

Hollywood Lutheran Church

Second Sunday after Epiphany / Lectionary 2
Sunday, January 18, 2026



Introduction to the day

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

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 that you have joined us today. Take a deep breath, center yourself, meditate, sing, and participate at your own pace. 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: If you aren't feeling well, please wear a mask. With a little effort from everyone, we stay safe and healthy.**

Visitor

We invite you to complete the attendance card located in the pew. You may also include prayer requests, concerns, and any other information you would like the church to be aware of. If you are interested in meeting with a pastor, learning more about our community, or becoming a member, please make a note on the card.

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 a light to the world.

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

In Today's Liturgy

Minister: Ted Goulet, Lay Leader
Assistant Minister: Karla Richards
Lector: Tom Scott
Organist: Michael Anderson
Cantor: Phyllis Lundine

Plants and Flowers are given to the glory of God.

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.

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (ELW 585)

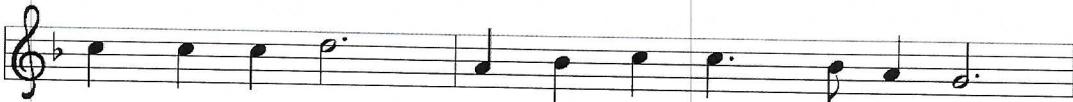
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly reign - ing
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
if with his love he be - friend you.
Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

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.

CONFESSTION 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.**

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

The congregation is invited to be seated.

FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

A reading from Micah.

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has “wearied” Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God’s service.

Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel. “O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

“With what shall I come before the LORD and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,

with calves a year old?

Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the

sin of my soul?"

He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the LORD require of you

but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?
Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 15

Refrain: LORD, who may abide upon your holy hill? **R**

LORD, who may dwell in your ¹ tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your ¹ holy hill?

**Those who lead a blameless life and do ¹ what is right,
who speak the truth ¹ from their heart; R**

they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil ¹ to their friends;
they do not cast discredit up- ¹ on a neighbor.

**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who ¹ fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take ¹ back their word.**

They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- ¹ gainst the innocent.
Those who do these things shall never be ¹ overthrown. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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: Matthew 5:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Ted Goulet, Lay Leader

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Church's One Foundation (ELW 696)

The Church's One Foundation

1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms. .rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food;
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'nly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900

Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876

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

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

God our wisdom, renew the church in the power of the Spirit, that it may do justice, love kindness, live humbly, and boldly proclaim Christ crucified. We pray for social justice and humanitarian aid ministries. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God our source, we honor you by caring wisely for your creation. We pray for the health of old growth forests, ice caps, and ocean currents. Preserve the diversity of life on earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God our righteousness, raise up visionary leaders who serve with integrity and respect human rights. Increase freedom in every nation. Protect educators, journalists, artists, and religious activists who are reviled for speaking truth. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God our advocate, you give hope to all who suffer because of persecution, poverty, or war. Reunite separated families and bring orphaned children to safety. Comfort any who grieve or suffer in any way. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God our blessing, we pray for the children and youth of this congregation, and for parents, grandparents, mentors, teachers, and youth ministers who model love for their neighbor and care for others. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

God our joy, we give thanks for the lives of those before us who journeyed humbly with you. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For what else shall we pray for today? *We invite prayers from the congregation to be shared.* Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

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 vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. 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.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

**Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.**

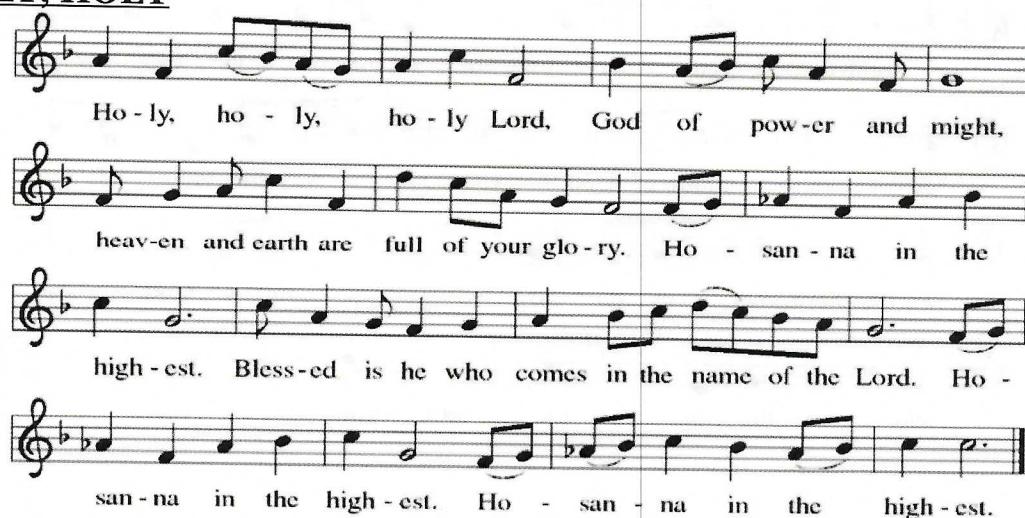
**Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and
praise.**

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;

who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to 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.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING & SENDING FORTH

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another,

in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,

so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace **+** bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing (ELW 545)

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - obey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
Ev - er faith-ful, ev - er faith-ful to your truth may we be found.
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end-less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.
Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.

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, give leaders of nations the wisdom to choose peace over war and dialogue over conflict.
For all families being separated. Comfort those who are fearful and caught in the middle.

Healing:

David Conrad, Scott Aries, Amara Olivera, Jeffrey Forbar, Roy Mariano

Wholeness and well-being:

Bill Richardson, Marie Sorensen, Adelina, Deborah An Monahan, Thomas Richardson

Trust in your mercy:

Tamara Olivera & Alonzo Perez De Arre, Zakaria, Karin Garcia, Arvik Rostamians

Strength and healing in fighting cancers:

Barbara "B" Wilke, Anna Harris, Ashlyn, Jennifer Yates, Jaha Blackwell, Debra Lande

Hopefulness and strength:

Ted & The Jacobson family, The Martinez family, Ted & Kerman Family, The Terry family
For all military people who are deployed or serving.

Memorial Candles are lit in memory of:

Alice Jacobson, Walter V. Martinez, Will Terry, Elizabeth Kerman

If anyone wants to add or re-add a name, please email or call our office.

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 a light to the world.

HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH 104th Year

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

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

Website: www.hollywoodlutheranchurch.net

Upcoming Calendar

Food Pantry Delivery Mondays 8:00 am

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

SPECIAL HYMN

Christ Be Our Light (ELW 715)

Christ, Be Our Light

1 Long-ing for light, we wait in dark-ness. Long-ing for
2 Long-ing for peace, our world is trou-bled. Long-ing for
3 Long-ing for food, man-y are hun-gry. Long-ing for
4 Long-ing for shel-ter, man-y are home-less. Long-ing for
5 Man-y the gifts, man-y the peo-ple, man-y the

truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, Your word a lone
hope, man-y de-spair. Make us your bread,
wa-ter, man-y still thirst. Make us your build-ing,
warmth, man-y are cold. Let us be ser-vants

your ho-ly peo-ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv-ing voice.
bro-ken for oth-ers, shared un-til all are fed.
shel-ter-ing oth-ers, walls made of liv-ing stone.
to one an-oth-er, signs of your king-dom come.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark-ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath-ered to-day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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