

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

December 29, 2024



ELW SETTING 3
LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Rev. Timothy C. Linstrom, Pastor

30 Riverwoods Road
Lincolnshire, IL

847-945-1550 www.holyspirit-elca.org

Welcome to **WORSHIP**

We are glad you are with us today.

We are a family of faith living and growing together in Christ.

This bulletin is filled with information about the life of the church, you are invited to take it home for reference and further reflection during the week. Various updates and additional church information, along with the Pastor Tim's sermons, are posted each week on our website — www.holyspirit-elca.org. Welcome cards/envelopes are located in the pew rack. Please take a moment to fill out the information and return it to the offering plate.

Our sound system includes a T-system hearing loop, which allows worshipers with T-system compatible hearing aids to tune in directly to the worship leaders' microphones for clearer sound. There are two hearing unit headsets available in the narthex for use. Additionally, large print bulletins are available at the sanctuary door.

As we worship and celebrate communion this morning we remind you that this is the Lord's table. Jesus is the host. We are his guests. God welcomes everyone to come and eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Come and eat and live! Please extend your hand to receive the bread, then take a cup from the tray. Please indicate if you prefer to receive a gluten-free wafer. Those not receiving communion are welcome to receive a blessing.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Holy Spirit, please see Pastor Tim. Membership comes through baptism or affirmation of faith.

Please let us know if we can be of service to you in any way!

**Welcome visitors to LCHS! Please scan this
QR code to share your info with us.**



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THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRELUDE

“Christmas Carols”

Chris Rice & Joel Raney

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting.

C **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection

P God-with-us,

C **we confess that we have turned away
those seeking shelter,
claiming there is no room when we have plenty.
We have made power and wealth our idols,
while you show us true glory: a baby in a manger.
We have overlooked the shepherds,
expecting good news in prettier packaging.
Too often, we have valued violence
instead of your peace.
Turn us from our ways to your ways.
Grant us the grace to begin again.
Free us from all that keeps us bound,
and forgive our sin,
through Jesus Christ, who gives himself for us.
Amen.**

P Hear the good news and rejoice!
You are God’s chosen ones,
holy and beloved,
forgiven in Christ,
and freed to respond in joy.

C **Amen.**



1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.



Refrain



Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,




al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.


Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

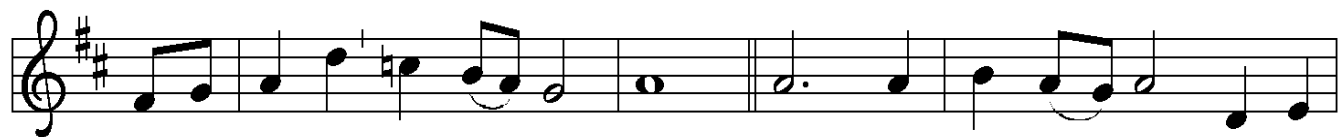


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



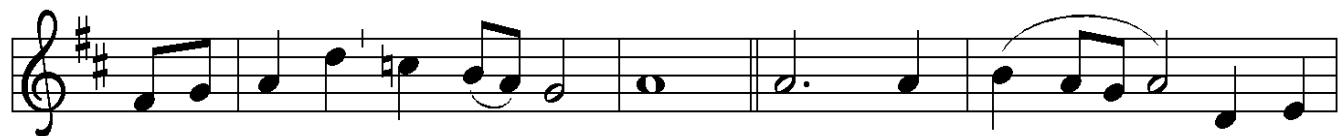
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Tim Linstrom

Please be seated.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

¹⁸ Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. ¹⁹ His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. ²⁰ Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord"; and then they would return to their home.

²⁶ Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and with the people.

The word of the Lord,

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

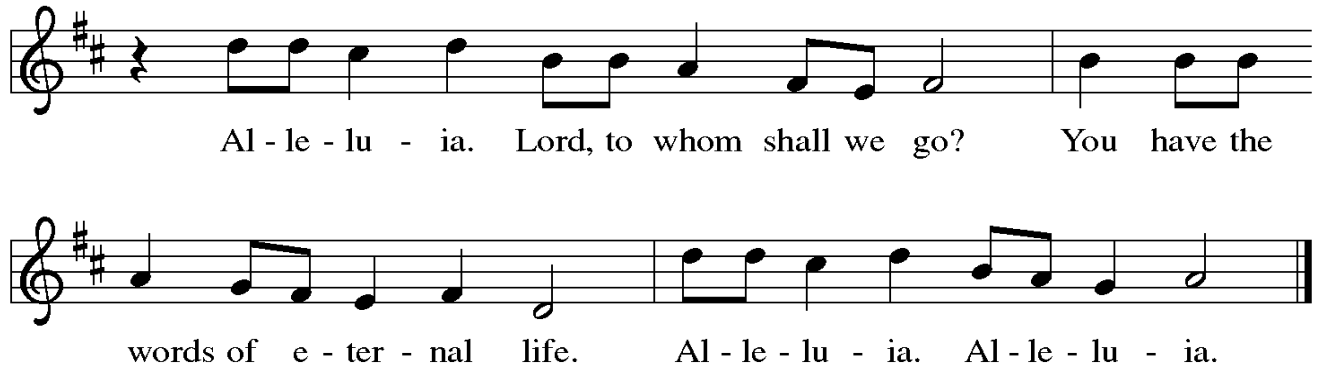
Colossians 3:12-17

¹² As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL VERSE



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

GOSPEL

Luke 2:41-52

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the second chapter.

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

P ⁴¹ Now every year [Jesus'] parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³ When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴ Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹ He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹ Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Tim Linstrom

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Love Has Come”

ELW 292



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Please Stand

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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Filled with good news of great joy, let us offer our prayers for the church, the earth, and all people.

A For those who teach and those who learn, we pray. Bless the education ministries of your church. Guide Sunday school teachers, college and seminary professors, and Bible study leaders in our ongoing faith formation and curiosity. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A For the thriving of creation, we pray. Protect the habitats of pangolins and porcupines, penguins and parrots, and all wild animals and creeping things. Increase our knowledge of the natural world and the care of its inhabitants. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A For the nations of the world, we pray. Raise up rulers who lead with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Let your peace rule in their hearts and in all lands. We pray for those serving in the military and their families, especially **Amelia Eastman, Thomas Menter** (grandson of Louise), **Dylan Utterback** (son of Julie & Joel), **Jim Detjen** (brother of Mary). God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A For the well-being of your people, we pray. Keep watch over all who travel this holiday season. Accompany those who are alone or ill. We especially pray for **Katie Bally, Carol Bertrand, Ruth Berman, Ethan Cloonan, Jane Ernst, Elizabeth Falato, Dorothea Lehtinen, Bill Lynn, Marian McBride, Cathy Nathan, Inge Ohnona, Kathy Roderer, Tom Weglarz,**

Allison Wittich, Emily Becker (friends of the Bettickers), **Richard Crucius** (family friend of Mary Lou Gilliam), **Laura Hansel** (sister of Mary Detjen), **Jim Hanzel** (uncle of Patrick Cantagallo), **Dana Imlah** (daughter of Mary Lou Gilliam), **Phil Larson** (friend of Nila Bilstad), **Todd Luedtke** (friend of Darlene and Larry Neumann), **Linda Lyons** (mother of Amy Dohler), the **Chase Petersen family** (friends of Amy Dohler), **Kari, Sydney, and Luke Stocks** (daughter in-law and grandchildren of Dorothy and Ron Stocks), **Katie Workman** (friend of Dorothy and Ron Stocks), **Bruce Tagge** (father of Tim Tagge), **Jacob Rosenkranz** (friend of the Prosk family), **Michael Ungari, Lenita Spears**, (relative & friend of the Labellarte family), **Coco & Lukas** (grandchildren of JoAnne Schwarcz). Console parents and children whose relationships are strained or severed. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A For the ministry of the Holy spirit we pray. Let the word of Christ dwell among us. In times of conflict, clothe us in love and move us to forgiveness. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A For your holy, beloved, and chosen ones of every time and place, we give thanks. Draw us all into everlasting praise and joy. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We commend these prayers to you, O God, trusting your grace made known to all, through the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always

C and also with you.

All the people greet one another through the sharing of the peace.

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

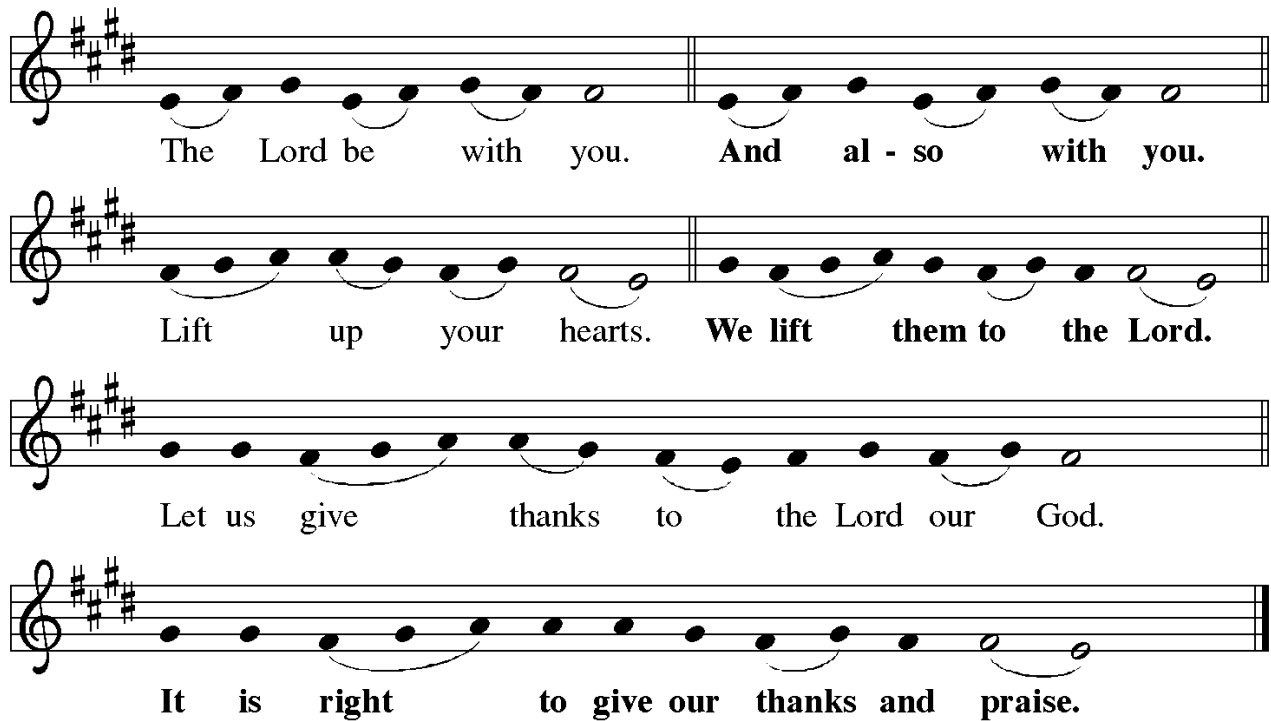
John Carter

Please stand as the offering is brought forward.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A God of heaven and earth,
from the beginning, you have called forth life,
in which you take delight.
The trees, the fields, and the seas sing for joy.
Bless now these gifts, received from your bounty,
that we may join the chorus of creation
to tell of your salvation from day to day.
- C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave
and by his glorious resurrection
opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



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



san-na. 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.

P Blessed are you, O holy God:
you are the Life and Light of all.
By your powerful word you created all things.
Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations.
Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son.
He is your Light, shining in our darkness
and revealing to us your mercy and might.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing,
his dying and rising, and his promise to come again,
we await that day when all the universe
will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.
By your Spirit bless us and this meal,
that, refreshed with this heavenly food,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P All who believe in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, are welcome at the table of the Lord. Let us pray together as our Lord taught us.

C **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

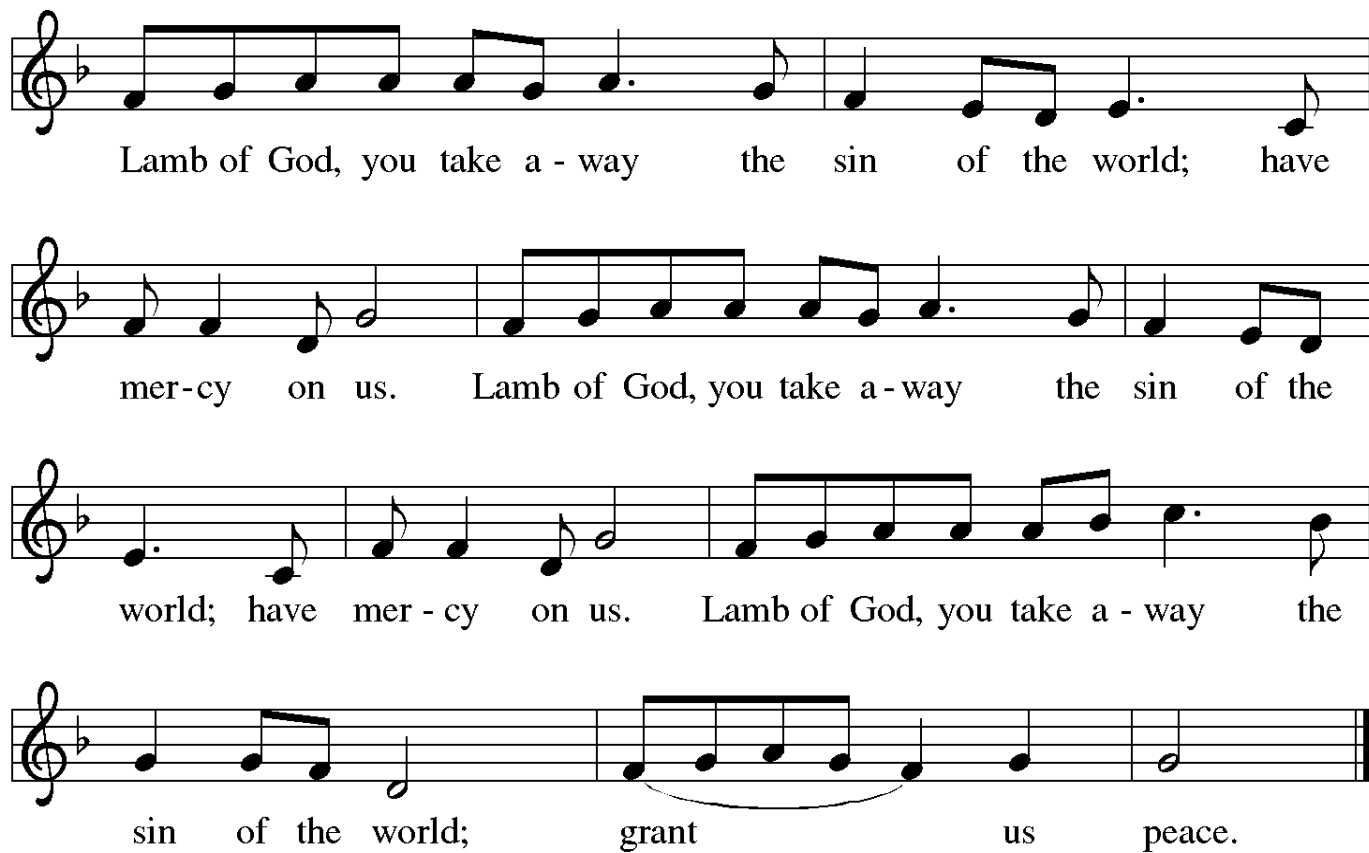
Please be seated

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

P God feeds us with tender mercy.
Come to the table.

C Amen.

COMMUNION CANTICLE



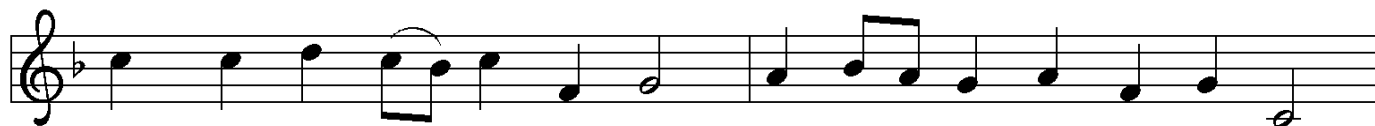
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Stand after all have been communed

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

C **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A Merciful God,
we thank you for Jesus, who is our heavenly food.
Strengthened by this goodness,
send us forth to announce your peace,
comfort the afflicted,
and share the good news of great joy.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The God of love,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
lavish you with grace,
illumine your path,
and increase your joy,
today and always.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

ELW 288

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.
C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“In Dulci Jubilo”

Wilber Held

Sanctuary flowers were donated by Mary Garbrecht in honor of Logan’s birthday.

TRIVIA NIGHT RETURNS — Join us for a fun night of “brain-bashing” as



Jeremy Cahnmann will again host a fun Trivia Night here at LCHS on Saturday, January 11th! **Brain Bash Trivia** is a live interactive trivia game where the questions are fun for all ages about stuff you know and stuff you didn't realize you knew and maybe a few things you'll learn. The questions are fun and the host, Jeremy Cahnmann, has been quizzing people all over the country for over a decade and makes each event unique. Come out and exercise your mind! Cost is \$15/person. Refreshments will be available for purchase. A link to sign up is on the church website at holyspirit-elca.org. Or scan this QR Code to access the sign up. If you prefer, email Jeanne Nelson at jnelson814@comcast.net and let her know how many will be attending.

ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING — January 19

The annual meeting of Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit will be held following the 9:30 am worship service on Sunday, January 19, 2025. Join us as we celebrate the past year and approve new council members and budget. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect council members, review ministry priorities, and approve the operating budget for 2024. All baptized and confirmed members of the congregation are voting members. It is important for all members to attend this meeting so we can have your input and to ensure we have a quorum.

2025 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES — Contribution envelopes are available to be picked up for those who wish to use them. They are on the credenza just inside the church office door. You will see they are not labeled. Members can take any box and once you use them that new envelope number will be updated in our system as assigned to the user.

QUILTERS — The Quilting Ministry meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

PRAYER GROUP — Our prayer group meets at 9:30a.m. on Thursday mornings in room 3. If you'd like to pray with us, please come! We'd love for you to join us.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY — This class meets every Thursday morning from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. Over the course of the year we cover various books of the Bible, contemporary theologians, our Lutheran roots, and current issues as they impact our lives. We are currently studying the book "The Forgotten Luther: Reclaiming the Church's Public Witness". In this critical time in history, this book argues that what is urgently needed is a cogent, clear, biblically based and theologically grounded rationale for the manner in which the church speaks in the political arena. This book looks carefully at the public witness of Martin Luther and its meaning for preaching, teaching, and carrying out public ministry today. Join us for some spirited discernment and conversation! We always close our time together in prayer.

ON-LINE GIVING AND TEXT TO GIVE — Our secure online giving option makes it more convenient for members and visitors to donate. Giving is also as easy as sending a text with our text-to-give feature. Text the amount you want to donate to 844-573-1379. A registration link will be texted back for you to enter your information. Tap "Process" to complete your donation. Please scan this code with your phone to donate using our secure online giving page.



LIVE STREAM — Our services are live streamed and archived our Holy Spirit YouTube Channel. www.youtube.com/@churchinthewoods-holyspirit6256 or scan the QR code. Please reach out to Daaron Dohler or Ryan Hathaway if you have any questions.



HOLY SPIRIT HAPPENINGS

Sunday December 29	9:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion
Tuesday December 31		New Year Eve
Tuesday January 1		New Year Day Church Office Closed
Sunday January 5	9:30 a.m.	Service of Holy Communion

Pastor: Rev. Timothy C. Linstrom
Office Manager: Ciara Crews
Music Ministers: Karen M. Jirsa, Bill Vaananen,
Patrick Cantagallo, and Nancy Fencil
Organist: Karen M. Jirsa
Children's Ministry Director: Jennifer Williams

Church office hours: Weekdays. 8:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.
Church email: lutheranholyspirit@gmail.com
Church Phone number: 847-945-1550