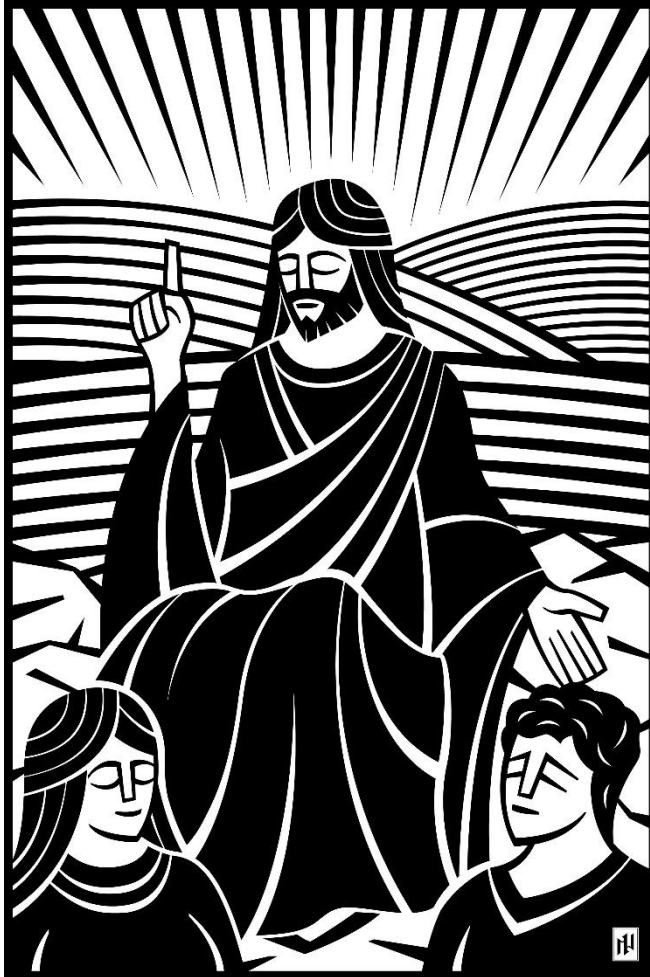




LORD of LOVE
Lutheran Church

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany



Blessings are Cursed; Curses are Blessed

Welcome! We are so happy you have come to worship today! Someone has described worship as “a joyful dialogue with God.” God speaks to us in his Word, and we speak to him in praise and prayer. May God richly bless you through this “joyful dialogue” today!

Restrooms – The restrooms are located straight ahead as you enter the building. You will also find restrooms in the lower level gathering space at the end of the classrooms on the right side before the exit doors.

Parent’s Room – The sound of children in the house of the Lord is music to our ears! However there is also a parent room to the right just before you enter the sanctuary if your little one needs a moment. It is accessed as you exit the sanctuary, on the left, next to the seats reserved for families with small children.

Assistance Getting Around – There is a walker and a wheelchair available in the fellowship hall. Anyone who needs them is welcome to use them. Please speak to an usher if you need help accessing them.

Offering Message – An offering will be gathered in the service today. These offerings support the Gospel ministry of Lord of Love locally, and also the global mission of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Visitors need not feel obligated to give, but may if you wish.

Holy Communion is celebrated today. Mindful of the Scriptural teaching concerning church fellowship, we practice close (or closed) communion. Communicant members of this congregation, or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod), are encouraged to commune this morning. Guests are asked to speak with our pastor, before the service, if they wish to commune.

Explanation of the theme of the day: “This is good. That is bad.” We often think it’s a simple determination. As Jesus gathered followers, he taught them that his kingdom runs exactly opposite to the principles and priorities of the world. Therefore, much that we think is good is bad, and vice-versa.

If we want to accurately see the world, we need to have this epiphany. That which the world considers a blessing can often be a curse. Things like success and wealth and health can lead us away from our God. We become so enamored with those blessings that we forget about the Blessor. Conversely, there are hidden blessings in what we would normally consider curses. When we fail, when we suffer, and when things don’t go our way, it forces us to put our trust in God and for our souls to be satisfied in him. The reality is that perceived blessings can be cursed and perceived curses can be used for our blessing.

Lord of Love Lutheran Church

February 16, 2025

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

OPENING HYMN (CW 394)

Blessed Are the Saints of God



1 Bless - ed are the saints of God; They are bought with
2 They are jus - ti - fied by grace; They en - joy the
3 They are lights up - on the earth, Chil - dren of a



Christ's own blood. They are ran - somed from the grave;
Sav - ior's peace. All their sins are washed a - way;
heav'n - ly birth. One with God, with Je - sus one,



Life e - ter - nal they shall have. With them num - bered
They shall stand in God's great day. With them num - bered
Glo - ry is in them be - gun. With them num - bered



may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty.
may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty.
may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Joseph Humphreys, b. 1720, alt.
Tune: VOLLER WUNDER (77 77 77) Johann G. Ebeling, 1637-76.

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.



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: O God of power and might, you know that we live in the midst of many great dangers, and in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Give us strength and protection to support us in all peril, and carry us through all temptations; 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.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 17:5-8

⁵ This is what the LORD says. Cursed is anyone who trusts in mankind, who seeks his strength from human flesh, and who turns his heart away from the LORD. ⁶ He will be like a juniper bush in the wasteland. He will not see good things when they come. He lives in a dry place in the wilderness, in a salty land where no one lives. ⁷ But blessed is anyone who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him. ⁸ He will be like a tree planted by water. It sends out its roots to the stream. It does not fear the heat when it comes. Its leaves will remain green. It is not concerned about a time of drought. It does not stop producing fruit.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 1

Refrain



Bless-ed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

Psalm tone



Blessed is the man
who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked*
or stand in the way of sinners.

But his delight is in the law of the LORD,*
and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season*
and whose leaf does not wither.
Whatever he does prospers.

Refrain

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment*,
nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous*,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning*,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

M: Alleluia. The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. Alleluia.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 6:17-26

¹⁷ He went down with them and stood on a level place with a large crowd of his disciples and a large number of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, as well as from the coastal area of Tyre and Sidon. These people came to listen to him and to be healed of their diseases. ¹⁸ Those who were troubled by unclean spirits were also cured. ¹⁹ The whole crowd kept trying to touch him, because power was going out from him and healing them all.

²⁰ He lifted up his eyes to his disciples and said:

*Blessed are you who are poor,
because yours is the kingdom of God.*

*²¹ Blessed are you who hunger now,
because you will be satisfied.*

*Blessed are you who weep now,
because you will laugh.*

*²² Blessed are you whenever people hate you,
and whenever they exclude and insult you
and reject your name as evil because of the Son of Man.*

²³ “Rejoice in that day and leap for joy because of this: Your reward is great in heaven! The fact is, their fathers constantly did the same things to the prophets.”

*²⁴ But woe to you who are rich,
because you are receiving your comfort now.*

*²⁵ Woe to you who are well fed now,
because you will be hungry.*

*Woe to you who laugh now,
because you will be mourning and weeping.*

*²⁶ Woe to you when all people speak well of you,
because that is how their fathers constantly treated the
false prophets.*

HYMN (CWS 765)

Day by Day



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me,
 2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me
 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me



Bring - ing com - fort to my anx - ious soul.
 Strength to serve and wis - dom to o - bey;
 When my bur - dens grow too great to bear;



Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you send me
 I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me
 Oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



Draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal.
 O'er the paths I strug - gle day by day.
 When I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.



Love di - vine, be - yond all mor - tal meas - ure,
 I will fear no e - vil of the mor - row;
 Day by day, no mat - ter what be - tide me,



Brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest;
 I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace.
 You will hold me ev - er in your hand.



Sav - ior, lead me to the home I treas - ure,
 Sav - ior, help me bear life's pain and sor - row;
 Sav - ior, with your pres - ence here to guide me,



Where, at last, I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
 Till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.
 I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

⁷ Therefore, to keep me from becoming arrogant due to the extraordinary nature of these revelations, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me, so that I would not become arrogant. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that he would take it away from me. ⁹ And he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, because my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will be glad to boast all the more in my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may shelter me. ¹⁰ That is why I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties, for the sake of Christ. For whenever I am weak, then am I strong.

Sufficient Grace

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.**

GATHERING OF THANK OFFERING

During the gathering of the offering, please sign the Friendship Register.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

For all people among whom the Gospel is preached, that they would hold fast to God's Word and not believe it in vain, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For parents and those who teach children the Word of God, that generations to come may love God's promises, walk in his truth and dwell in his house, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who bear office in our land, that they would be a blessing to those they serve; for the callings God has given us, that we would render service to him in our works of love toward our neighbor; and for those in need of honest labor and daily bread, that they would receive gainful employment according to his good and gracious will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those troubled by any unclean spirit, memory or thought; for the sick; and for all who need healing, [*especially _____,*] that they would receive the power of Christ in the hearing of his Word and be cured, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who come to eat the holy body and precious blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins in the blessed Sacrament, that trusting in him they may be filled with God's blessing, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord God, heavenly Father, plant us as trees by the stream of Christ, our Savior. Root us securely in his Word and wisdom. Do not let us turn from you, nor put our trust in man and this flesh, which fail. Preserve us from all anxiety, and take our fears away through right fear of you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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 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. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory.

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.

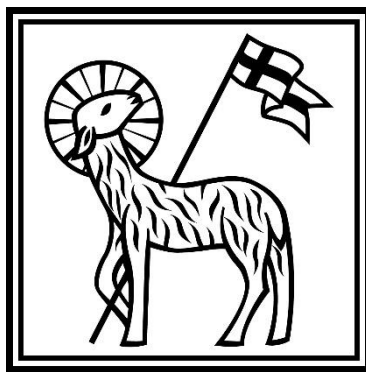


O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; grant us your peace. A - men.

BE SEATED





1 Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, Let me to thy
 2 Oth - er ref - uge have I none; Hangs my help - less
 3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want; More than all in
 4 Plen - teous grace with thee is found, Grace to cov - er



bos - om fly While the near - er wa - ters roll,
 soul on thee. Leave, ah, leave me not a - lone;
 thee I find. Raise the fall - en, cheer the faint,
 all my sin. Let the heal - ing streams a - bound;



While the tem - pest still is high. Hide me, O my
 Still sup - port and com - fort me. All my trust on
 Heal the sick, and lead the blind. Just and ho - ly
 Make and keep me pure with - in. Thou of life the



Sav - ior, hide, Till the storm of life is past; Safe in -
 thee is stayed; All my help from thee I bring. Cov - er
 is thy name; I am all un - right - eous - ness. False and
 foun - tain art; Free - ly let me take of thee. Spring thou



to the ha - ven guide. Oh, re - ceive my soul at last!
 my de - fense - less head With the shad - ow of thy wing,
 full of sin I am; Thou art full of truth and grace.
 up with - in my heart; Rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, abr.

Tune: ABERYSTWYTH (77 77 D) Joseph Parry, 1841–1903.



1 Bless - ed are they, for - ev - er blest,
 2 Bless - ed are they to whom the Lord
 3 From guile their hearts and lips are free;
 4 How glo - rious is that right - eous - ness



Whose guilt is par - doned by their God,
 Im - putes not their in - iq - ui - ty.
 Their hum - ble joy, their ho - ly fear
 That hides and can - cels all their sins,



Whose sins with sor - row are con - fessed
 They plead no mer - it or re - ward
 With deep re - pent - ance well a - gree
 While bright the ev - i - dence of grace



And cov - ered with their Sav - ior's blood.
 And not on works but grace re - ly.
 And join to prove their faith sin - cere.
 Through all their lives ap - pears and shines!

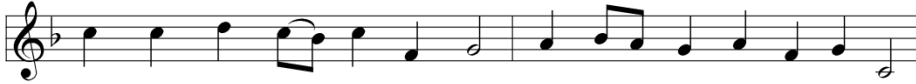
Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Tune: O JESU CHRISTE, WAHRES LICHT (LM) *Andächtige Haus-Kirche*, Nürnberg, 1676, 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-joyce 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.

CHORAL BENEDICTION

May the Lord Bless You
Adult Choir (with Sunday School Children 8:00 a.m.)



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.

Gluten Free communion wafers: Gluten free communion wafers are available each Sunday during the Lord's Supper. They are placed on the baptismal font at the start of communion. If you require this wafer, please pick it up as you approach the altar

Weekly Bible Studies

Sunday 9:15 am: Exodus, *sanctuary*

Tuesday 9:00 am: Kings and Prophets of Israel, *lower level*

Wednesday 6:30 pm: Gospel Motivation, *lower level*

Thursday 6:30 pm: Christian Doctrine, *lower level*

Friday 6:00 am: Breakfast 6:00, Bible study 6:45 | **The Book of Hebrews**
DeForest Family Restaurant (505 W. North Street, DeForest)

Sunday February 16: Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Service: 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion

9:15 am: Adult Bible Study, Sunday School and Teen Class

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Jennifer Boll
- Councilman: 8:00: Mike Wilson, 10:30: Shane Strong
- Ushers 8:00: Bob Degnan, Gene Freund, and Kourtney and Kayden Zech
- Ushers 10:30: Josh Hodkiewicz and Greg Zeman
- Counters: Kim Bauer and Wayne Kaalberg
- Altar Guild: Donna Cotter
- A/V & Recording: RaeLyn Parker
- Refreshments: Stachowiak Family

Sunday February 23: Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Service: 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion

9:15 am: Adult Bible Study, Sunday School and Teen Class

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Sharon Freund
- Councilman/Elder: 8:00: Dave Olson, 10:30: Mitch Myhre
- Ushers 8:00: Roger LaGrange and Lucas LaGrange
- Ushers 10:30: The Heath Family
- Counters: Bob Degnan and Gene Freund
- Altar Guild: Donna Cotter
- A/V & Recording: Devin Anderson
- Refreshments: *Volunteers needed*

Happy Birthday We wish God's blessings to Erika Sauer (2/18), Andy Holzman (2/19), William Crary (2/20), Aaron Oughton (2/20) and Pete Leege (2/22) as they celebrate their birthdays this week.

Anniversary We wish God's blessings to Andy & Kristin Huebner (2/17) who celebrate their anniversary on Monday.

In Our Prayers Roger LaGrange, Peter Leege, Peg Schroeder, John Schueman, Steve Tobison, and Roger Kovaciny who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Carter Chavez (grandson of John & Sherry Hill), and Shannon Garrett.

COMING UP AT LORD OF LOVE

February 20: Ladies Friendship Circle | 6:30 pm – fellowship hall

February 20: Elder/Deaconess Meeting | 6:30 pm - downstairs

February 26: Usher Meeting/Training | 6:30 pm - sanctuary

February 27: Fellowship Meeting | 6:30 pm – fellowship hall

March 5, Ash Wednesday: Worship at 3:30 pm and 6:30 pm

March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9: Lent Worship at 3:30 and 6:30 pm

KINGS AND PROPHETS OF ISRAEL is the title of a Bible study beginning on Tuesday mornings at 9:00. The class will focus on the history of Israel from the days of Saul, their first king, to Malachi, the last Old Testament prophet. This will be an exciting adventure leading through palace intrigues, failed marriages, ungrateful children, nasty queens, epic battles, and much, much more! In it all we will see our gracious LORD acting in human history to preserve his chosen people and set the stage for the ultimate King and Prophet – our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Please join us if you can!

AV Volunteers Needed:

Our technology group is looking for a few extra helpers to assist with AV and recording at our worship services. Tasks include recording the service and making it available on our website and Facebook page for those who cannot attend worship. Also assisting with sound and PowerPoint Slides during the service. Training will be provided. If interested or to learn more, speak with anyone on the Technology committee or let the church office know.

Usher Training Feb. 26 at 6:30:

Are you a current usher, or would you like to be one? Join us Wednesday February 26 for a training meeting in the sanctuary. This is a good time to review our current practices and discuss ideas for changes or improvements. All ushers are encouraged to attend.

Cradle Roll Volunteer Needed:

We are looking for a volunteer to coordinate our Cradle Roll program here at Lord of Love. Families with young children receive Christian parenting materials from pre-birth to age 4. Books, pamphlets, parenting tips and music are periodically mailed out to families with young children. The church purchases the materials and covers the cost of mailing. The volunteer simply mails items at specific times as the child grows. The work is completed from home. Training is provided. To learn more, speak with Mary Mundt or contact the church office.

Contribution Statements Available:

The year-end Contribution Statements are available on the glass cabinet. They are filed alphabetically and can be picked up anytime. If you would like your statement mailed, please contact the church office at lolchurchoffice@gmail.com or call (608) 846-9036.

Candles Available:

Church has several boxes of slim 12" 51% beeswax candles that are available to anyone who would like them. They are in the fellowship hall. Help yourself.

Wish List Item:

At our January 19 congregational meeting, the voters approved creating a wish list fund for a new stove/oven and two wall ovens for the downstairs kitchen. The estimated cost for this is \$5,000. If you would like to contribute towards the purchase of these appliances, donations should be clearly marked "Kitchen Ovens".



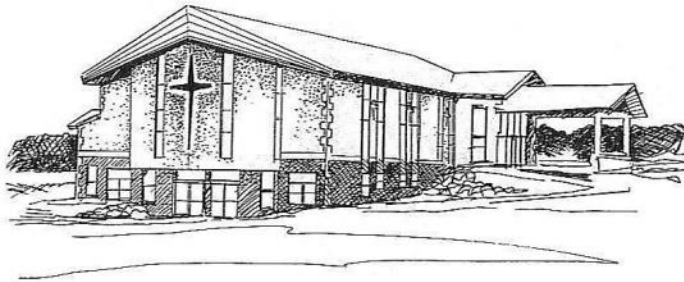
LORD of LOVE *Lutheran Church*

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Pastor Joel Jenswold pr.jenswold@gmail.com
Cell phone: 608-572-1654

Chairman: Mitch Myhre, mitchmyhre@hotmail.com
Office Assistant: Kristin Vomhof, Office hours Tuesday – Friday.
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**



*Today's 8:00 service will be recorded including the Service of the Sacrament.
Individuals taking communion will not be visible in the recording.*

