

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

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

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Sunday, January 5, 2025

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.

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

We Three Kings of Orient Are

Fletcher

Welcome and Announcements

We rise in body or spirit.

Gathering Dialog

We gather wondering, 'Where will we find the Baby born in Bethlehem?'

**We will find the Babe in the laughter of children,
in the wisdom of grandparents.**

We gather asking, 'where will we find the Child of Christmas?'

**We will find the Child where the needy are gifted with hope,
where the oppressed are set free.**

We gather wanting to know, 'where will we find the Christ who has come for us?'

**We will find our hope where fear is overwhelmed by grace,
where hatred is overwhelmed by love,
where all people are overwhelmed by joy.**



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
 bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,
 owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
 God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain

Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

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.

Kyrie

ELW Setting 8

Refrain

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for
 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the

u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you

this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain

let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

God of the sunrise and the evening star,
you have revealed to us your love in Jesus Christ:
a love so long expected, yet so surprising in its unfolding.

Gather us from near and far.

Shine through us, that all people would be drawn to your light in us;
through Jesus Christ, in whom we have access to you in boldness
and confidence through faith to pray.

Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

1st Reading – Isaiah 60:1-6

Translation: NIV

A reading from Isaiah.

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you.
Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
“Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip.
Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy;
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will
come. Herds of camels will cover your land, young camels of Midian and Ephah.
And all from Sheba will come, bearing gold and incense and proclaiming
the praise of the Lord.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

A reading from Ephesians.

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— Surely you have heard about the administration of God’s grace that was given to me for you, that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God’s holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God’s grace given me through the working of his power. Although I am less than the least of all the Lord’s people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia



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

Gospel – Matthew 2:1-12

Translation: NIV

The Good News from Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked,

“Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?”

We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.

When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born.

“In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

“But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said,

“Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him.

Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

This is the Good News!
Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Tami Reichley

We rise in body or spirit.



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to thy low - ly bed,
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at thy cra - dle, rude and bare,
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day keep us in the nar - row way;
 5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright need they no cre - a - ted light;



as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
 there to bend the knee be - fore thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;
 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
 and when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down;



so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led by thee.
 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek thy mer - cy seat.
 all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n - ly king.
 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
 there for - ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our king.

Epiphany Affirmation

I believe in God, the creator of the universe, who spoke, "Let there be light!"
and there was light, setting in motion all of creation and blessing it to this day.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the light that shines in the darkness;
 the darkness cannot overcome it.

**He embodied humanity in the image of God,
 and suffered for the greater good.**

**He atoned for our sins and died on the cross for us,
 God's saving grace!**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the guiding light of God in our world.
Through the Spirit, God conquers the darkness of human sin,
helps people grow and become the people they are meant to be.

I believe in the power of transformation,
here in this world and in the world to come.
Amen

Prayers of the People

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

After each petition:
Gracious God, you deliver the needy when they call.
Hear our prayers for your people and your creation.

Pastor's closing prayer:
We commend these prayers to you, O God,

Peace

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

May we share signs of peace and love to sustain us in the New Year.

*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. If you wish you may leave your offering in the additional offering plates located on the tables in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.

Musical Offering

Light of the World
Eric Kahler, soloist

Cash / Bergthold

We rise in body or spirit.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Generous God, thank you for the gift of Jesus.

Thank you for the gifts of Christmas.

Thank you for inviting us to bring gifts to your world.

Bless the gifts we bring, that they become vessels
of Christ's light and love in all the world.

Amen

Great Thanksgiving

People of Advent: the Lord be with you!

And also with you!

People of Christmas: lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts to the One who was born for us.

People of the star: offer your songs of joy and thanksgiving to God.

**We will sing our praises to the One
who has revealed glory and hope in the Babe of Bethlehem.**

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, 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, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Word in Meal

As we remember Jesus' birth, as we prepare to journey with him this year,
we speak of that mystery called faith, which is revealed to us through Christ:

**Christ came, the morning star of love;
Christ died, the night star of salvation;
Christ arose, the radiant star of resurrection;
Christ will come again, the constellation of hope.**

Holy One of stars and sinners, send down your Spirit of hope upon those gathered around this table, and on the gifts of the bread and the cup, that they might make us your faithful and loving children.

Feed us with the bread of hope, so when we leave, we will travel another road, to defend the weak, to speak for the voiceless, to assist those cast aside.

Refresh us, so we, overwhelmed with joy, would go forth to enter the houses of the strangers in our midst; to enter the despair of the lonely and forgotten; to enter the hearts of everyone we meet.

And when eternity's time begins and we are gathered around your table with friends and family we loved, with those we ignored and mistreated, with all our siblings of grace, we will lift our songs of glad joy to you.

Amen

Lord's Prayer

God in Community, Holy in One, we will proclaim your glory to all, even as we 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

Arise; shine, for the light of Christ is shining upon and within us.
Arise; receive, for the grace of Christ is flowing in and through these gifts.
Gather around. These gifts are for all to share.

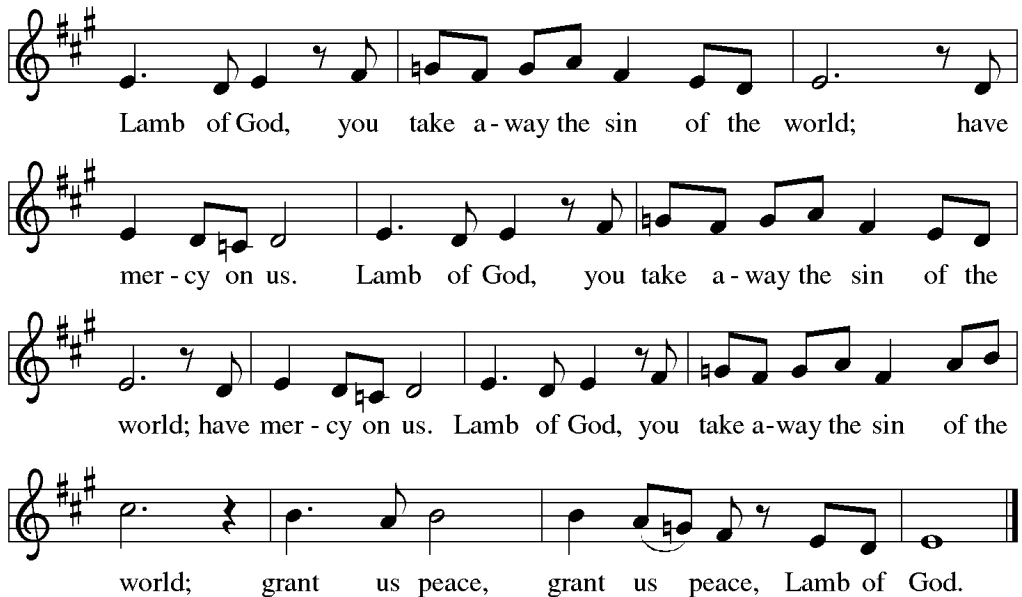
The assembly is seated.

Distribution of communion

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

ELW Setting 8



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, Lamb of God.

Refrain



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.



Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;



send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!



1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the
2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright-ness, so our fac - es dis -



dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,
play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,



set us free, by the truth you now bring us.
mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.



Shine on me, shine on me:
Shine on me, shine on me:

Refrain

Communion Hymn

Come, Light of God

Repeat as needed

MSB2 S568

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Lu - miè - re de Dieu, in - on - de la ter - re, vi -
Come light, light of God, give light to cre - a - tion, en -

si - te nos coeurs, et de - meure a - vec nous.
light - en our hearts, and re - main with your world.

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after communion

Let us pray.

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.

Amen

SENDING

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

Litany of Welcome

Leader: A church family is constantly changing. Loved ones come to the end of their lives. Individuals come and go in our church life. It is important and right that we recognize these times of passage, of endings and beginnings. Today we share the time of welcome with Deacon Reylene Starego, whose time as our Director of Music begins now. Deacon Reylene, in the presence of this congregation, will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility, and promise to discharge your duties in harmony with the constitutions of the church?

Deacon: I will and I ask God to help me.

Leader: Will you love, serve, and pray for these people of God, nourishing them in Word and Service, and lead them forward during this important time of change?

Deacon: I will and I ask God to help me.

Leader: Will you lead these people of God in giving faithful witness to the Word of God and in making known the love of God through loving service among them and in this community?

Deacon: I will and I ask God to help me.

Leader: Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, give you the power of his Spirit so that you may perform them with strength and compassion.

All: Amen

Leader: I ask all of you, now, people of this congregation, will you receive this messenger of Christ, Deacon Reylene Starego, who continues the work of bringing the Gospel of hope and salvation? Will you regard her as a fellow servant of Christ and work with her in the ministry of this congregation?

All: We will.

Leader: Will you pray for her and honor her for her work's sake and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

All: **We will.**

Leader: By your statements of commitment and the affirmation of this congregation, we welcome you as the Director of Music of this congregation in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen**

Blessing

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

Sending Hymn *Please see next page.*

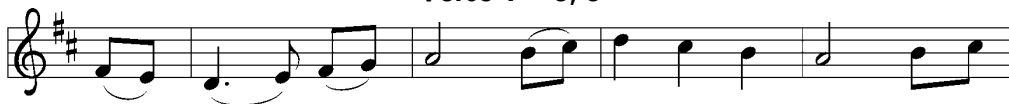
Dismissal

Go in peace. The Word of God dwells in you.
Thanks be to God.

Sending Music

As With Gladness

Archer



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the
 wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . . gold, . . . and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

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.

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

WORSHIP HELPERS

Assisting Minister

Becky Leiby

Reader

Joseph Burke

Communion Assistants

Alice Mudge, Glynnis Rea

Greeter

Fern Schlegel

Usher

Ken Schlegel

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

Kitti Berkheimer, Brenda Brookover, Marian Harrison, Terri Hinderliter,
Linda Letts, Carole Osenbach, Nancy Pfeffer, Barb Roba, Deb Stevens,
Julie Timmcke, and Jennifer Wetzel.

