

# The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA Reconciling in Christ, Rejoicing Spirits, and handicap friendly Congregation

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Sunday, December 1, 2024  
10:30 am

## **The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life**

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,  
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey  
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ  
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

**We welcome all who worship with us today.**

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.  
If you are interested in joining our family of faith,  
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

**Children are welcome and celebrated!**

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby contains  
a variety of items for children’s use during worship.  
Stop by to borrow a book, pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent  
to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

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**HOLY COMMUNION**

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children may receive the sacrament if they have completed instruction with a pastor.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

# GATHERING

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

**Gathering Music**

Emmanuel

Smith

## **Welcome and Announcements**

*We rise in body or spirit.*

## **Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles**

The first candle calls us to hope.  
When the world seems scary,  
when we try to escape and hide,  
God invites us to confront fear and we find HOPE.

*(Hope candle is lit)*

Where in the world do we find HOPE these days?

Let us pray.  
As you brought the word of hope to Mary  
and through her to our world,  
rekindle in us this season a sense of hope  
as we prepare to celebrate your nativity.  
**Amen**

*We rise in body or spirit.*

## **Song of HOPE**



O come and be the hope in all our lives. Though chaos and con-  
fu- sion still sur- vive. We know the path of hate all too well. We  
need our God with us, Em-man-u - el. Re - joice, re - joice! Em-  
man-u - el shall come to us and all things shall be well.

## **Greeting and Prayer of the Day**

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.**

Let us pray.

Holy Source of life and hope, as we come together this day, open our ears to hear, open our eyes to see, and open our hearts to love, that we may come to know your ways and follow your paths. Help us grow in love for one another, and for all creation, as we prepare for the coming of the one who calls us to turn from our false gods to you, Holy One, the true source of our salvation.

**Amen**

*The assembly is seated.*

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching and song.*

### **1<sup>st</sup> Reading** – Jeremiah 33:14-16

Translation: NRSV-UE

A reading from Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** – 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Translation: NRSV-UE

A reading from First Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God!**

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW 264

I Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:

*Refrain*

Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

**Gospel - Luke 21:25-36**

Translation: NRSV-UE

The Good News from Luke, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**Open our hearts, Lord.**

“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man.”

This is the Good News!  
**Thanks be to God!**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Sermon**

Pastor Cindy Camp

*We rise in body or spirit.*

**Hymn of the Day**

My Lord, What a Morning

ELW 438



My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be - gin to fall.



- 1 You will hear the trum - pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un - der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,



*Refrain*

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

## Advent Affirmation

We believe in God the Father, creator of heaven and earth.  
**The one who is full of patience, who is not afraid of silence,  
who does not need to fill each moment with activity and noise.  
The one who is beyond bluster and flurry,  
and who does not push for attention.**

We believe in God the Son, Savior of creation,  
**who slipped into Bethlehem one night, mostly unnoticed,  
who lived thirty years without headlines or haste,  
who frequently took time alone with his patient Father,  
who waited for the right time to become the suffering servant,  
who stood quietly before the noise of his accusers,  
whose silence overpowered their words,  
who died, then rose again on a quiet Sunday morning.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
**who strengthens, empowers, renews and refreshes,  
sometimes arriving with obvious power,  
sometimes with the quiet breath of a whisper.**

We believe in one God  
**who patiently waits for us,  
and who longs for us to do the same.**  
**Amen**

## Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us,  
let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

After each petition:

We are waiting, Jesus;  
**come and be with us soon.**



Pastor's closing prayer:  
Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers  
and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.  
**Amen**

## **Peace**

May God increase our love for one another  
and strengthen our hearts in holiness,  
as we greet one another in peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,  
"Peace be with you."*

*The assembly is seated.*

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

*During the Musical Offering, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated.*

## **Musical Offering**

An Advent Invitation  
Adult Choir

Williams/Nolan

*We rise in body or spirit.*

## **Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.  
We thank you, God, for the joy we feel this day.  
We are blessed by this community of love, this space of acceptance.  
We place our trust in you, knowing that you care for us.

With deep gratitude for all you provide to us, we offer our gifts to you.  
Center our hearts during this season of giving.

**Amen**

## Great Thanksgiving

May the God of hope be with you.

**And also with you.**

Watchers and waiters, look! Your redemption is near.

**We raise up our heads and open our hearts to the One who approaches.**

Advent people, live attentively in these days of hope.

**We sing songs of glad expectation to God who is in our midst.**

With all the saints, those in heaven and those around us,  
we lift our songs of joy to you.

## Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy



O ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly, Lord! The God of hosts, by all a - dored. The  
Loud hal-le-lu-jahs to your name; an - gels and ser - a - phim pro-claim; by



earth and heavn's are full of thee; your light, your pow'r, your ma - jes - ty. Re-  
all the pow'rs and thrones in heav'n, e - ter - nal praise is giv - en. Re-



- joice, re-joyce, O ho - ly Lord. The God of hosts, by all a-dored.  
- joice, re-joyce, O ho - ly Lord. The God of hosts, by all a-dored.

## Words of Institution

## Word in Meal

As we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth, as we anticipate his return, we tell the world of that Advent mystery.

**Jesus was born that we might have peace.**

**Jesus died and was raised that we might have life.**

**Jesus will come again to welcome us home.**

Pour out your blessing upon this bread, O God. Wheat, grown in fields, and touched by yeast, becomes life-giving food. This bread is transformed by your love into the living presence of Jesus.

Pour out your blessing upon this cup, juice from grapes grown in the sun. May we drink deeply of the forgiveness Jesus offers.

Send your Spirit on this community, gathered here around your table. Feed us, that we may truly become the body of Christ, offering life to the world. Through your beloved child, Jesus Christ, and with the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, now and forevermore.

**Amen**

## Lord's Prayer

God in Community, Holy in One, be with us in this waiting time as we pray together as Jesus, your Word, taught us to pray, saying:

**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**

## Invitation to the table


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

*The assembly is seated.*

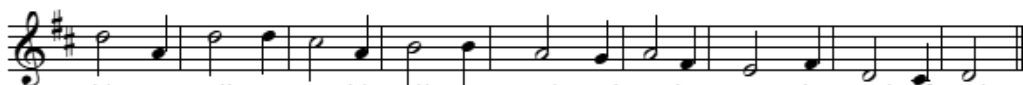
## Distribution of communion

### Agnus Dei

### Lamb of God



Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your  
O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the hol - y Lamb of



side to walk up - on this guilt - y sod and to be - come the Lamb of God.  
God. Oh, wash me in your pre-cious blood, my Je-sus Christ, the Lamb of God.



1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a  
 2 O Je - ru - sa - lem, her - ald good tid - ings, as -  
 3 But the word of our Sav - ior is faith - ful, the



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a  
 cend to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late  
 arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the



high - way, a high - way for our God!  
 peo - ple the com - ing of their king.  
 na - tions and soon will right the wrong.



The val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the  
 Like flow'rs of the field we per - ish, like  
 Lord, feed your flock like a shep - herd, the



loft - y hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed  
 grass our works de - cay; the pow'r and the pomp of  
 lambs so gent - ly hold; in pas - tures of peace now



plac - es where God, our God, may go!  
 na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way.  
 lead them, and bring them to your fold.



*Te in - vi - ta - mos, oh Cris - to, te in - vi -*  
Come, be a - mong us, O Je - sus. Come now and



*ta - mos hoy mis - mo: qué - da - te con no - so - tros,*  
vis - it your peo - ple. Come, and be near your chil - dren.



*qué - da - te de\_u - na vez. La no - che ya se\_a - pro -*  
Stay with us, Lord, a - bide. Shad - ows are deep - 'ning a -



*xi - ma, vie - ne la lo - bre - guez.*  
round us; fast falls the e - ven - tide.



*Qué - da - te con no - so - tros, qué - da - te de\_u - na vez.*  
Come and be near your chil - dren. Stay with us, Lord, a - bide.



*Qué - da - te con no - so - tros, qué - da - te de\_u - na vez.*  
Come and be near your chil - dren. Stay with us, Lord, a - bide.

*We rise in body or spirit.*

### **Prayer after communion**

Let us pray.

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation.

We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace.

We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world.

Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

**Amen**

## **SENDING**

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

### **Blessing**

We have peeked at the light under the stable door.

Do you have the courage to unwrap the gift the Christmas Christ brings?

Go forth now and open the door to let hope break forth.

Open the gift and give hope to one another.

Open your heart and let hope, peace, joy and love enter in.

**Amen**

**Sending Hymn** *Please see next page.*

### **Dismissal**

Be alert. Be faithful.

The day of the Lord is coming.

The kingdom of God is near.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sending Music**

Nun kom der Heyden Heylandt  
(Savior of the Nations, Come)

J.S. Bach



1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry  
 2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's  
 3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true  
 4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the  
 gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his  
 king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the  
 wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion  
 scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows  
 hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful  
 on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and  
 to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and  
 Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -  
 Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.  
 wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.  
 a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.  
 praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!



**Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:**



**venmo**

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at: [lchsemmaus.org](http://lchsemmaus.org).

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Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor  
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor  
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor  
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy  
Karin Kahler, Director, Faith Formation for Children  
Nancy Pfeffer, Interim Choir Director

## **WORSHIP HELPERS**

### **Advent Wreath Lighters**

The Keiser Family

### **Assisting Minister**

Renee Wetherhold

### **Reader**

Anne Osenbach

### **Communion Assistants**

Jackie Leipert, Robert Neitz

### **Greeter**

Kitti Berkheimer

### **Usher**

Mike Berkheimer

### **Production/Technology Team**

Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Glenn Hinderliter, Jeff Gross, Eric Kahler,  
Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Paige Mathieu, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz, Bill Newill,  
Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie,  
Diana Sorrentino, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

### **Altar Care**

Cindy Clark, Terri Hinderliter, Carol Osenbach, Barb Roba, Deb Stevens,  
Lynda Swartz, Julie Timmcke, Jennifer Wetzel

