



Lord of Life
Lutheran Church



*Loved by God,
Sent to Serve.*

**4th Sunday in Advent
December 18, 2022
8:00 am**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Setting Two

GATHERING

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

Prelude: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

THIRTEEN-CENTURY PLAINSONG
Arr. Cindy Berry

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

- 1 The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
with wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame:
"All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,
most highly favored lady." Gloria!
- 2 "For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,
all generations laud and honor thee;
thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
most highly favored lady." Gloria!
- 3 Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said.
"My soul shall laud and magnify God's holy name."
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!
- 4 Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
in Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
"Most highly favored lady." Gloria!

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924

Music: Basque carol; arr. C. Edgar Pettman, 1865-1943, and John Wickham

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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

Public Domain

**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

ELW p. 120

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Canticle of Praise

ELW p. 121

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

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

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

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

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.**

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (read responsively)

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.**

³Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴**O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶**You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

¹⁷**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.**

¹⁸And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

¹⁹**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

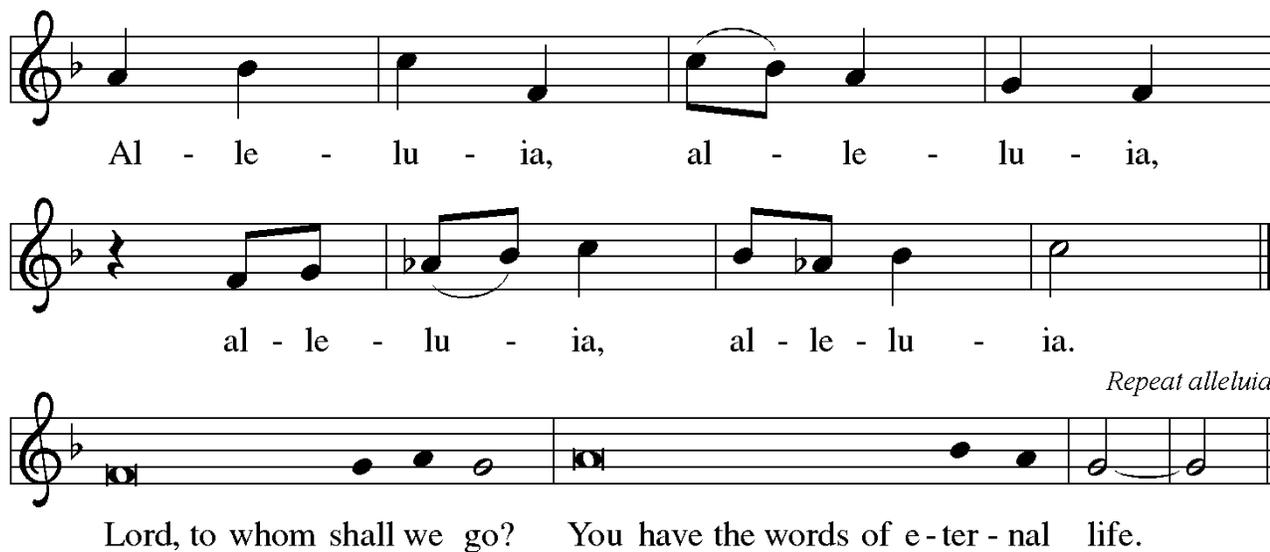
Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

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 Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
 Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

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

Hymn of the Day: *He Comes to Us as One Unknown*

ELW 737

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 He comes to us as one unknown,
a breath unseen, unheard;
as though within a heart of stone,
or shriveled seed in darkness sown,
a pulse of being stirred,
a pulse of being stirred. | 3 He comes to us in sound of seas,
the ocean's fume and foam;
yet small and still upon the breeze,
a wind that stirs the tops of trees,
a voice to call us home,
a voice to call us home. |
| 2 He comes when souls in silence lie
and thoughts of day depart;
half-seen upon the inward eye,
a falling star across the sky
of night within the heart,
of night within the heart. | 4 He comes in love as once he came
by flesh and blood and birth;
to bear within our mortal frame
a life, a death, a saving name,
for ev'ry child of earth,
for ev'ry child of earth. |
| 5 He comes in truth when faith is grown;
believed, obeyed, adored;
the Christ in all the scriptures shown,
as yet unseen, but not unknown,
our Savior and our Lord,
our Savior and our Lord. | |

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.

Offertory Music: "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

solo, Al Simms

Offering: *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

ELW 188

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.



Scan code to give now.

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.

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the



high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Communion Distribution Songs: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* ELW 254

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart. | 2 Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne. |
|---|--|

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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Here Is Bread

ELW 483

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Here is bread, here is wine,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
Break the bread, taste the wine,
Christ is with us here. | 2 Here is grace, here is peace,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
Know his grace, find his peace,
feast on Jesus here. |
| 3 Here we are, joined in one,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
We'll proclaim till he comes
Jesus crucified. | |

Text and Music: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

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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: *My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness*

ELW 251

1 My soul proclaims your greatness, Lord;

I sing my Savior's praise!

You looked upon my lowliness,
and I am full of grace.

Now ev'ry land and ev'ry age
this blessing shall proclaim—
great wonders you have done for me,
and holy is your name.

2 To all who live in holy fear

your mercy ever flows.

With mighty arm you dash the proud,
their scheming hearts expose.

The ruthless you have cast aside,
the lowly throned instead;
the hungry filled with all good things,
the rich sent off unfed.

3 To Israel, your servant blest,

your help is ever sure;

the promise to our parents made
their children will secure.

Sing glory to the Holy One,
give honor to the Word,
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High,
one God, by all adored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat
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Music: English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958
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Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

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 Kevin Cartee

6:00 PM Jon Al Simms

Jenn Cartee

Al Simms

Deavers

Gilbertsons

Sunday December 25

10:00 AM Jon

Deavers

Acknowledgments

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Maria Troftgruben
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Administrative Office Hours

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

