



LORD of LOVE
Lutheran Church

Second Sunday in Advent



Christ is Coming! Prepare the Way!



LORD of LOVE
Lutheran Church

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Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - *Christ's Love, Our Calling.*

**“I rejoiced with those who said to me,
‘Let us go to the house of the LORD.’”
Psalm 122:1**



Lord of Love Lutheran Church

December 5, 2021

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

OPENING HYMN (CW 275)

Blest Be the God of Israel



1 Blest be the God of Is - ra - el, Who comes
2 He from the house of Da - vid A child
3 On pris - on - ers of dark - ness The sun

to set us free; He vis - its and re - deems us; He
of grace has giv'n; A Sav - ior comes a - mong us To
be - gins to rise, The dawn - ing of for - give - ness Up -

grants us lib - er - ty. The proph - ets spoke of
raise us up to heav'n. Be - fore him goes his
on the sin - ner's eyes. He guides the feet of

mer - cy, Of free - dom and re - lease; God shall
her - ald, Fore - run - ner in the way, The proph -
pil - grims A - long the paths of peace. Oh, bless

ful - fill his prom - ise And bring his peo - ple peace.
et of sal - va - tion, The har - bin - ger of day.
our God and Sav - ior With songs that nev - er cease!

Text: Michael A. Perry, b. 1942, alt. © 1973 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: ELLACOMBE (76 76 D) *Gesang-Buch . . . der Herzog! . . . Hofkapelle*, Württemberg, 1784, alt.

STAND

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**



CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A - men.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in



all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,



you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;



you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and



ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,



but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,



how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.




O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,



you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;



you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the



King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,



how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

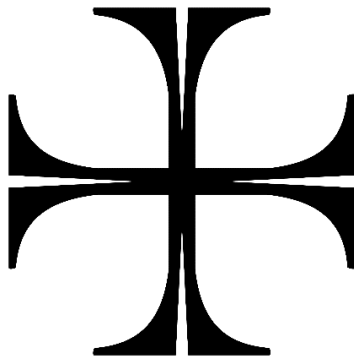
M: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

BE SEATED





THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Malachi 3:1-7

Look! I am sending my messenger! He will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord, whom you are seeking, will come to his temple! The Messenger of the Covenant, in whom you delight, will surely come, says the LORD of Armies.

² But who can endure the day when he comes? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire, like launderers bleach! ³ He will be seated like a refiner and a purifier of silver. He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and like silver. They will belong to the LORD and bring him an offering in righteousness.

⁴ Judah and Jerusalem's offerings will be pleasing to the LORD as they were in the days of old, in years long ago.

⁵ I will approach you to judge you. I will be quick to give testimony against those who practice occult arts, those who commit adultery, those who swear false oaths, those who cheat workers out of their wages, those who wrong a widow and a fatherless child, those who turn away a resident alien—all those who do not fear me, says the LORD of Armies.

⁶ Certainly I, the LORD, do not change. That is why you, sons of Jacob, have not come to an end. ⁷ Since the days of your fathers, you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of Armies.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Prepare the Way

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ Every time I pray for all of you, I always pray with joy, ⁵ because of your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am convinced of this very thing: that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to

completion until the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷ I am equally convinced that it is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I have you in my heart, for both in my chains and in my defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all share in this grace with me. ⁸ Yes, God is my witness of how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹ And I pray that your love may still increase more and more in knowledge and every insight. ¹⁰ This will result in your approval of the things that really matter, so that you will be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. All mankind will see God's salvation. Alleluia. (Luke 3:4, 6 cf. NIV)

GOSPEL

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—while Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip was tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene—² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, the son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. ³ He went into the whole region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ Just as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

“Prepare the way of the Lord! Make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley will be filled, and every mountain and hill will be made low.

The crooked will become straight, and the rough ways smooth.

⁶ And everyone will see the salvation of God.”

HYMN (CW 16)

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin And fur -
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref -
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, And lift
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, Whose ad -



es that the Lord is nigh; Come, then, and lis - ten,
 nished for a guest with - in, And let us all our
 uge and our great re - ward. With - out your grace we
 us up to fall no more. Oh, make your face on
 vent has our free - dom won, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Good news a - bout the King of kings.
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 us to shine, And fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, st. 1-3, alt.; composite, st. 4-5.

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR (LM) Latin melody, 15th century, adapt.

SERMON

Luke 3:1-6

The Voice Still Echoes, “Prepare!”

STAND

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

C: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.

M: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In

these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.

M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

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LORD'S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

*The recorded Service of the Word for members at home concludes here.
We continue with the Service of the Sacrament with those gathered in the sanctuary.*



THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. Through his holy prophets, he promised a King to bring light to those living in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.




C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



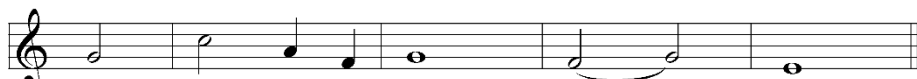
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

In accordance with the Scriptural practice of closed Communion, we invite to the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood the communicant members of this congregation. We invite also the communicant members of our sister congregations in our fellowship (the WELS and the ELS) who have made their intention known to one of our pastors. We ask other guests in attendance to refrain from taking the Sacrament with us today, and we invite you to speak with a pastor about how you may join our fellowship and commune with us in the future.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 11)

Comfort, Comfort, All My People



1 "Com - fort, com - fort all my peo - ple; Speak of peace,"
 2 All their sins our God will par - don, Blot - ting out
 3 John the Bap - tist's voice is cry - ing In the des -
 4 Straight - en out the crook - ed high - way; Make the rough -



so says our God. "Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness,
 each dark mis - deed; All that well de - serve his an - ger
 ert far and near, Call - ing peo - ple to re - pent - ance
 er plac - es plain. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



Groan - ing from their sor - rows' load. Speak to all
 He no more will see or heed. They have suf -
 For the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn -
 Read - y for his ho - ly reign. For the glo -



Je - ru - sa - lem Of the peace that waits for them;
 fered man - ya day; Now their griefs have passed a - way.
 ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
 ry of the Lord Now o'er earth is spread a - broad,



Tell them that their sins I cov - er,
 God will change their ach - ing sad - ness
 Let the val - leys rise to meet him
 And all flesh shall see the to - ken



That their war - fare now is o - ver."
 In - to ev - er - spring - ing glad - ness.
 And the hills bow down to greet him.
 That his word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johannes Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: FREU DICH SEHR (87 87 77 88) *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 8)

Come, O Precious Ransom, Come



1 Come, O pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly Hope for
 2 En - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and
 3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -
 4 Hail, ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Help, Lord; hear our



sin - ful mor - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!
 Lord most ho - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,
 ceive, I pray you. Ev - er - more, as best I can,
 sup - pli - ca - tion! Let your king - dom, scep - ter, crown



O - pen are to you all por - tals. Come, your beau - ty
 Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es
 Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay you, And in faith I
 Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion That for - ev - er



let us view; Anx - ious - ly we wait for you.
 will be mine When you are my guest di - vine!
 will em - brace, Lord, your mer - it through your grace.
 we may sing Hail, ho - san - na! to our King.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT (78 78 77) *Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch*, Darmstadt, 1699, alt.



THANKSGIVING

STAND

THANK THE LORD



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



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

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - - men.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
 Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN (CW 15)

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing; "Christ is
 2 Lo, the Lamb, so long - ex - spect - ed, Comes with
 3 That, when next he comes with glo - ry And the
 4 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
 par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
 world is wrapped in fear, He may shield us
 Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness; You are chil - dren of the day."
 tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n,
 with his mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
 last - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 6th century, abr.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.
 Tune: MERTON (87 87) William H. Monk, 1823–89.

Following the 8:00 service, all are invited to remain in (or return to) the sanctuary for the beginning of Adult Bible Class, Sunday School, and Teen Bible Study. Children may remain with their parents. All will begin together in the sanctuary at 9:15.

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LORD of LOVE
Lutheran Church

Personal Prayers for Worship

Before Communion:

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communion:

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

O living Bread from heaven, how richly you have fed your guest! The gifts you now have given have filled my heart with joy and rest. Lord, grant me that thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, I serve with holy fear. And when you call my spirit to leave this world below, I enter through your merit where joys unmingled flow.

Sunday December 5: 2nd Sunday in Advent

Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 with Holy Communion

9:15 am: Adult Bible study, Teen Group and Sunday School

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Sharon Freund
- Choir Directory: Elaine Wilson
- Councilman/elder: Mike Wilson & *volunteer* (8:00 am) Mitch Myhre & *volunteer* (10:30 am)
- Ushers 8:00 am: Ryan Jaeger and Aaron Oughton
- Ushers 10:30 am: Mark Heath and Matt Heath
- Counters: Mike Wilson and Lynn Biwer
- Altar Guild: Sally Kaalberg
- A/V & Recording: Joe Hornbeck
- **3:00 pm: Advent by Candlelight at Zion Lutheran – Leeds**

Wednesday December 8: Advent Worship 6:30 pm

- Pastor Mike Willitz
- Pianist: Ava Wilson
- Usher: Bob Degnan
- A/V & Recording: Jen Olson
- Altar Guild: Sally Kaalberg



Sunday December 12: 3rd Sunday in Advent

Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 with Holy Communion

9:15 am: Adult Bible study, Teen Group and Sunday School

- Preaching Pastor: Michael Willitz
- Presiding Pastor: Joel Jenswold
- Organist/Pianist: Kimberly Duve
- Councilman/Elder: Dave Olson (8:00) and Greg Zeman (10:30)
- Ushers 8:00 am: Sef Fox, Dave Olson and Ben Olson
- Ushers 10:30 am: Joshua Hodkiewicz and Greg Zeman
- Counters: Rose Marie Foley and Kim Bauer
- Altar Guild: Sally Kaalberg
- A/V & Recording: Julie Doyle

Happy Birthday: We wish God's blessings to Julie Doyle (12/5), Carrie Ellingworth (12/5), Kurt Meadowcroft (12/7), Lynn Biwer (12/8) and Sierra Brunsell (12/8) who celebrate their birthdays this week.

In Our Prayers: Fred Bakken, Joyce Hamburg (sister-in-law of Karen Tobison), Wyatt Kingsland, Roger LaGrange, Peter Leege, Marilyn Lund, Rose Lund, Barb Noltemeyer, Marge Ripp, Peg Schroeder and the Willitz family who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all of our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Shannon & Matthew Garrett, Sara Goss and John J. Schueman (son of Bonnie & John Schueman).

Advent by Candlelight: Ladies are still invited to attend today's event. It is from 3 – 5 pm at Zion Lutheran, Leeds (W6906 Co Rd K, Arlington).



Giving Tree Gifts due this week Wednesday December 8:

Gifts should be unwrapped and have the gift tag attached. *Thank you.*

Christmas Tree decorating this Saturday December 11 at 10:15 am. Volunteers needed.



Offerings Counted November 22 – 28:

- General Fund: \$4,571
- Building Expansion Fund: \$55

Weekly amount to meet budgeted General Fund expenses: \$8,660

Nov. MTD shortage/surplus: - \$11,071 YTD shortage/surplus as of October 31: - \$25,978



Electronic Giving: You can now give contributions to the church electronically through the Vanco Mobile app. Download the free app today in the **Google Play store** or the **Apple App store**. Find the church by searching for Lord of Love Lutheran Church in DeForest, or by its invite code, D4K54K.

(This past week, \$1,341 was given through Vanco to the general fund and \$25 to the building fund.)

You can also use the QR code to the right to access Vanco easily from your phone:



Looking Ahead:

- **December 8 and 15: Advent Worship, 6:30 pm**
- **December 11 and 18:** Children's Christmas Service practice, 9:00 am
- **December 11:** Tree decorating in sanctuary, 10:15 am
- **December 16:** Ladies Friendship Circle Christmas Outing at Rodeside Grill, 6 pm
- **December 19:** Poinsettia donations due to church.
- **December 24: Children's Christmas Service, 4 pm**
- **December 24: Christmas Eve Worship, 6:30 pm**
- **December 25: Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion, 9:00 am**
- **December 31: New Year's Eve Worship, 4:00 pm**
- **Feb. 5, 2022: Seminar on Home Devotions at Lord of Love, 9 – 12 noon.** (*Snow date is Feb. 12.*)

