

Lord *of Life* Lutheran Church

119 West Wise Road + Schaumburg, IL  
847-895-8877 + [WWW.LORD-OF-LIFE.ORG](http://WWW.LORD-OF-LIFE.ORG)

A God Who Comes

John 1:1-18

2nd Sunday of Christmas  
January 4, 2026  
9:00 a.m.

# Welcome to Lord of Life Lutheran Church

## Welcome

In the name of Jesus Christ, we welcome you as we hear God's holy Word in worship in-person and online. We encourage you to follow along in this document. If you are joining us online, please send the office an email at [LOLOffice@lord-of-life.org](mailto:LOLOffice@lord-of-life.org) so we know of your participation.

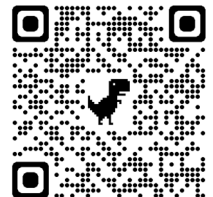
May the Lord bless our worship this day.

## As We Gather

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

## As We Offer

We offer our contributions in-person or online at [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) through this link [https://tithe.ly/give\\_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1438924](https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithely/give-one-time/1438924) or with your phone by taking a picture of this QR Code.



# + Gathering +

PRELUDE ~ *Christmas Overture*

G.F. Handel, arr. Don Hustad

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*We stand.*

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

**C** Amen.

**P** Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin. Reconciling God,

**C** we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.

**P** God's grace upon grace flows over you. ✠ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

**C** Amen.



- 1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
- 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
- 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!



peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

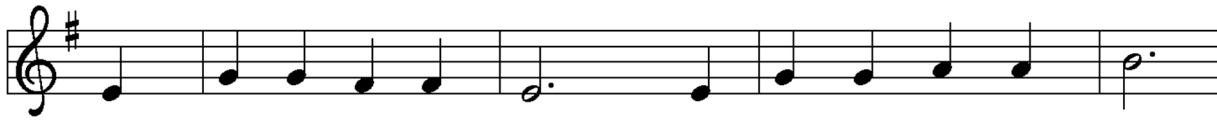


Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

## GREETING

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

## KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Children continue their worship in Sunday School.*

+ Word +

## FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 31:7-14

**A** A reading from Jeremiah.

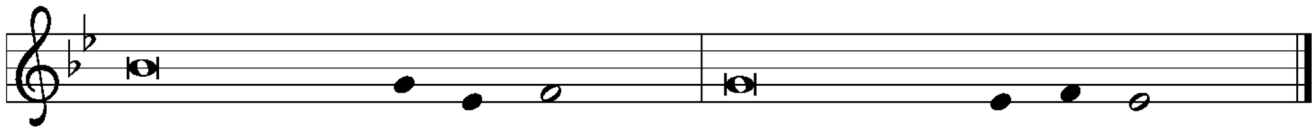
<sup>7</sup> Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel.” <sup>8</sup> See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor together; a great company, they shall return here. <sup>9</sup> With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back; I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path where they shall not stumble, for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. <sup>10</sup> Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock.” <sup>11</sup> For the LORD has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. <sup>12</sup> They shall come and

sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. <sup>13</sup> Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow. <sup>14</sup> I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

**A** The word of the Lord.

**© Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 147:12-20



**A** <sup>12</sup>Worship the LORD, | O Jerusalem;  
praise your | God, O Zion,

**13** who has strengthened the bars | of your gates  
and has blessed your chil- | dren within you.

**A** <sup>14</sup> God has established peace | on your borders  
and satisfies you with the | finest wheat.

**15** God sends out a command | to the earth,  
a word that runs | very swiftly.

**A** <sup>16</sup> God gives | snow like wool,  
scattering | frost like ashes.

**17** God scatters | hail like bread crumbs.  
Who can stand a- | gainst God's cold?

**A** <sup>18</sup> The LORD sends forth the | word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the | waters flow.

**C** <sup>19</sup> **God declares the | word to Jacob,  
statutes and judg- | ments to Israel.**

**A** <sup>20</sup> The LORD has not done so to any | other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. | Hallelujah!

## SECOND LESSON

## Ephesians 1:3-14

**A** A reading from Ephesians.

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup> He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup> In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge

of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

**A** The word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL

John 1:1-18

**P** The holy gospel according to John.

**G** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. <sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup> (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before

me.’ ”) <sup>16</sup> From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.  
<sup>17</sup> The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

**A** The gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON ~ Guest Preacher – Pastor Tim Manwell

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

ELW 276



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;  
 2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.  
 saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:  
 Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!  
 Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

*We stand.*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

- A** Let us confess the faith of the church with the words of the Apostles' Creed.
- C** 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**

- A** Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

*Each petition ends:*

- A** Hear us, O God.
- C** Your mercy is great.

*The prayers conclude:*

- P** With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love, through Jesus Christ our Savior.
- C** Amen.

## PEACE

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

## + Meal +

*We sit.*

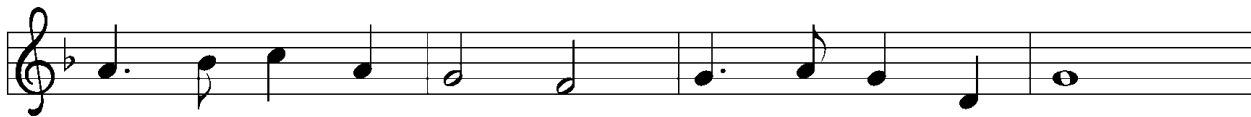
**OFFERTORY** ~ *Coventry Carol*

John Innes

*We stand.*

**OFFERING SONG** ~ *In the Bleak Midwinter*

**ELW 294 vs. 3**



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;  
3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;  
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed  
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.  
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**A** Let us pray. God of glory, great are your wonders among us

and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior.

**C Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

**P** It is indeed right and salutary...praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS



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



heav'n 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.

## THANKSGIVING

- P** Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign....  
...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

- P** Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup....  
...to share with us the great and promised feast.

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

- P** Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit....  
...and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

- P** Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place....  
...all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

## LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Let us pray the words our Lord taught us.
- C** 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

**P** God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

**C** Amen.

*We sit.*

## AGNUS DEI



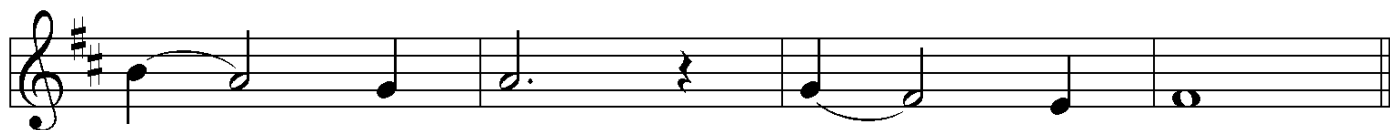
**C** Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All are welcome to the table of the Lord who is truly present in, with and under the bread and wine. We gather at the communion rail and consume the elements by intinction, taking the wafer and dipping it into the chalice of wine. Half of the chalice is dark wine and the other half is white apple juice. Gluten free wafers are available upon request during distribution. Children who have yet to commune are welcome to receive a blessing. Please inform the ushers if you will need to partake of the Lord's supper at your place in the pew.*

# COMMUNION HYMN ~ 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

ELW 284



1 'Twas in the moon of win - ter - time when all the birds had fled, that  
 2 With - in a lodge of bro - ken bark the ten - der babe was found; a  
 3 The ear - liest moon of win - ter - time is not so round and fair as  
 4 O chil - dren of the for - est free, the an - gel - song is true; the



\*God the Lord of all the earth sent an - gel choirs in - stead; be -  
 rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin en - wrapped his beau - ty round; but  
 was the ring of glo - ry on the help - less in - fant there. The  
 ho - ly child of earth and heav'n is born to - day for you. Come,



fore their light the stars grew dim, and wan - d'ring hunt - ers heard the hymn:  
 as the hunt - er braves drew nigh, the an - gel song rang loud and high:  
 chiefs from far be - fore him knelt with gifts of fox and bea - ver pelt.  
 kneel be - fore the ra - diant boy, who brings you beau - ty, peace, and joy.



Je - sus your king is born! Je - sus is born, in ex - cel - sis glo - ri - a!

*We stand.*

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you  
 and keep you in his grace.

**G** Amen.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**A** Let us pray. Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May

we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

**C** Amen.

## + Sending +

### BLESSING

**P** The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One. Abiding Comforter, ✚ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

### SENDING HYMN ~ *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

ELW 290

*Refrain*



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho-rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

## DISMISSAL

- A** Glory to God in the highest!
- C** And peace to God's people on earth!
- A** Go in joy. Emobdy God's redeeming grace.
- C** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE ~ *Pastorale Symphony*

G.F. Handel, arr. Don Hustad

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## ✠ LEADING WORSHIP TODAY ✠

Rev. Tim Manwell, Presiding Minister  
Diane Bele, Music Director  
, Audio Visual  
Jenny Tuntland, Assisting Minister  
Diane Gioe, Reader  
Dolores Giesler, Greeter  
Jan Petersen & Volunteer, Ushers

**TODAY WE WELCOME** Rev. Tim Manwell; and thank him for filling in for Pr. Rebekah while she is away on vacation.

**THE FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God by members and friends of Lord of Life

**THE BULLETIN** is given to the glory of God from members and friends of Lord of Life

### **✝ WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS ✝**

**WORSHIP REGISTRATION SHEETS** ~ All visitors & members please sign-in each Sunday on the worship attendance sheets located in the blue folder at the end of your pew. Please update any new contact information. We encourage visitors to provide contact information - - this helps us to get to know you!

**\*\*Please continue to sign-in each week.** This helps gauge church growth, plan events, maintain how many bulletins should be printed, and assist in setting up the communion meal for each week. Trying a new seat will also help you say hello to those who you do not know each week. Thank you for your assistance with this.\*\*

**WELCOME** ~ IF YOU WATCH ON-LINE, PLEASE EMAIL THE CHURCH OFFICE DIRECTLY AT [LOLOffice@lord-of-life.org](mailto:LOLOffice@lord-of-life.org) or call the office and let us know you attended. Thank you!

**LOL OFFICE REMINDERS:** Just a reminder; church office hours begin at 1pm M-F. It is still a good idea to call the office to make sure someone is here. Please email the office or tell Julie in person if you have any prayer requests or bulletin announcements to be included in the Sunday bulletin. Prayer requests should say if you want them in

\*bulletin (friend or family) – these have first and last names

\*spoken weekly prayers – first name only

\*sent to our Lord of Life Prayer Circle.

All bulletin items need to be in the office no later than Wednesday mornings, anything coming later will need to be in the next week's bulletin. Kim and Julie need time to create, edit, and PRINT the bulletin for Sunday mornings. Any questions, just ask. Thank you in advance.

**IN CASE THERE IS A PASTORAL EMERGENCY** while Pr. Rebekah is on vacation, please contact Kim Puchalski at 630-532-7378 and she will get in touch with the person who is covering emergencies for the Lord of Life congregation. Thank you.