



new life fellowship

**Sermon Title: Advent: The Song of Simeon**

**Speaker: Sherin Swift, Assistant Pastor**

**Scripture: Luke 2:25-33**

When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,  
you may now dismiss your servant in peace.  
For my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and the glory of your people Israel."

The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him

*Luke 2: 25-33 (NIV)*

### **Sermon Outline:**

- In the story of the Simeon's Song, Luke talks about Mary and Joseph following the law and presenting Jesus to the temple as belonging to God. Simeon was an ordinary man, righteous and devout (righteous is outward and external and devout is inward and internal) and had a balance between both. He had been waiting for the consolation of Israel, awaiting the coming of the Messiah who would bring peace. His life was unremarkable except for his constant waiting on the promises of God and he waited well. Because Simeon was attentive to the Holy Spirit and found God in the ordinary moments, he was an ordinary man who got to participate in an extraordinary way. The Holy Spirit played a deep role in Simeon's waiting. He gets to be part of Jesus' story because he was attentive to the things that God was doing. Simeon blesses Mary and Joseph and bursts out in praise to God because he saw how God fulfilled his promises. Simeon's song celebrates that God is faithful even when we are not.
- Waiting on the promises of God is difficult. In our waiting, when cultivate an attentiveness to the Holy Spirit in the ordinary, we will witness God fulfilling his promises in the ordinariness of life.
- Often, we lose hope and try and do things ourselves or we lose patience and move on to something else. We are not good at having perspective and lack patience with people.
- If you are running out of patience or hope, remember God is faithful, even when we are not. He determines the timetable and keeps his promises.
- God sending his Son was the keeping of His promise, the Cross guarantees it and one day His promise to return will be fulfilled.
- God will make all things new. The Holy Spirit is at work even when we can't see it at work.

**Sermon Summary:**

During this fourth week of Advent, New Life Fellowship Assistant Pastor Sherin Swift shares Simeon's Song, and a message on waiting, hope and peace.

**Sermon Questions:**

1. How does this scripture connect for you the topic that was discussed today? What words resonate with you? Why?
2. In your family of origin, where was peace most needed growing up? Where is it needed today?
3. What promises are you waiting on? When was there a time you were tired of waiting and chose to try and make something happen yourself? What was the result of your efforts?
4. As things are busy and pressured this week, how can you slow down and be tentative to the Holy Spirit and to the Word? Rediscover God's promises for you.
5. Be aware of God in the ordinary moments this week, note them and reflect.