, as in the days of old and as in former years.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 84 (Read Responsively)

<sup>1</sup> How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts!

**<sup>2</sup> My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

<sup>3</sup> Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king and my God.

**<sup>4</sup> Happy are they who dwell in your house! They will always be praising you.**

<sup>5</sup> Happy are the people whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

**<sup>6</sup> Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.**

<sup>7</sup> They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

**<sup>8</sup> LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob.**

<sup>9</sup> Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your anointed.

**<sup>10</sup> For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**

<sup>11</sup> For the LORD God is both sun and shield, bestowing grace and glory; no good thing will the LORD withhold from those who walk with integrity.

**<sup>12</sup> O LORD of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!**

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18

<sup>14</sup> Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, [Jesus] himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup> For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup> Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup> Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation: “Thy Word” (CCLI 14301 *Chorus Only*)

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the second chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

<sup>22</sup> When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), <sup>24</sup> and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.” <sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. <sup>27</sup> Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary under the law, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, <sup>29</sup> “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word, <sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation, <sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” <sup>33</sup> And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed <sup>35</sup> so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul, too.” <sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. <sup>39</sup> When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom, and the favor of God was upon him.

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "O Lord, Now Let Your Servant" (ELW 313)

O Lord, now let your servant  
depart in heav'nly peace,  
for I have seen the glory  
of your redeeming grace:  
a light to lead the nations  
unto your holy hill,  
the glory of your people,  
your chosen Israel.

Then grant that I may follow  
your gleam, O glorious Light,  
till earthly shadows scatter,  
and faith is changed to sight;  
till raptured saints shall gather  
upon that shining shore,  
where Christ, the blessed daystar,  
shall light them evermore.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the Children of God

Each petition ends...God of grace,

**Congregation responds...hear our prayer.**

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

Offering

Offering Song: “Arise, Your Light Has Come!” (ELW 314, *verses 1,4*)

Arise, your light has come!  
The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God  
which shines on you today.

Arise, your light has come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing,  
God's pow'r will make us strong.

Offering Prayer

A: God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

**C: Amen.**

Thanksgiving

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion / Distribution of Holy Communion

P: The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Communion Songs: “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” (ELW 815)

I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus.

**Refrain** In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father. **Refrain**

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus. **Refrain**

“Let Us Break Bread Together” (ELW 471)

Let us break bread together on our knees;  
let us break bread together on our knees.

**Refrain** When I fall on my knees,  
with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
let us drink wine together on our knees. **Refrain**

Let us praise God together on our knees;  
let us praise God together on our knees. **Refrain**

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### Post-Communion Blessing

P: And now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

### Post Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray. Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,

**C: Amen**

### Blessing

P: The Spirit of the triune God ✠ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Song: “Soon and Very Soon” (ELW 439)

Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King  
Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King  
Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King  
Hallelujah, hallelujah we're goin’ to see the King

No more cryin’ there we are goin’ to see the King  
No more cryin’ there we are goin’ to see the King  
No more cryin’ there we are goin’ to see the King  
Hallelujah, hallelujah we're goin’ to see the King

No more dyin’ there we are goin’ to see the King  
No more dyin’ there we are goin’ to see the King  
No more dyin’ there we are goin’ to see the King  
Hallelujah, hallelujah we're goin’ to see the King

Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King  
Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King  
Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King  
Hallelujah, hallelujah we're goin’ to see the King  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah

Dismissal

A: We work together to spread Christ's love with our community

**C: Through an Open Heart, Open Mind, and an Open Table.**

A: Go in peace. Live in hope.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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