



My eyes have seen
your salvation

LUKE 2:30



Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church

Philip J. Supeck, *Vicar*
Majors Kevin and Tawny Zanders, *Guests*
Mr. Roger L. Kurtz, *Director of Music*
<https://www.jerusaluth.org>

“As followers of Jesus, we serve our neighbors locally and globally.”

Presentation of Our Lord
February 2, 2025
10:45 a.m.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: *Chorale Prelude on “Herr Gott, nun schleuss den Himmel auf”* – Johann Sebastian Bach

*Throughout this bulletin, the text in **bold** type is said by the congregation.*

Please be seated or kneel if able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and prayer

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

The congregation stands to sing the hymn.

HYMN #553: *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* RATISBON

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

GLORIA

(music on p. 158 ELW Setting 5)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

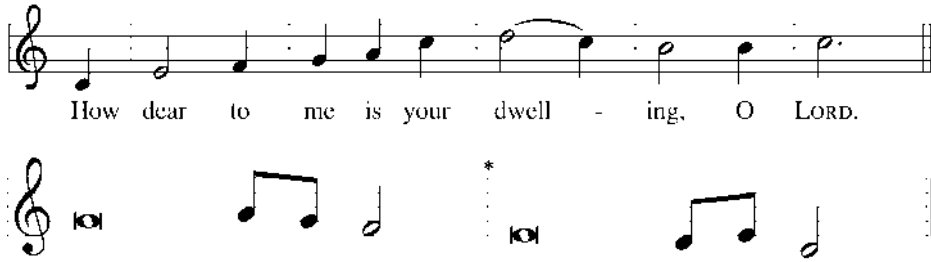
The congregation is seated.

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4 *(printed on back cover)*

At the conclusion of the reading, the following is said:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 84 *Please remain seated. The refrain printed below is sung first by the choir; everyone sings each time it is repeated. The verses are sung responsively as indicated.*



¹How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts!

My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

²**The sparrow has found her a house 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.**

³Happy are they who dwell in your house!

They will always be praising you.

⁴**Happy are the people whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way. Refrain**

⁵Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

⁶**They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.**

⁷LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob.

⁸**Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your anointed. Refrain**

⁹For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

¹⁰**For the LORD God is both sun and shield; he will give grace and glory;**

¹¹no good thing will the LORD withhold from those who walk with integrity.

¹²**O LORD of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you! Refrain**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:14-18 (printed on back cover)

At the conclusion of the reading, the following is said:

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The congregation stands to sing the Gospel Acclamation.

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:22-40 (*printed on back cover*)

Prior to the reading of the Holy Gospel, the following is said:

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the following is said:

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The congregation is seated.

SERMON

Major Kevin Zanders

The congregation stands to sing the hymn.

HYMN OF THE DAY #417: In His Temple Now Behold Him

REGENT SQUARE

APOSTLES CREED

With the whole church let us confess our faith...

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Please kneel or be seated.

PRAYERS

*Each petition concludes: Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.***

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers. The congregation responds: **Amen.***

Please stand if you are able.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you" or similar words.

At the conclusion of the Peace, the congregation is seated.

ANTHEM: *Nunc Dimittis* – Frank Henry Shera

Please stand if you are able.

OFFERTORY HYMN #884: *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

Assisting Minister: Let us pray: **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

HYMN #190: *Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus)*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The congregation responds: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us to pray...

**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.

FRACTION

Taste and see that the Lord is good!

Blessed are all invited to His feast.

HYMN #199: *Jesus, Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)*

COMMUNION

The congregation is seated. The ushers will dismiss the assembly for communion. Lutherans teach that Christ is truly present with, in, and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion. We commune by pouring chalice. Please take an empty cup before going to the rail. (The pre-filled cups contain grape juice.) Those who wish to receive only a blessing at the rail should indicate this by crossing their arms over their chest. As the ministers distribute the elements, they say these words: The body of Christ, given for you. Amen. The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN #737: *He Comes to Us as One Unknown* REPTON

Please stand if you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray: We give you thanks almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy strengthen us through this gift of faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING



☩ The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



HYMN #313: *O Lord, Now Let Your Servant* KUORTANE

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: *Chorale Prelude on “Mit Fried und Freud ich far dahin”* – Johann Sebastian Bach

ALTAR FLOWERS are given today to the Glory of God.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Chrystine and Andy Anderson, Leslie Carson, Cheyenne Colon, Jean Ehrhart, Weston Hertzler, Hunter Leisey, Andrea Reynolds, Norma Rhoads, Joe Stoyanovich, Toby Sweigart, and Doris Witwer.

Anyone requesting prayers for themselves or for others to contact Vicar Philip Supeck via his cell phone or by email.

SERVING IN THE LITURGY

Vicar	Philip J. Supeck
Organist	Roger Kurtz
Asst. Minister/Lector	Major Tawny Cowen-Zanders
Altar Guild	Emma Miller
Acolyte	Joyce Burkholder
Ushers	Claude Grube, Andy Anderson, Charles Sweigart Jr.

Portions from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #22800. Psalm refrain from *Psalter for Worship*, Year B, copyright 1996 Augsburg Fortress, used by permission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSIC NOTES:

A number of musical selections found in this morning's liturgy center on the Nunc Dimittis, Latin words meaning "Now You Dismiss." Also known as the Song of Simeon, the Nunc Dimittis is recorded in Luke 2:29-32, a passage read as part of today's Holy Gospel. It was the prayer offered by Simeon in the temple after seeing the Christ child. The following text of the anthem is a translation of the Nunc Dimittis from the King James Bible: *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; to be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of Thy people Israel.* Frank Henry Shera (1882-1956), the composer of the anthem, was a British educator and composer who served as Professor of Music and Chair of the Music Department at the University of Sheffield from 1928 to 1948. Our Sending Hymn ("O Lord, Now Let Your Servant" – *ELW* #313) is a hymn version of the Nunc Dimittis. Ernest Edwin Ryden (1886-1981), who authored the hymn's text, was a Lutheran pastor and hymnologist who helped unify four denominations to form the Lutheran Church in America. He wrote and translated more than 40 hymns that have been published in Lutheran, Methodist, Episcopal, and Presbyterian hymnals.

The chorale preludes by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750) offered as the prelude and postlude are also based on Simeon's prayer. In "Herr Gott, nun schleuss den Himmel auf" ("Lord God, Now Unlock Your Heaven"), Bach seems to paint the picture of a weary pilgrim facing the last bit of earthly road lying before his eyes. Tired from life's struggles, he longs for peace. In contrast, the music of "Mit Fried und Freud ich far dahin" ("With Peace and Joy I Depart") seems to depict Simeon walking heavenward with a joyful step.

VICAR PHILIP'S AVAILABILITY AT JELC

Tuesday and Thursday 8am to 4:30pm. Call him at 717-725-3429 on those dates if you would like to schedule an appointment with him.

Reminder Dates

Fellowship and Adult Forum at 9am and Worship Service at 10:30 am on Sunday, February 2.

Vicar Philip at Seminary starting Tuesday, February 4.

Choir Rehearsal at 7pm on Thursday, February 6.

Shared Ministry Committee Meeting 6pm at JELC on Tuesday, February 11.

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2024 Annual Report's are available to pick up in the narthex. All members please remember to bring your copy to the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 16.

SEMINARY SCHOOLING

Vicar Philip Supeck will be at the United Lutheran Seminary Gettysburg starting Tuesday, February 4 to Sunday, February 9. Rev. Peter Rustico will be our supply pastor on Sunday, February 9th. If there are any emergencies during this time, please contact the church office: 717-626-8972, or Zachary Fetter's cell phone: 717-572-5799, The Office Administrator is in Tuesday 10am to 5pm and Thursday 10am to 6pm.

FEBRUARY CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

At our February Congregational meeting we will be electing a new 2025 nominating committee. The current members are Joyce Burkholder, Brenda Fetter, Zachary Fetter and Larrie Miller and they are ineligible for 2025. Rene Amey and Mike Fetter who are going off of council have agreed to this serve on this committee. We need at least one more or two to serve. Please prayerfully consider serving on this committee.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

JELC Congregational Meeting to approve annual report will take place on February 16, 2025 following worship.

"THE GIFT OF YEARS"

3rd Monday each month thru June 10-11:30 bring bag lunch at BULC.

SPAGHETTI SUPPER

Feb. 21 5pm until sold out, \$10/ meal Benefit Spaghetti Supper will be held in BULC's fellowship hall. Invite friends, family and neighbors to become informed on human trafficking in Lancaster Co. and beyond. Brad Ortenzi, Lancaster Co. representative will be presenting information on ZOE International, a human trafficking International rescue organization. ZOE will receive a portion of the proceeds.

CABIN FEVER GATHERING

March 8 Cabin Fever, featuring Deacon Chelle Huth as speaker. More information in newsletter.

DAY OF QUILTING AT BULC

March 15 9-2 lunch provided Community Day of Quilting for LWR

GIFT OF YEARS & LEPRECHAUN LUNCH AT BULC

March 17 10-11:30 Gift of Years followed by a Leprechaun Lunch, aka potato bar potato reservation required

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROTOCOL

If inclement weather is in forecast, the respective council presidents of both congregations will discuss on Saturday and make a determination if the Sunday worship service should be cancelled and do this by 6:00pm Saturday evening. A group text message and email will be sent by Zachary Fetter. Phone calls will be made to members who only have land lines.

Please call or text Zach at 717-572-5799 prior to venturing out if you are unsure.



Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church
36 Church Street, Lititz (Rothsville), Pennsylvania 17543

717.626.8972 | www.jerusaluth.org | jelc@ptd.net
Vicar's email: jlcpastr@ptd.net

Vicar Philip's Availability:

Tuesday and Thursday 8am to 4:30pm. Call him at 717-725-3429 on those dates if you would like to schedule an appointment with him.

Church Office Hours: Tuesday 10am to 5pm and Thursday 10am to 6pm

Philip J. Supeck, *Vicar*

Mr. Roger L. Kurtz, *Director of Music*

Beth Smith, *Treasurer*

Zachary Fetter, *Office Administrator*

Joan C. Dull, *Sexton*

Congregation, *Ministers*

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

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. ²But 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 fullers' soap; ³he 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. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Psalm 84

or Psalm 24:7-10

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:14-18

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, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

GOSPEL: Luke 2:22-40

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 ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice

according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now 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. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided 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, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,

according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles

and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then 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 ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There 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, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At 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.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11.

Cover: *Center Christ* by Lauren Wright Pittman. Copyright © Lauren Wright Pittman. All rights reserved. Used by permission of the artist. www.lawpstudio.com

Readings are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States. Revised Common Lectionary copyright © 1992 by the Consultation on Common Texts (CCT), admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Please visit our website at www.augsburgfortress.org.

Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Printed in U.S.A.

Track 1
ITEM013701 ELCA-R