

# Sermon Starter – Your Beauty is Revealed

*Luke 2:22-40*

N. T. Wright, in *Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense* (2010), speaks about beauty as an echo of the voice of God. That beauty is uniquely evident when an older adult, a grandmother or grandfather, holds a baby. In that picture we see new life and with it hope for the future. For many this is a precious photo opportunity. But in it we also see a gentle revelation of how the older person has lived. Some people hesitate to hold children because it is too revealing. When Simeon and Anna embrace the Christ child, it is as though we can peer into their souls. They were both faithful servants of God and held the promises of God before them every day. They were not afraid to proclaim the words that came to them in that moment. Encourage the congregation to “hold the child Jesus” this day. What emotions do they feel inside? What do they see in the child’s eyes? What is going on in their souls? What will this mean for how they will live in 2015?

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