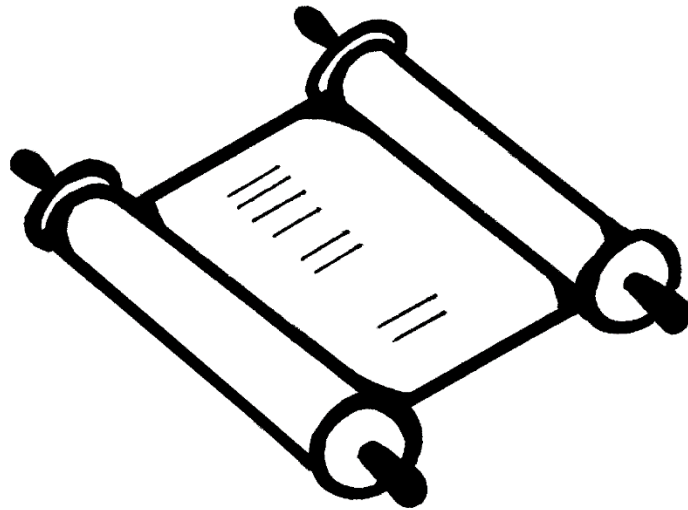


# Hollywood Lutheran Church

First Sunday of Christmas  
Sunday, December 29, 2024



## **INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY**

On the first Sunday of Christmas we find the boy Samuel and the boy Jesus, both in the temple, both growing in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and humankind. We too have returned to the house of God “to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God,” who has gifted us with a savior. As the festival continues, “let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.” It is Christmas, still.



# Welcome To Worship

**Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our mission is to offer God's Word of Love, Grace, Mercy, and Justice to our homes, congregation, city, and all creation.**

## **Welcome**

We are delighted you have come to worship. Relax, sing, and center yourself. Let the congregation and this bulletin guide you and follow along as you can. Join us after the service for refreshments. We look forward to meeting you. **Mask: we ask that if you aren't feeling well or have a cold or cough, please wear a mask. It takes a little effort from everyone to stay safe and healthy.**

## **Visitor**

Please complete the attendance card located in the pew. You may also include prayer requests, concerns, and other information you want the church to know. If you are interested in meeting with the pastor, learning more about our community, or becoming a member, please make a note on the card.

## **Music**

If you don't know a song, sing along as you can, and don't worry about getting it right. Just praise.

## **Children are Welcomed Here**

Children enrich our worship experience. The sounds of crying, laughing, and talking are welcome in our church; these sounds are a true gift and remind us of God's presence. Children may find crayons and coloring sheets helpful during worship; you can find some in our narthex.

## **Holy Communion**

The congregation will celebrate Holy Communion this morning. All are welcome, no matter their background. Wine, grape juice, and gluten-free bread are offered at the table.

*Join us after the service for refreshments in Hoick Hall. We look forward to meeting you.*

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## **PRELUDE**

Michael Anderson

*The congregation is invited to stand as they can or feel comfortable.*

## **Welcome, This Morning Worship Service Begins With**

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

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

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. **Amen.**

## **In Today's Liturgy**

**Minister:** Pastor Marc Mohr  
**Assistant Minister:** Bill Richards  
**Lector:** Tom Scott  
**Organist:** Michael Anderson  
**Cantor:** Phyllis Lundine

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Plants and Flowers are given to the glory of God.

## GATHERING SONG

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (ELW 288)*



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

## 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.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✝ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

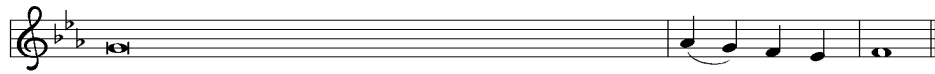
# KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



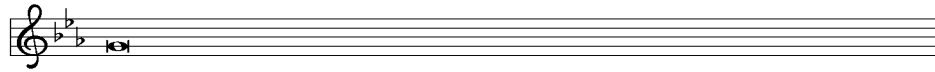
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

*Now the Feast and Celebration (ELW 167)*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

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

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

## **FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26**

A reading from 1 Samuel.

*Having dedicated her son Samuel to God's service, Hannah visits him yearly when she and her husband Elkanah come to the temple to offer sacrifices. God grants Hannah more children, and Samuel gains favor in the sight of all.*

Samuel was ministering before the LORD, a boy wearing a linen ephod. 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. 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.

Now, the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the LORD and with the people.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 148**

*Refrain:* The splendor of the LORD is over earth and heaven. **R**

Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

**Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

**Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.**

Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,

**who made them stand fast forever and ever,**

**giving them a law that shall not pass away. R**

Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

**fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

**wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;**

sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

**young men and maidens, old and young together. R**

Let them praise the name of the LORD,

whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah! R**

## **SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12-17**

A reading from Colossians.

*Just as newly baptized Christians in the early church were clothed with new garments upon arising from the baptismal waters, so all who have received God's gift of life in Jesus Christ are covered with the character of Christ.*

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. 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. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. 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. 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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

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

*Jesus grew up in a family that attended the Passover festival each year. In this environment of faithful adherence to the law, Jesus matured spiritually and understood his identity and mission.*

Now every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. 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. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. 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." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

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

The gospel of the Lord.

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

### **SERMON**

Pastor Marc Mohr

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*It Came upon the Midnight Clear (ELW 282)*



1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,  
2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,  
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,  
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.  
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:  
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all - gra - cious king.”  
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,  
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;  
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.  
and ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.  
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!  
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

## 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

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,  
**receive our prayer.**

For the thriving of creation, we pray. Protect the habitats of pangolins, 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,

**receive our prayer.**

For the nations of the world, we pray. Raise rulers who lead with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Let your peace rule in their hearts and all lands. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

For the well-being of your people, we pray. Keep an eye out for everyone who travels this holiday season. Accompany those who are alone or ill. Console parents and children whose relationships are strained or severed. God of grace,

**receive our prayer.**

For the ministry of this place, 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,

**receive our prayer.**

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

**receive our prayer.**

For what else shall we pray for today?

*We invite prayers from the congregation to be shared.*

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. **Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

Special Music by Michael Anderson  
*The usher will now pass the offering plate.*

## OFFERING

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful (ELW p. 144)*

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.



## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessings for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also 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.**

## PREFACE

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.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. 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:

## 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. 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.

*The congregation is invited to stand as they can or feel comfortable.*

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

## LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

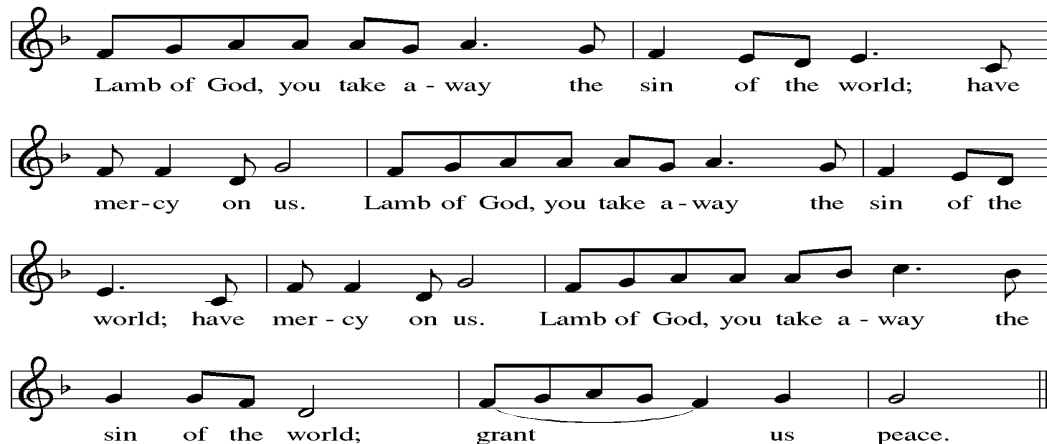
**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,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

"Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.  
Blessed are they who are called to His table."

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

## COMMUNION SONG



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.

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **SENDING FORTH**

Almighty God, grant that your holy word, which has been proclaimed this day, may enter into our hearts through your grace, that it may produce in us the fruit of the Spirit for witness and service in the world and to the praise and honor of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, and Lord. Amen.

## **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.


The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**


## **SENDING SONG**

*Go Tell It on the Mountain (ELW 290)*

*Refrain*




Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth  
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**



Please offer your prayers throughout the week for the following individuals:

**Special Prayer:**

God of peace gives leaders of nations the wisdom to choose peace over war and dialogue over conflict. Comfort those in fear and caught in the middle of the conflict.

Shervin Ghaffari  
(US delegation team, seeking peace)

**For healing:**

Phyllis Lundine, Linda Florczyk, Faith Rossman,  
Paul Hohmann, Walter Cana's

**For wholeness and well-being:**

Thomas Richardson, David Conrad, Esther Olsen,  
Bill Reid, Emmett Richards, Bill Lortz, Roy Stone,  
Javier Cruz

**For trust in your mercy:**

Arpik Rostamians, Sherry Bond & Family

**For strength and healing in fighting cancers:**

Sylvia Goulden, Anna Harris, Robin Ardinger,  
Ashlyn (Raoul's niece), Jennifer Yates,  
Will Terry, Jaha Blackwell,  
Sam Gros, Debra Lande, Tim Pugh

**For hopefulness and strength:**

For all the families who are missing loved ones this  
Holiday Season,

For all people in the military who are deployed or  
serving our country.

**Memorial Candles are lit in memory of:**

Robert Shumate and all our past loved ones.

If anyone wants to add or re-add a name, please email or call our office. [hlchurch.office@gmail.com](mailto:hlchurch.office@gmail.com) (323)667-1212  
Names typically remain on our list for a month, or they're removed before by request.

The rainbow candelabra located on the altar serves as a reminder of this community's inclusive and intentional welcome to the LGBTQ+ community.

Our congregation uses the paschal candle at the sanctuary's entrance as the welcoming light of Jesus Christ. It has traditionally been utilized as light to the world.



**HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**103rd Year**

We are a Southwest California Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church congregation in America.

Email: [hlchurch.office@gmail.com](mailto:hlchurch.office@gmail.com) Phone: (323)667-1212

Website: [www.hollywoodlutheranchurch.net](http://www.hollywoodlutheranchurch.net)

**Upcoming Calendar**

Food Pantry Delivery Mondays 8:00 am

Food Pantry Distribution Wednesdays 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Worship & Music Committee Meeting Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month

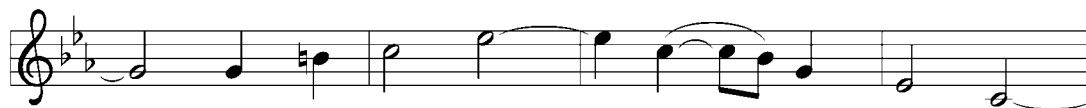
## I Want Jesus to Walk with Me



1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;  
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;



all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,



Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.