

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

*Stand*

**Opening Prayer**

**The Candlemas Blessing**

**P** Today the church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord and the Purification of Mary, a day also known as Candlemas. In obedience to the Law of Moses, Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus travelled to the temple in Jerusalem forty days after His birth so that they could offer the sacrifice for Mary’s purification following childbirth and present Jesus to God. Through the words of Simeon and the prophetess Anna, the infant Jesus is proclaimed the Messiah, the light of the nations. (Luke 2:22–40)

The church has traditionally used this day to bless the candles that will be used in the services throughout the year, thus the name “Candlemas.” The candles we light today remind us that Jesus Christ is the light of the nations, the true light that gives light to every man. (John 1:4)

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Dearly beloved, upon seeing the child Jesus in the temple, Simeon declared: “My eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”(Luke 2:30–32)

Let us pray.

God our Father, source of all light, today you revealed to the aged Simeon your light which enlightens the nations. Fill our hearts with the light of faith, that we who bear these candles may walk in the path of goodness, and come to the light that shines forever: your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

**P** Let us go forth in peace,  
**C** in the name of the Lord. Amen.

*The light of Christ is shared as the candles are lit. Please light your candle by tilting it into the flame of the candle from which you are lighting. You may keep your candle lit through the singing of the Opening Hymn.*

### Opening Hymn

#### **LSB #803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee**



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,  
△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.  
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.  
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.  
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.  
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852–1933, alt. Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867

Text and tune: Public domain

## ✠ Service of the Word ✠

### Introit

**P** We have thought on Your steadfast love, O God,

**C** in the midst of Your temple.

**P** Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised

**C** in the city of our God!

**P** His holy mountain, beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth,

**C** Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King.

**P** Within her citadels

**C** God has made Himself known as a fortress.

**P** As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God,

**C** which God will establish forever.



**C** Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



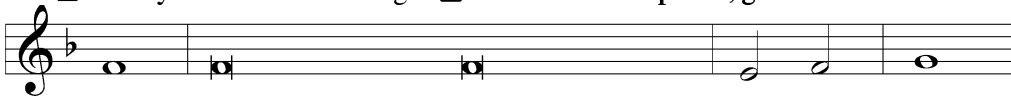
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

### Hymn of Praise “Gloria in Excelsis”

*LSB p.187*



**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Let us pray.

**P** Almighty and ever-living God, as Your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in the substance of our flesh, grant that we may be presented to You with pure and clean hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*1 Samuel 1:21–28*

<sup>21</sup>The man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and to pay his vow. <sup>22</sup>But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, “As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, so that he may appear in the presence of the LORD and dwell there forever.” <sup>23</sup>Elkanah her husband said to her, “Do what seems best to you; wait until you have weaned him; only, may the LORD establish his word.” So the woman remained and nursed her son until she weaned him. <sup>24</sup>And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh. And the child was young. <sup>25</sup>Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. <sup>26</sup>And she said, “Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence,

praying to the LORD. <sup>27</sup>For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to him. <sup>28</sup>Therefore I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD.”

And he worshiped the LORD there.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Solo

“Jesus is All the World to Me”

*Marie Broderick*

### Epistle

*Hebrews 2:14–18*

<sup>14</sup>Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup>and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. <sup>16</sup>For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. <sup>17</sup>Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### Alleluia

*LSB p. 190*



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

Luke 2:22-32

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



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>22</sup> When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said 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, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup>And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup>And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup>he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, <sup>29</sup>“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; <sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation <sup>31</sup>that 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.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Apostles’ Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

*Sit*

**Hymn of the Day**

**LSB #842 Son of God, Eternal Savior**



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and  
 2 As You, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, So may we for  
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and  
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and



truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us  
 oth - ers live. Free - ly have Your gifts been grant - ed;  
 Prince of Peace; Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion,  
 truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us



Hal - lows all our hu - man race, You our Head, who, throned in  
 Free-ly may Your ser - vants give. Yours the gold and Yours the  
 Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease. By Your pa - tient years of  
 Hal - lows all our hu - man race: By Your pray - ing, by Your



glo - ry, For Your own will ev - er plead: Fill us with Your  
 sil - ver, Yours the wealth of land and sea; We but stew - ards  
 toil - ing, By Your si - lent hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered  
 will - ing That Your peo - ple should be one, Grant, O grant our





love and pit - y, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.  
of Your boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.  
thirst of plea - sure, Stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
hope's fru - i - tion: Here on earth Your will be done.

Text: Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1855–1932, alt. Tune: Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse . . . Contredansen, c. 1710, Amsterdam  
Text and tune: Public domain

**Sermon**      “Simeon’s Song: Salvation for All Nations”      *Rev. Dr. Jedidiah Maschke*

*Stand*

**Offertory**

*LSB p.192*

**☐** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

*Sit*

## Mite Offering

### Offering

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

*At the end of the prayers:*

**P** ...forever and ever.

**C** Amen.

## ✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

### Preface

*LSB p.194*



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; who, sharing Your eternal splendor, was presented on this day in Your temple in the substance of our human flesh and revealed by the Spirit as the glory of Israel and the light of all peoples. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus**

*LSB p.195*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

### Lord's Prayer

**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.

### The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini

*LSB p.197*



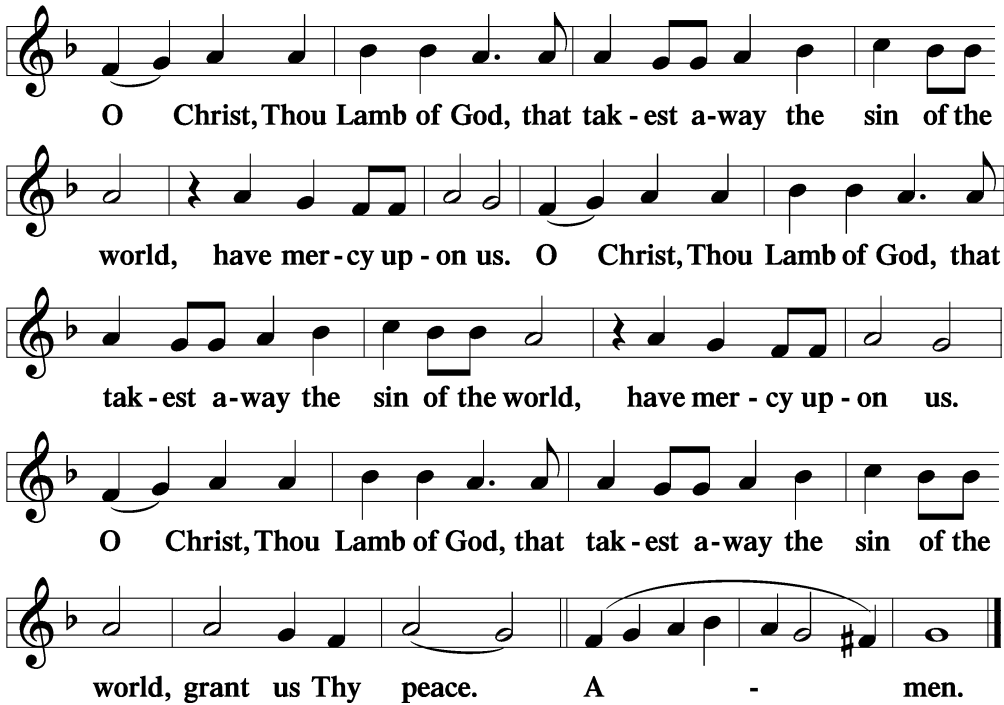
**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

LSB p.198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

*Sit*

### Distribution

*Please fill out a white communion card and leave it on the table next to the hand sanitizer as you come forward for communion. If you have not communed with us before, please see our statement of belief about communion on the inside front cover of the bulletin. If you prefer a gluten-free wafer, please ask the pastor for one. Also available in the center of the communion trays are two individual cups with water and a drop of wine.*

## LSB #845 Where Charity and Love Prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail There  
 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear His  
 3 For - give we now each oth - er's faults As  
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; Let



God is ev - er found; Brought here to - geth - er  
 char - i - ty we learn; Let us with heart and  
 we our faults con - fess, And let us love each  
 all con - ten - tion cease; Be God's the glo - ry



by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.  
 mind and soul Now love Him in re - turn.  
 oth - er well In Chris - tian ho - li - ness.  
 that we seek; Be ours His ho - ly peace.

5 Let us recall that in our midst  
 Dwells Christ, His only Son;  
 As members of His body joined  
 We are in Him made one.

6 For love excludes no race or clan  
 That names the Savior's name;  
 His family embraces all  
 Whose Father is the same.

Text: Latin, c. 9th cent.; tr. Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt. Tune: Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

Text: © 1960 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003898 Tune: Public domain

## LSB #783 Take My Life and Let It Be



1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;  
 2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;  
 3 Take my voice and let me sing Al-ways, on - ly for my King;  
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;



Take my mo-ments and my days, Let them flow in cease-less praise.  
 Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.  
 Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.  
 Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it Thine,  
 It shall be no longer mine;  
 Take my heart, it is Thine own,  
 It shall be Thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
 At Thy feet its treasure store;  
 Take myself, and I will be  
 Ever, only, all for Thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79 Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870 Text and tune: Public domain

### LSB #729 I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;  
 2 I am trust-ing Thee for par - don; At Thy feet I bow,  
 3 I am trust-ing Thee for cleans - ing In the crim - son flood;  
 4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a - lone shalt lead,



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.  
 For Thy grace and ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.  
 Trust - ing Thee to make me ho - ly By Thy blood.  
 Ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing All my need.

5 I am trusting Thee for power;  
 Thine can never fail.  
 Words which Thou Thyself shalt  
 give me  
 Must prevail.

6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;  
 Never let me fall.  
 I am trusting Thee forever  
 And for all.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79 Tune: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77 Text and tune: Public domain

## LSB #850 God of Grace and God of Glory



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On Your peo - ple  
 2 Lo, the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn the Christ, as -  
 3 Cure Your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; Bend our pride to  
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e - vils



pour Your pow'r; Crown Your an - cient Church's sto - ry;  
 sail His ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
 Your con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
 we de - plore; Let the gift of Your sal - va - tion



Bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom,  
 Free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom,  
 Rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,  
 Be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,



grant us cour - age For the fac - ing of this  
 grant us cour - age For the liv - ing of these  
 grant us cour - age Lest we miss Your king - dom's  
 grant us cour - age, Serv - ing You whom we a -



hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.  
 days, For the liv - ing of these days.  
 goal, Lest we miss Your king - dom's goal.  
 dore, Serv - ing You whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1878–1969 Tune: John Hughes, 1873–1932 Text and tune: Public domain



## The Dismissal

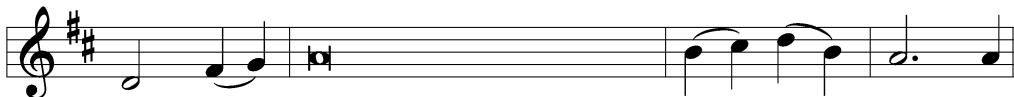
**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

## Nunc Dimittis

*LSB p.199*



**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and



to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

**Thanksgiving**

*LSB p.200*

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

**A** Let us pray.

O God, you have made this day holy by the presentation of your Son in the temple, and by the purification of lowly Mary. Mercifully grant that we, who delight in her humble readiness to be the birth-giver of the Only-begotten, may rejoice forever in our adoption as His sisters and brothers; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

**Salutation**

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

### Benedicamus

*LSB p.202*

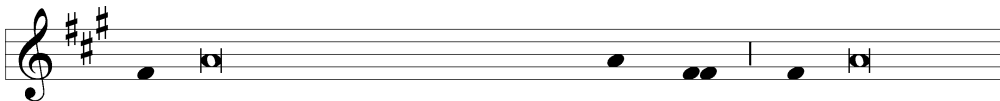


**A** Bless we the Lord.

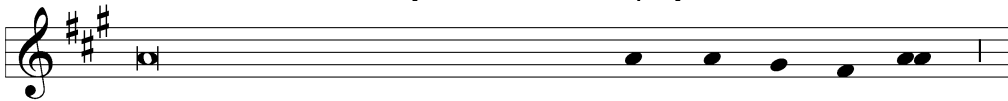


**C** Thanks be to God.

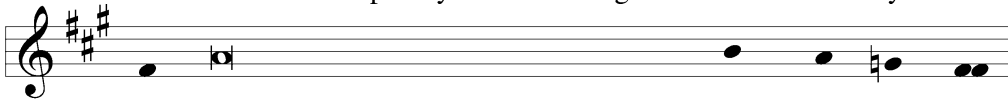
### Benediction



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Closing Hymn

### LSB #722 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;  
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,  
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.  
For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.  
I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;  
Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,  
Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.  
For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.  
So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt. Tune: P. Friedrich Silcher, 1789–1860

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003898 Tune: Public domain

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

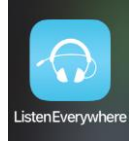
Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

## **Silent Prayer & Postlude**

---



**NOTE to All Members:** To connect your hearing aid to the **Listen Everywhere** feature you will need a smart phone. You can control the volume through your hearing aid volume buttons or the hearing aid app on your phone (if you have one installed.)



1. On your phone, connect to the "BLC Guest" network with password Bethlehem1837.
2. Go to the app store and search "Listen Everywhere" and download.
3. Open the app and touch "Allow" when asked.



***The 2025 Flower Chart is up in the narthex and awaiting your names for flowers for the sanctuary for this coming year. Any questions, please contact Lora. Thanking you in advance for your beautiful flowers.***

**Serving Next Sunday February 9, 2025**

<i>Presiding Minister:</i>	Rev. Dr. Jedidiah Maschke
<i>Elder:</i>	Bob Spiker/Jimmy Poncsak
<i>Ushers:</i>	Alan Callanan, Sam Radtke
<i>Acolytes:</i>	Noah Manning
<i>Accompanist:</i>	Beverly Baumgartner
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Kathryn Smith

***Food bank needs:***

***Peanut butter, spaghetti-o's and macaroni and cheese boxes.  
Thank you for all your donations.***

**Operation Christmas Child Year-Round Shoebox Shopping**

***For the month of February, we would like donations of hair clips, costume jewelry, sunglasses, combs and brushes – please place them in the yellow container in the narthex.***

***Any questions, please contact Bonnie Krenz.***

---

---

***Elders’ Corner:*** If you have something you would like to discuss with your Elder concerning the church and your life, please don’t hesitate to contact him. If there is no answer, please leave a voicemail and/or message.

<b><i>Members</i></b>	<b><i>Your Elder is:</i></b>	
Abbott – Davey	Bill Scott	909-838-2129
Dodd - Jenkins	Bob Spiker	775-745-6316
Jones-Magrath	Jarvis Manning	775-461-3493
Manning - Smith	Jimmy Poncsak	760-792-9014
Soderstrom – Zuber	Josh Karges	775-230-6212

---

---

***Today - February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00am – New Sunday Morning Bible study***

Join us for a new study series starting Today - **Sunday, February 2, 2025, at 8:00 a.m.**, led by Pastor Maschke. Together, we will delve into the **Augsburg Confession**, a cornerstone of Lutheran doctrine that boldly proclaims the truths of Scripture and our faith. Studying the Augsburg Confession is not just a look at history—it’s an opportunity to understand what we believe, why we believe it, and how it shapes our lives today. This confession of faith provides clarity on essential teachings such as grace, justification, and the sacraments, helping us grow in confidence as we live and share our faith in a complex world.

Copies of the Augsburg Confession will be available to take home for **\$8**. Whether you’re new to Lutheranism or seeking to deepen your knowledge, this study is for you. We look forward to learning together!

---

---

## Upcoming Events

Today, February 2<sup>nd</sup> is Mite Box Sunday – The February mite offering will be used to help Enriching Young Hearts with enduring Faith \$5,000 St. Paul Lutheran Ministries, Merced, CA. St. Paul Lutheran School aims to enhance the spiritual education of their students by beginning a project to provide the students with Bibles, Bible Curriculum, and Confirmation materials and offer some scholarships to the school. By providing these resources, they hope to give these students the chance to receive a quality education grounded in Christian principles which will further God’s ministry.

*BWM’s Annual Chocolate Bake Sale is scheduled for February 9<sup>th</sup> – donations of baked items and shoppers are greatly appreciated. Funds raised will be used to help defray the cost of attending the National Youth Gathering. Thank you for your support.*

*Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> – Get Ready for a Night of Fun and Fundraising!*  
Bethlehem is excited to announce a **Mardi Gras Fundraising Event** on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-7:00pm to help raise money for our youth to attend the 2025 LCMS National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July.

We are proud that seven (7) of our youth will be attending the summer event – Analise and Logan Garrett, Sofia Gilson, Caedmon Hoffman, Chase Tack and Josiah and Abi Maschke. **The cost for each student to attend is \$1,600.**

The adult event will be serving a **Cajun-Inspired Menu** that will be held in the Bethlehem Lutheran School Gym. Youth from Trinity in Gardnerville, and Shepherd of the Sierra and Bethlehem in Carson City will be serving the meal. The **tickets** for each meal are **\$30.00 per person** and can be **purchased by February 9<sup>th</sup>** from any of our youth who will be attending the summer gathering. Please come and attend an evening of fun and entertainment by purchasing a dinner ticket or making a donation. We would be grateful if you would spread the word about this event and encourage your friends and family to join in the fun.

The event will also be having a silent auction featuring a variety of items. Please notify Bonnie Krenz at (701) 789-0561, or Sally Allen at (775) 721-4629 or Marsha Egbert at (209) 815-1557 if you have an interest in,

- 1) **ADOPTING-A-BASKET** for the Silent Auction – Fill a basket with items. Be creative. **OR,**
- 2) **Making a DONATION towards BASKET ITEMS** for the Silent Action. **OR,**
- 3) **Making a DONATION toward the MARDI GRAS Centerpiece** (“fundraising theme”) that will be available to purchase during the February 16 event.

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to seeing you on the day of the event!

=====

*February 20<sup>th</sup>, BLS is having their annual Open House on Thursday from 5:30pm-7:00pm. All classrooms, Preschool-8<sup>th</sup> grade, will be open with projects/reports and artwork that the students have done. Teachers and staff will be available to answer questions about the school. In the Gym, Camp Invention will have a table with activities and information, and our CPTL will be serving ice cream. Please invite friend and join us for this fun evening.*



*BLS chapel offerings for the second half of the year will be used for a local organization called Feeding Pets of Homeless. They help with pet food and emergency veterinary visits for people experiencing homelessness.*

*They currently have collected \$81.00.*



**Saturday, March 1, 2025** – Sierra Lutheran High School will host the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Gifts of Grace Dinner-Auction to support the school's tuition assistance program. For more information, check with Lora in the office.

=====

***NOTES***

*In Luke 2:29-32 is the intriguing story of Simeon. The gospel tells us that he was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.*

*V.26, 27a 'And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple...'*

*Under the Mosaic law, when Mary's days of purification were passed, Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. And Simeon, brought there at the same time by the Spirit, took Jesus up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,*

*Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.*

*Used by the Christian church since the 4<sup>th</sup> century, in Latin, 'Nunc Dimittis' means 'Now you let depart'. The first stanza echoes the words found in Scripture. 'Lord, now let your servant depart in heavenly peace'. 'For mine eyes have seen thy salvation' (your redeeming grace). 'A light to lighten the Gentiles' (a light to lead the Gentiles unto your holy hill). 'The glory of thy people Israel' (your chosen Israel). The final stanza is praise to the triune God who made this all possible and whose name will resound through all eternity.*

*Submitted by Bill Scott, Elder*

## ***No Orders, Just Love***

*God does not order  
To keep social distance  
From Him;  
Even if sin or an illness,  
May cause our faith  
To Rescind.*

*God does not order  
A washing to come through  
His door  
He already gave us the cleansing  
When Jesus came healing  
The poor.*

*God does not order  
To be shielded and locked  
In our fear;  
Instead He has gifted us all  
To care for the sick  
Far and near.*

*God does not order  
To suffer beyond all  
Compare;  
But promised unfailing  
Compassion  
To end every weight  
Of despair.*

*God does not order  
Isolation and grief  
All alone;  
For nothing can keep us  
From Jesus,  
Who claims us forever  
His own!*

***By Robert Lee Larson,  
Dayton, Nevada***

## *Weekly Prayer Page*

*“And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us.” (1 John 5:14)*

Remember in Your Prayers – (New Additions noted in Bold print)

Jean Armer – *medical issues*  
DeAnna McDaniel Blomberg  
& her daughter & granddaughter  
*medical issues*

Judi Bugg – *health issues*  
(*Delbert Bugg’s mother*)

Joe Chambers – *medical issues*

**Family & Friends of Mark de la Torre –  
who passed away 1/26/25  
Services at St. Teresa’s Church on 2/15.**

Grace Marie – *medical issues*  
(*Lynn Tappan’s great niece*)

Richard & Sandra Hartley  
*medical issues*

Ernie Hernandez – *health issues*  
(*Austin Stone’s father-in-law*)

John Huss – *brain tumor recovery*  
(*Maschke family friend*)

Gale Jackson – *medical issues*

Amanda Kilbourn – *health issues*  
(*Heather Bugg’s friend*)

Lisa Lariviere (*Rindi Fredlund’s mother*)

Laurel & Ed – *medical issues*  
(*Spiker’s family friends*)

Darlene McClurg – *medical issues*

Dianne Medlock – *medical issues*

Norm Milz – *medical issues*  
(*Retired pastor of Shepherd of the Sierra*)

Mike Tappan – *medical issues*  
(*Lynn Tappan’s husband*)

**Steve Timko – *medical issues – friend and  
neighbor of Rev. Abbott***

Allyson Underwood – *cancer*

Karen Woodmansee  
*coping with medical issues*

**Stan Zuber – *medical issues***

Deacon Mike Hudson – *Pastoral Training*  
(*Bethany Lutheran Church, Hawthorne, NV*)

### **Guidelines for the Weekly Prayer Page**

- 1) Anyone requesting prayers from the church must receive permission from the person before adding him/her.
  - 2) People will be added to the prayer list for two weeks, after which they will be removed, or by contacting the Church Secretary, be included for another two weeks.
  - 3) Prayers will be offered for the friends and family of the deceased until three weeks after the memorial/funeral service or burial.
- If you have any questions or concerns about these guidelines, please speak to your Elder, Lora Spiker, the Church Secretary, or Pastor Maschke. Please submit your prayer request with pertinent information to the Church Office by Wednesday.



#### **Armed Forces:**

Justin Jorstad (*Sally & Wayne Allen’s grandson*)  
Jonathan Krenz – Navy (*David & Bonnie Krenz’s son*)  
MSgt (E-7) Benjamin Welter – 192<sup>nd</sup> Airlift Squadron