



Welcome to Grace Lutheran Church! We are brothers and sisters in Christ who are about **“Proclaiming God’s grace through faith and love.”** If you are a visitor, please make yourself at home and don’t hesitate to ask a question. There will be the celebration of Holy Communion in the **8:00a.m. service** today. If you are not a member of Grace and desire to commune, please speak with the pastor **before the service**. If you are physically unable to commune at the altar, the pastor would be happy to serve you in your pew. Please, notify an usher before the service begins.

## THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

February 2, 2025

### Today in Worship

- Coming now forty days after the birth of our Lord, we see the faithfulness of Mary and Joseph. They obey the law of purification (see Leviticus 12:6–8), and Jesus is presented as the firstborn to be redeemed (Exodus 13:11–15). All of this echoes the faithfulness of those who went before (Hannah, for example) and heralds the faithfulness of Christ to those to come. In His faithfulness, we are presented to the Father with clean hearts. We keep this feast not only with the liturgical observance but also with faith that believes the promise, rejoices in Jesus’ fulfillment of the law, and trusts in His saving work



### Ring of the Bells

**Announcements** (10:30am Service)

**Welcome**

### Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book #785

*“We Praise You, O God”*

### Invocation

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

**G** Amen.

# Confession & Absolution

Psalm 84:4; 12

**P** Blessed are those who dwell in Your house, ever singing Your praise!

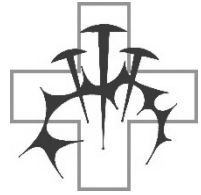
**C** **O LORD of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in You!**

*Silence is kept for meditation and reflection.*

**P** Let us confess our sins to God our merciful Father:

**C** **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, and judge of all people, we confess that we are sinful and unclean. We have turned away from You and from one another in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You desire. We do repent of our sins and humbly beg Your mercy through Jesus Christ to forgive us all that is past and to move us by Your Spirit to serve You faithfully in the days to come. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon You and has sent His only Son, who suffered for us to forgive us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.



**C** **Amen.**

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 84



**P** How lovely is your | dwelling place, \*

**C** **O | Lord of hosts!**

**P** My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts | of the Lord; \*

**C** **my heart and flesh sing for joy to the | living God.**

**P** Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may | lay her young, \*

**C** at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King | and my God.

**P** Blessed are those who dwell | in your house, \*

**C** ever sing- | ing your praise!

**P** Blessed are those whose strength is | in you, \*

**C** in whose heart are the highways to | Zion.

**P** As they go through the Valley of Baca they make  
it a | place of springs; \*

**C** the early rain also covers | it with pools.

**P** They go from | strength to strength; \*

**C** each one appears before God in | Zion.

**P** O Lord God of hosts, | hear my prayer; \*

**C** give ear, O God of | Jacob!

**P** Behold our shield, | O God; \*

**C** look on the face of your a- | nointed!

**P** For a day in your courts is better than  
a thousand | elsewhere. \*

**C** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
than dwell in the tents of | wickedness.

**P** For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord  
bestows favor and | honor. \*

**C** No good thing does he withhold from those who  
walk up- | rightly.

**P** O | Lord of hosts, \*

**C** blessed is the one who | trusts in you!

**C** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son \*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning, \*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

## Gloria in Excelsis

*Lutheran Service Book p. 204*

# Salutation and Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. 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** **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 1:21-28

*“As long as he lives, he belongs to the Lord.”*

**L** The Old Testament Reading for the Presentation of our Lord is from 1<sup>st</sup> Samuel, chapter one.

<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.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Handbell Anthem

“All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night”  
TALLIS CANON, arr. Douglas E. Wagner

## Epistle Reading

Hebrews 2:14-18

*“Because He was tempted like us, He is able to help us in temptation.”*

**L** The Epistle Reading is from Hebrews, chapter two.

<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.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Verse

Luke 2:34b

**P** Alleluia.

**C** **Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel. Alleluia.**

## Holy Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

*“Jesus is presented in the temple.”*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 2nd chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup> And 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.”

<sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

<sup>36</sup> And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, <sup>37</sup> and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup> And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town

of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

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

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**The Nicene Creed** *8:00am service*

**The Apostles Creed** *10:30am service*

**Message for Children from God's Word**

**Hymn of the Day**

*Lutheran Service Book #519  
"In His Temple Now Behold Him"*

**Sermon**

**Offering**

"For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the Lord. As long as he lives, he is lent to the Lord."

*– 1 Samuel 1:27-28*

*We encourage you to place your offering in the drop box in the narthex before service. As the usher brings the offering forward at this time you may also hold it up and place it in the plate as the usher walks by. Please also use this time for prayer and reflection upon what we have heard from the Lord's Word this morning.*



*Stand*

**Prayer of the Church**

*Responses after each petition:*

**P** ...let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

*The prayers conclude:*

**P** Join these, our prayers and praises, with those of Your faithful people of all times and places, and unite them in the ceaseless petitions of our great High Priest, Jesus Christ, until He comes again



in glory as victorious Lord of all. Through Him, with Him and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is Yours, almighty Father, forever and ever

**C Amen.**

*(10:30 a.m. Services continue page 11 of the Worship Folder.)*

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8:00 a.m. Service

## Service of the Sacrament

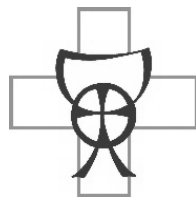
*The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another.*

*Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.*

*Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.*

## Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**



## Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should...  
... evermore praising You and saying:

<b>Sanctus</b> <i>“Holy, Holy, Holy”</i>	LSB p. 208
<b>Lord’s Prayer</b> <i>Spoken</i>	LSB p. 209
<b>The Words of our Lord</b> <i>Spoken</i>	LSB p. 209
<b>Pax Domini</b> <i>“The Peace of Our Lord”</i>	LSB p. 209
<b>P</b> The peace of the Lord be with you always.	
<b>C</b> Amen.	
<b>Agnus Dei</b> <i>“Lamb of God”</i>	LSB p. 210
<b>Distribution Hymns</b>	
<i>“What Is This Bread”</i>	LSB # 629
<i>“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”</i>	LSB # 848
<i>“Seek Ye First”</i>	LSB # 712
<b>Nunc Dimittis</b> <i>“Song of Simeon”</i>	LSB p. 211
<b>Thanksgiving</b>	
<b>P</b> For the joy of Your promise to Adam and Eve to send a Savior,	
<b>C</b> we thank you, Lord.	
<b>P</b> For the joy of Mary and Joseph as they presented their firstborn, Jesus, in the temple.	
<b>C</b> we thank you, Lord.	
<b>P</b> For the joy of Jesus who proclaimed and demonstrated the coming Kingdom, and who suffered, died, rose, and ascended,	
<b>C</b> we thank You. We praise You. We adore You, Lord. Amen.	
<b>Benediction</b>	Numbers 6:24-26
<b>P</b> The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.	
<b>C</b> Amen.	
<b>Greeting of Peace &amp; Announcements</b>	

## Closing Hymn

*Lutheran Service Book #937  
"Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace"*

*This concludes the 8:00 a.m. Service*

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*10:30 a.m. Service*

## The Lord's Prayer

## Thanksgiving

**P** For the joy of Your promise to Adam and Eve to send a Savior,  
**C we thank you, Lord.**

**P** For the joy of Mary and Joseph as they presented their firstborn, Jesus, in the temple.

**C we thank you, Lord.**

**P** For the joy of Jesus who proclaimed and demonstrated the coming Kingdom, and who suffered, died, rose, and ascended,

**C we thank You. We praise You. We adore You, Lord. Amen.**

## Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C Amen.**

## Greeting of Peace

## Closing Hymn

*Lutheran Service Book #937  
"Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace"*

## Formula of Concord Reading Plan

*February – Week 1 – The Week of February 2*  
*The Topic this Month: Free Will*

Read:

- Epitome, II, para. 1 (p. 477)
- Augsburg Confession XVIII (p. 40-41)

