

Hollywood Lutheran Church

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany / Lectionary 7
Sunday, February 23, 2025



INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.



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.

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.

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

In Today's Liturgy

Minister: Pastor Marc Mohr
Assistant Minister: Ted Goulet
Lector: Karla Richards
Organist: Michael Anderson
Cantor: Phyllis Lundine

Plants and Flowers are given to the glory of God

GATHERING SONG

All Creatures, Worship God Most High! (ELW 835)



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev-'ry voice in earth and
2 Sing, broth-er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
3 Sing, broth-er fire, so mirth-ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
4 All who for love of God for-give, all who in pain or sor-row



sky: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Sing, broth-er sun, in splen-dor
grain: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Dear sis-ter wa-ter, use-ful,
throng: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Dear moth-er earth, so rich in
grieve: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis-ter moon and stars of night:
clear, make mu-sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-
care, praise God in col-ors bright and rare:
fears; still make your song a-mid the tears:



lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Alleluia.

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia.

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.**

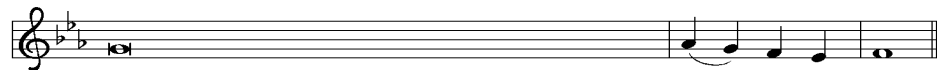
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



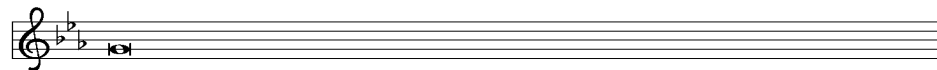
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



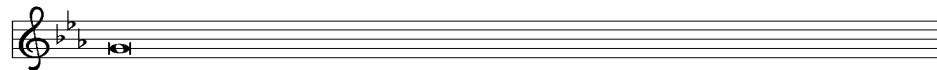
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Now the Feast and Celebration (ELW 167)

Refrain

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: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

A reading from Genesis.

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

Refrain: The lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace. **R**

Do not be provoked by evildoers;

do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

**For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**

Put your trust in the LORD and do good;

dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

**Take delight in the LORD,
who shall give you your heart's desire. R**

Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,
and see what God will do.

**The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.

**Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil. R**

For evildoers shall be cut off,

but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

**In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

But the lowly shall possess the land;

they will delight in abundance of peace.

**But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;

you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek
refuge. **R**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.

But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The word of the Lord.

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 6:27-38

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessings.

Jesus said: "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

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

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (ELW 645)



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

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

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them remind them that life and faith are not static but constantly changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, and I hope they will be a voice for those in need in our communities. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us. May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

For what else shall we pray for today?

We invite prayers from the congregation to be shared.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **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
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.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in 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.

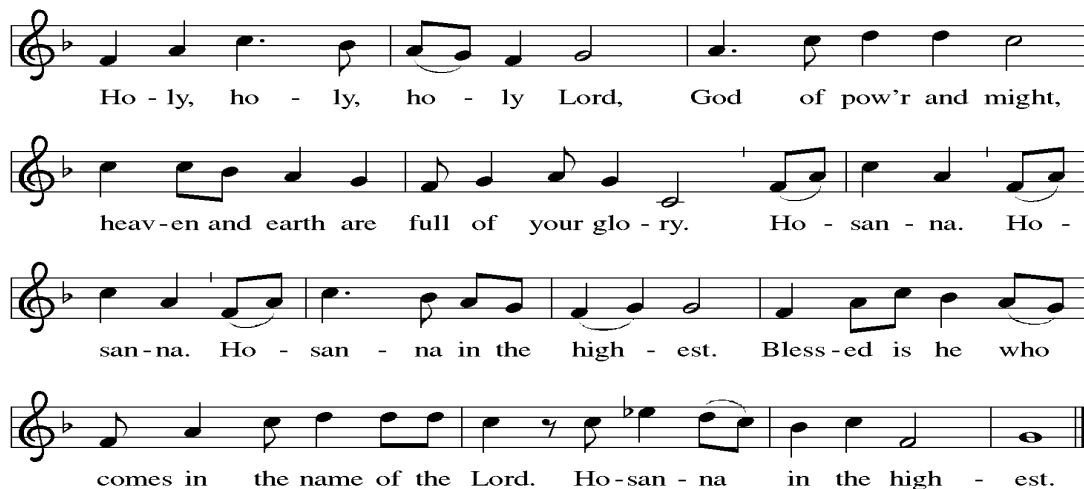
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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'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 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.

Gracious God, in this meal, you have drawn us to your heart and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore through 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

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling (ELW 608)



- 1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
- 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
- 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

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.

For healing:

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

For wholeness and well-being:

Thomas Richardson, Esther Olsen, Bill Reid, Emmett Richards, Bill Lortz, Roy Stone

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:

Wayne and Jane King Family.
For all people in the military who are deployed or serving our country.

Memorial Candles are lit in memory of:

Wayne and Jane King, Javier Cruz, 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 (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 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

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,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. 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.