

NARRATIVE LECTIONARY 319

# **SIMEON and ANNA**

## **First Sunday of Christmas**

*Sunday, December 29, 2024 • 9:30 a.m.*

### WELCOME TO WORSHIP

- ) Please turn off all cell phones.*
- ) If you are visiting with us today, we extend to you a particular welcome and invite your questions and comments.*
- ) Our entire worship service is printed in this worship folder for your convenience.*
- ) Hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex.*
- ) Child care is available for children ages 5 years and under in the Child Care Area, across from the Life Together Hall.*

In the order of service, the words that are spoken by a leader are in regular type.

**Words spoken by the assembly are in boldface type.**

### PRELUDE

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Stand.*

# OPENING HYMN • "AWAKE, AWAKE AND GREET THE NEW MORN"

Gather, Second+ Edition 265



1. A - wake! a - wake, and greet the new morn, For  
2. To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3. In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, When  
4. Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, Though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, His hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, As morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, The ris - ing sun shall



now he is born, Be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, Yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, So warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, Be strong and lov - ing and fear - less;



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, To bring all hearts to -  
Mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul And hymns of lov - ing  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, The lame shall leap in  
Love be our song and love our prayer, And love, our end - less



geth - er, He o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door And  
kind - ness, The thun - der of his an - thems roll To  
won - der, The weak be raised a - bove the strong, And  
sto - ry, May God fill ev - 'ry day we share, And



lives now in - side us for ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

# 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.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE • "ON CHRISTMAS NIGHT"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 274*



1 On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to hear the news the  
2 Then why should we on earth be sad, since our re-deem-er  
3 When sin de-parts be-fore his face, then life and health come  
4 All out of dark-ness we have light, which made the an-gels



an-gels bring. On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to  
made us glad? Then why should we on earth be sad, since  
in its place. When sin de-parts be-fore his face, then  
sing this night. All out of dark-ness we have light, which



hear the news the an-gels bring: news of great joy, news of great  
our re-deem-er made us glad, when from our sin he set us  
life and health come in its place. An-gels re-joice with us and  
made the an-gels sing this night: "Glo-ry to God in high-est



mirth, news of our mer-ci-ful king's birth.  
free, all for to gain our lib-er-ty?  
sing, all for to see the new-born king.  
heav'n; peace on earth, and good-will. A-men."



# PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Glory of Israel,

the coming of your son, Jesus, broke open the heavens  
and prepared a way for all of your children to come home to you.

Give us eyes to see your miraculous spirit  
moving in this church and in this world.

Teach us to be proclaimers of your love to the nations,  
for the sake of the one whose name is redemption for the peoples,  
Jesus Christ our salvation.

**Amen.**

## ACCLAMATION OF SCRIPTURE • "ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH"

*Evangelical Lutheran Church 289*

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three staves of music. The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the lyrics 'Glo - ri - a'. The second staff contains the lyrics 'in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo -'. The third staff contains the lyrics '- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.' The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some measures containing rests. A large slur covers the first two staves, and another slur covers the second and third staves.

## READING

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Luke 2:21-38

<sup>21</sup>After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. <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 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.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Sit.*

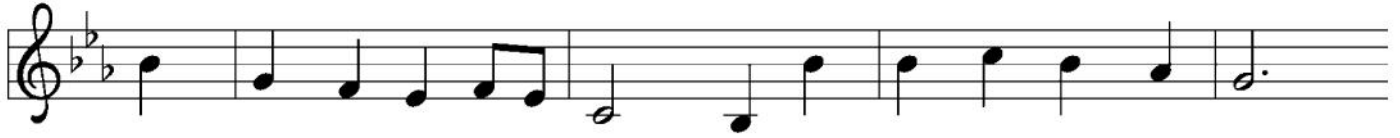
## CHILDREN'S SERMON + SERMON

Pastor Eric Bostrom.

*Stand.*

# HYMN OF THE DAY • "O LORD, NOW LET YOUR SERVANT"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 313*



1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,  
2 Then grant that I may fol - low your gleam, O glo - rious Light,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:  
till earth-ly shad - ows scat - ter, and faith is changed to sight;



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,  
till rap - tured saints shall gath - er up - on that shin - ing shore,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
where Christ, the bless - ed day - star, shall light them ev - er - more.



# CREED

Together, let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Filled with good news of great joy,  
let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

*At the conclusion of each petition:*

God of grace,  
**receive our prayer.**

We commend these prayers to you, O God,  
trusting your grace made known to all,  
through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*Sit.*

## INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

With grateful hearts,  
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God,  
in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

*You can participate in the Offering electronically  
by scanning the QR code and filling out the online form.*



## OFFERING

*Stand.*

# OFFERING HYMN • "WHAT CHILD IS THIS"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 296*



3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

## OFFERING PRAYER

God of heaven and earth,  
from the beginning, you have called forth life,  
in which you take delight.

The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.

Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,  
that we may join the chorus of creation  
to tell of your salvation from day to day.

**Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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 God thanks and praise.**

On the night in which he was betrayed...

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## COMMUNION

God feeds us with tender mercy.  
Come to the table.

*Sit.*



## DISTRIBUTION

*At Mountain View Lutheran Church we practice an open communion table, which means that everyone is welcome to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ. (You don't have to be a member of MVLC.)*

*If you need an alcohol-free element or a gluten-free element, then please let your server know.*

*If you are unable to come forward for communion, then please let an usher know and you will be served where you are seated.*

## WELCOME TO CHRIST'S TABLE

This is the table, not of the Church, but of Jesus Christ.  
It is made ready for those who are loved by God,  
whether you feel loved or not.

It is for those who desire to grow in love with God.

So come, you who have much faith and you who have little.

You who have been here often  
and you who have not been for a long time or ever before.

Come, you who have tried to follow  
and you who live with a sense of failure in your following.

Come, not because the Church invites you;  
it is Christ who invites you to be known and fed and loved here.

Please come. Receive the gifts of God for all the people of God

**because the gifts of God are free.**

# COMMUNION HYMN • "IT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEAR"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 282*



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,  
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,  
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,  
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.  
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:  
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king."  
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,  
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;  
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!  
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

# COMMUNION HYMN • "NIGHT OF SILENCE"

Gather, Second Edition 261



1. Cold are the peo - ple, win - ter of life, We  
2. Voice in the dis - tance, call in the night, On  
3. Spir - it a - mong us, shine like the star, Your



trem - ble in shad - ows this cold end - less night,  
wind you en - fold us, you speak of the light,  
light that guides shep - herds and kings from a - far,



Fro - zen in the snow lie ros - es sleep - ing,  
Gen - tle on the ear you whis - per soft - ly,  
Shim - mer in the sky so emp - ty, lone - ly,



Flow - ers that will ech - o the sun - rise,  
Ru - mors of a dawn so em - brac - ing,  
Ris - ing in the warmth of your Son's love,



Fire of hope is our on - ly warmth,  
Breath - less love a - waits dark - ened souls,  
Star un - know - ing of night and day,



Wea - ry, its flame will be dy - ing soon.  
Soon will we know of the morn - ing.  
Spir - it we wait for your lov - ing Son.

# COMMUNION HYMN • "WHAT CHILD IS THIS"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 296*



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?  
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

*Stand.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful God,

**we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.**

**Strengthened by this goodness,  
send us forth to announce your peace,  
comfort the afflicted,  
and share the good news of great joy.**

**Amen.**

## DEACON SENDING

Deacons are called to “make Christ and his redemptive love known by word and example.” (1 Timothy)

Such love is expressed in the extension of Holy Communion to those who are homebound or hospitalized.

Gracious God,

**as Mary set out to visit Elizabeth before she gave birth to her son,  
bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with  
our sisters and brothers who are sick or homebound. In your  
love and care, nourish those to whom we bring this communion,  
that through the body and blood of your Son we may all know the  
hope of your promised coming in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## BLESSING

The God of love, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
lavish you with grace, illumine your path,  
and increase your joy, today and always.

**Amen.**

# SENDING HYMN • "ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY"

*Evangelical Lutheran Worship 275*



- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
- 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

## SENDING

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you richly.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE



## POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias on the altar are given to the glory of God by

Gordon, Corie, and Dutcher Adams  
in memory of Linda Robertson

Joe Anderson  
in memory of Clifton Anderson

Rosemarie Anderson  
in memory of Harold Gunderson

Ann Marie Bachner  
in honor of John Bachner and Olaf and Anna Davidson

Lois Carlson  
in memory of Alan Carlson

Pat Clement  
in memory of Ben, Helen, and Mike McFeeley  
and Sister Helen Cecelia, SND

Mary Finney  
in memory of her parents Sam and Pearl Crawford  
and her dear friend Marty Sterrett Kreiling

Vic and Joanne Lindstrom  
in honor of our family

Connie McCrossin  
in memory of her family's grandparents

Gloria Ratcliffe  
in memory of her daughter Susie

Ken and Sandi Swanson  
in honor of their family and the birth of Christ

Don, Lori, Penelope, and Kenzo Neptun  
in memory of Dad/Grandpa Kenny Young  
and in honor of Mom/Grandma Ruth Young

# WORSHIP NOTES

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- J Front cover, foreground: "Barnaby" as Simeon and "Wilhemina the Wise" as Anna, 2024, by Troy Kehm-Goins. Collages created in the MVLC Children's Space during the 12/15 worship service.

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Worship leaders include:

- J PREACHER and PRESIDER: Pastor Eric Bostrom.
- J ASSISTING MINISTER: Todd Kelley.
- J DIRECTOR of MUSIC: Amy Boers.
- J VIDEOGRAPHER: David Burch.
- J ALTAR GUILD: Flora Larson, Karen Lonn, Diane Nelson, Karen Slavens.
  
- J USHERS: Mark Cantrell (head usher), Julie Kibler, Mark Kibler.
- J GREETER: Marlene Wright.
- J LECTOR: Emily Thompson.
- J COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Terry Jensen, Marlene Wright.
- J SOUND: Beth Ann Johnson.

**MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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*As a community following Christ,  
we **LOVE** with an open heart,  
**GROW** with a curious mind,  
and **SHARE** with a generous spirit.*