



Lord of Life
Lutheran Church



*Loved by God,
Sent to Serve.*

**4th Sunday in Advent
December 18, 2022
10:30 am**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Setting Eight

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude: Special music

Teresa Troftgruben
Luke Boyle

Gathering Song: *Lord I Lift Your Name on High*

ELW 857

Lord, I lift your name on high;
Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life,
I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heaven to earth to show the way,
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay,
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;
Lord, I lift your name on high.

Lord, I lift your name on high;
Lord, I love to sing your praises.
I'm so glad you're in my life,
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Lord, I lift your name on high.
Lord, I lift your name on high.
Lord, I lift your name on high.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Melody: Puer Nobis

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**The time has come to welcome him,
Who shines a light on all things dim,
Who brightens evry dark within
To free the world from death and sin.**

L: In Christ our faith is confirmed.

C: In Christ who is born, we shall be saved.

L: In swaddling clothes and lying in a manger,

C: Baby Jesus is the fulfillment of the prophet's words.

L: Unto us a life of promise has begun.

C: Unto us a life with God will be restored.

**He is the way, the truth, the life,
He is our helper in all strife.
He makes us children of our God.
He goes with us, each road we trod.**

L: The angels sang glory to God in the highest.

C: We see the glory in God's Son.

L: The shepherds ran to Bethlehem to find Jesus.

C: We find Jesus in our very hearts.

**In Bethlehem on that cold night,
A star shone bright with heav'ns light.
The sky declared the news we know:
That Jesus came to earth below.**

L: Mary and Joseph held Jesus in their arms.

C: We hold Jesus in our thoughts and prayers.

**We marvel that the Lord is here.
He comes to bring the world good cheer.
Our Savior, Christ, at last arrives.
Our faith in him forever thrives.**

Kyrie

The assembly joins in with the refrain when invited.

let us pray to the Lord, **let us pray to the Lord**
Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

Canticle of Praise

Refrain

Glory to God in the highest, the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

- 1 Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. **Refrain**
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. **Refrain**
- 3 For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen. Amen. **Refrain (x2)**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!

¹⁰The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Time

Gospel Song: *Word of God, Speak*

Word of God speak, would You pour down like rain
Washing my eyes to see Your majesty
to be still and know that You're in this place
Please let me stay and rest, in Your holiness
Word of God speak (**repeat**)

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Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Rev. Paul Amlin

- 1 Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
- 2 No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
- 3 No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
- 4 Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

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Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

... God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

... In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering Music: *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

ELW 276

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt.

Music: Polish carol

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Offering Prayer in Unison

Let us pray together.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Holy Communion

Preparing for the Table

...So if we come to this table angry,

Let this bread and wine be our peace.

If we come to this table broken,

Let this bread and wine be our grace.

If we come to this table betrayed,
Let this bread and wine be our wholeness.

If we come to this table in despair,
Let this bread and wine be our life.

For this is a holy table, with food to fill the hungry world
and wine to quench thirsty hearts.

Thanks be to God!

Words of Institution

When Jesus ate with his friends, He took bread, and after blessing it, He broke it and gave it to them saying:

"Take, eat; this is my body given for you. Each time you do this, remember me."

Then he took the cup, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying:

"Drink. This cup poured out for you and for all people is the promise of God. Whenever you drink it, remember me."

We remember Jesus' death and resurrection, our hope and our life. We break bread and share the one cup.

Thanks be to God!

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Communion Distribution: *Come Now, O Prince of Peace*

ELW 247

- 1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.
- 2 Come now, O God of love, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.
- 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.
- 4 Come, Hope of unity, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.
- 1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

Text & Music: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope

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Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Song: *He Came Down*

ELW 253

- 1 He came down that we may have love;
He came down that we may have love;
He came down that we may have love; hallelujah forevermore.
- 2 He came down that we may have light;
He came down that we may have light;
He came down that we may have light; hallelujah forevermore.
- 3 He came down that we may have peace;
He came down that we may have peace;
He came down that we may have peace; hallelujah forevermore.
- 4 He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy; hallelujah forevermore.

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: Cameroon traditional; arr. John L. Bell, b. 1949

Transcr. And arr. by John L. Bell, © 1990 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc. Used by Permission One License #A-718383

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "*He Came Down*"

Announcements

Worship Online

Zoom:

<https://bit.ly/2PvSCQJ>

Meeting ID: 563 582 7371

Passcode: Luther

Phone in at:

(312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: 563 582 7371

Passcode: 456037

Altar Flowers

Today's altar flowers are given by Tim and Heather Felderman in honor of Easton's baptism.

Longest Night Service

Join us Wednesday at 7:15pm for the Longest Night Service.

This Week at Lord of Life

Today	8:00 AM	Worship in-person or online
	9:15 AM	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Worship in-person or online
	1:00 PM	Christmas Caroling
Wednesday, December 21	7:15 PM	Longest Night Service in-person or online
Saturday, December 24	4:00 PM	Christmas Eve Service in-person or online
	6:00 PM	Christmas Eve Service in-person or online
Sunday, December 25	10:00 AM	Christmas Day Service in -person or online

Caroling and Cookies

Today from 1pm-2:30pm Meet at Luther Manor Grand Meadows in Asbury.

Please be aware that masks are now required at Luther Manor. Everyone is invited to join the youth for caroling and afterwards we'll head to church for Christmas cookies!

Poinsettias

If you'd like to purchase a poinsettia for the Sanctuary this Christmas, envelopes are available by the coffee bar in the Narthex. Cost is \$10 each.

Christmas Morning

This year Christmas Day falls on a Sunday. We will have one service at **10:00am**. This service is unique to Christmas Day and takes the place of our normal Sunday services. It's a beautiful way to enter into the day.

Upcoming Budget Informational Meetings

There will be two informational meetings regarding the budget held prior to the Annual meeting. Following is the schedule of meetings:

Budget Information Meetings

Sunday, January 8 11:30am

Sunday, January 15 9:15am

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 29 9:15am

Prayer List

Donna Bannon

Kim Barnes

Gisela & Ronald Birch

Linda & Bruce Bothwell

Ted & Angie Boyle and family

Kevin & Jennifer Cartee and family

Mike & Deb Clemens

Servants:

Sunday December 18

	Tech	Assisting	Reader	Ushers
8:00 AM	Jon	Susan Hansen	Sandy Arp	Craig Miller
10:30 AM	Timothy T.	Adalyn & Maddox Mairet Jack & Henry Steffen	Luke Boyle Anderson Lambert	Phil G. Gus & Karin

Saturday December 24

4:00 PM	Jon		Jenn Cartee	Deavers
6:00 PM		Al Simms	Al Simms	Gilbertsons

Sunday December 25

10:00 AM	Jon			Deavers
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Acknowledgments

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Susan Hansen

Faith Formation Coordinator

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Administrative Office Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

