



Order of Worship 17 December 2023 Third Sunday of Advent

We Gather to Worship God

Welcome Worship in Song Advent Reading/Call to Worship Worship in Song

We Listen to the Word

Prayer

Sermon Series: Seated "Seated in the Waiting Room"

We Come to the Table

Prayer of Confession and Consecration The Lord's Prayer We Eat and Drink Together We Celebrate the Eucharist in Song Prayer

We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life/Gossiping the Good Stuff Doxology Blessing and Sending

> *Words to music, responsive readings and The Lord's Prayer will be on the screen*



For a complete list of ongoing ministries and upcoming events, please visit tablelifechurch.org.

Doggy Bag-Some questions to chew on:



- 1. What is your worst waiting room experience? Perhaps it was at the dentist's office, an emergency room, a car repair shop, or some other place. What made it so bad?
- 2. What stands out to you about Simeon and Anna? How do you hear God speaking to you through this Scripture and message?
- 3. How has God "showed up" for you in the past? How can that experience help you trust in his timing now?
- 4. Do you tend to give others and God ultimatums when it comes to waiting? How can that be harmful?
- 5. How can time in the "waiting room" be fruitful rather than feeling like it's wasted? How is God growing and shaping you in the meantime?
- 6. How can our hopes, dreams, and desires be fulfilled in Jesus, regardless of whether or not what we're waiting for comes to fruition in the way we expect?



If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Kris about your relationship with Christ, please email *pastorkris@tablelifechurch.org* or call 717-774-6444

Seated "Seated in the Waiting Room" Pastor Kris Beckert

In what area of life do you currently find yourself sitting in a "waiting room?"

- I. Life and faith involve lots of _____
 - The question isn't "_____ we have to wait?"
 - The question is "_____ will we wait?"

Psalm 13:1-2 How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?² How long must I wrestle with my thoughts and day after day have sorrow in my heart? How long will my enemy triumph over me?

II. Two people who waited a long time

to see _____

1. _____

Luke 2:25-28 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. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ 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, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God...

2._____

Luke 2:36-38 There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸ Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

III. Three lessons about waiting:

#1. A miracle ______ is not a miracle

- Israel prayed _____ years to be released from Egypt
- Israel wandered _____ years before entering the Promised Land
- The prophecies about the coming messiah started _____ years before Jesus

#2. Wait without _____

- Don't predetermine the _____ you're willing to wait
- Let go of the _____ and hold on to the _____

#3. Waiting time is not ______ time

Isaiah 9:2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

- Waiting is active not ______
- Simeon and Anna showed up every day

Big Idea: _____