

Welcome to  
**WEST CLERMONT LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Member of the Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
*February 2, 2025*



**Worship 9:30am**  
**Pastor Micheal Erickson**

West Clermont Lutheran Church

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**Facebook Live @ West Clermont**

<https://www.facebook.com/100011482533370>

# Presentation of Our Lord

February 2, 2025

## INTRODUCTION

*The Presentation of Our Lord is referred to in some corners of the church as Candlemas because of an ancient tradition of blessing all the candles to be used in the church in the coming year at the mass celebrated on that day. It was a way of underscoring the truth of Simeon's confession that this baby Jesus was "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" and a light for glory to Israel. Let the light of every candle in church be a little epiphany of the love of God for all people in the person of God's son, Jesus, the light of the world.*

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

### 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.**

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WCLC MISSION STATEMENT:** *As children of God, called to love God and one another, we proclaim the Word of God through study, prayer, worship, and discipleship. We serve those in need within our congregation, our community, and our world as an expression of God's love for us. LOVE, PROCLAIM, SERVE!*

**GATHERING MUSIC:** "Arise, Your Light Has Come!" ELW 314

## 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,

**C: 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.**

**KYRIE**

ELW pg. 120

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE** "This is the feast.. ELW pg. 122

**PRAYER OF THE DAY: 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.**

**NOISY CAN OFFERING**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** "A Simple Song" by Leonard Bernstein.

*"I will sing the Lord a new song to praise Him, to bless Him, to bless the Lord. I will sing His praises while I live - all of my days. Blessed is the one who loves the Lord, who praises him and walks in His ways. I will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence comes my help. I will lift up my voice to the Lord singing Lauda, Laude. For the Lord is my shade, is the shade upon my right hand, and the sun shall not smite me by day, nor the moon by night. Blessed is the one who loves the Lord and walks in His ways." (From Psalm 121)*

## MEAL

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**ELW pg. 130**

### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: 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.

**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**

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

**COMMUNION** “*Of the Father’s Love Begotten*” ELW 295

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: 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, Amen.**

### **WORD**

**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 fullers’ 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.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## **Psalm: 84 (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 be 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.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**ELW pg. 124**

**Gospel: Luke 2:22-40**

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

<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: *The gospel of the Lord.*

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

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**Pastor Mike Erickson**

*\*\*Sunday school youth and teachers are dismissed to class.\*\**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Mike Erickson**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *“In His Temple Now Behold Him”* ELW 417

**NICENE CREED**

**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.**

### **INTERCESSIONS**

**P:** God of grace,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

### **WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE**

**P:** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**P:** Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

**OFFERING:** *“Jesus, The Light of the World”* ACS #914

### **OFFERING PRAYER:**

**P:** 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.**

### **SENDING**

### **BLESSING**

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

**C: Amen.**

**SENDING MUSIC:** *“We Are Marching in the Light”* ELW 866

### **DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Love! Proclaim! Serve!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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### Prayer List

**Requested:** Karen Kohls, Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Don Erickson, Jake Noggle, Karen Guyer, Ardell Fortune, Julie Albertson, Larry Kohls, Sarah Updegraff-Murray, Eric Clubb, Bill and Cindy Thias, JoAnn Bishop.

**Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins:** Betty Erickson, Bud Siebrecht, Karen Follett, Judy Nelson, Madonna Stumme, Doris Guyer, Evelyn Tague.

**In the Military:** Jeff Kleppe, Nathan Guyer, Kennedy White.



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Tues. 2/4	9am	Quilting
Wed. 2/5	1pm	WELCA Board Mtg.
	2:30pm	Confirmation
	<b>5:30pm</b>	<b>Council Mtg.</b>
Sun. 2/9	9:30am	Worship Service
		<b>Sunday School</b>
	10:30am	Fellowship

### Sunday, January 26, 2025

Loose: \$26.00

Regular: \$445.00


**Total General Fund: \$597.59**


Roof: \$90.00

**Attendance: 51**

Noisy Can: \$126.59



 **Noisy Can Offering** for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter will go to JoAnn Bishop to help with expenses incurred during this time of illness.

 **Direct Deposit Offering** is available for your weekly/monthly offering. Simply contact the office for account and routing information. It's fast and easy!



**LL “Souper Bowl” Collection** will take place on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. This will replace the Noisy Can on this day. Funds on this day will be donated to Open Hands Food Pantry.



**Fun for Seniors** Senior Game Day is Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm. Please come for fellowship, snacks, cards, games, and FUN! Bring a friend!



**2025 Summer Camp Program Guides** are now available in the entryway downstairs. Early bird registration deadline is February 28<sup>th</sup>. **West Clermont Camperships are available.** Please contact the church office for the form.



**Luther’s Nordic Choir 2025 Tour** kicks off with performance @ the Luther College Center for Faith and Life on Thursday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm. No charge for admission.



**Open Hands Food Pantry Needs Volunteers** for the following areas; stocking, cleaning and organizing shelves; assisting on Tuesdays for all or some of the day; pick up food rescue items; hang posters; organize donation drives. Must be able to lift up to 50 pounds on occasion. Contact Open Hands @ 563-422-2150 or @ [www.openhandswu@gmail.com](mailto:www.openhandswu@gmail.com).





**Soup and Sandwich Luncheon** by Elgin Post #352 is on Sunday, February 2, from 11am-1:30pm @ the Veterans Memorial Community Building. Choice of chili or chicken noodle soup, pulled pork sandwich, dessert and beverage. Free will donation. Proceeds to go towards sidewalk leveling project.



## **Youth Clothing Drive**

Luther League and Confirmation students are organizing a clothing drive to donate to Shepherd of the Hills in St. Olaf. They are currently accepting Spring, Summer Clothing, Newborn-Adult sizes for boys/girls/men/women; Shoes, including flip flops, sandals, sneakers and shoes with open toes.

When donating, please make sure items are either new or used in good condition (clean; no holes/tears; zippers work; no missing buttons, etc.)

**Sunday, February 23, 2025- *“Step up and share the Love”***

Donate shoes and sandals this Sunday!

**Sunday, March 2, 2025- *“Warm hearts start with warm feet”***

Bring NEW socks and undergarments to give this Sunday!

**Sunday, March 9, 2025- *“Self-Care Sunday”***

Help us spread hygiene and hope - donate hygiene items this Sunday!

**Sunday, March 16, 2025- *“Clothing Care Sunday”***

Change a life with kindness - donate clothing this Sunday!

Luther League/Confirmation students will volunteer at Shepherd of the Hills the night of March 19 and deliver the items collected from this drive. All items donated are appreciated!