

# HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

First Sunday of Christmas  
Sunday, December 26, 2021



## 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 on the presence of God here today. Let the congregation and this bulletin guide you and follow along as you are able. Join us after the service for refreshments. We look forward to meeting you. **Due to the new city ordinance, please wear your mask at all times. Regardless of vaccination status.**

### **Visitor**

Please complete the attendance card located in the pew, you may also include a prayer, concerns, and other information you would like the church to know. If you are interested in meeting with 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 are able 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 be celebrating Holy Communion this morning. All are welcome no matter your background. Both wine and grape juice, and gluten-free bread are offered at the table. **Due to covid we ask that when you stand at the rail you keep 3-6 feet from others. Once you have received communion, please go back to your seat using the far left or right walkways.**

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

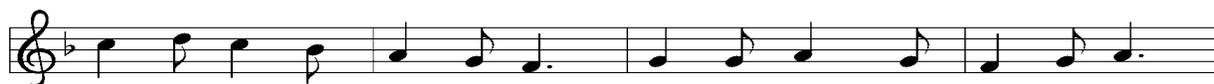
*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to or feel comfortable.*

**GATHERING SONG**

**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**



1	Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice	with heart and soul and voice;
2	Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice	with heart and soul and voice;
3	Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice	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**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of **+** Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**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.**

### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored the dignity of human nature. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ who came to share our humanity, and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen**

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

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

## **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 every year when she and her husband Elkanah come to the temple to offer sacrifices. God grants Hannah more children, and Samuel himself 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.**

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

## **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 went to the Passover festival each year. It was in this environment of faithful adherence to the law that Jesus grew into spiritual maturity and an understanding of 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.**



## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.**

You send messengers into the world to proclaim the day of your coming. Make our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay preachers confident in their preaching, that their words and our lives witness to your grace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Send your Spirit to all living creatures that are endangered. Provide them with shelter and care, and bring us into right relationship with the earth that you create and call good. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Send leaders to our nations, cities, schools, and businesses to work on behalf of those who have lost parents, spouses, and loved ones; immigrants; the imprisoned; those living in poverty; and all who are oppressed. Make them bold in their commitments to justice and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Send your servants to care for those who suffer. Use our ministries and our lives to reach out with compassion to those who are hungry, oppressed, lonely, or ill. Grant them healing and wholeness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Send prophets to speak difficult truths, even when they are poorly received. Embolden those who ask hard questions and challenge accepted ways. Instill in youth and elders alike a passion for pointing to Jesus in all things. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We remember your saints, both those publicly celebrated and those more humbly remembered. Confident that your work will be completed, we live in faith until the day of your coming. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

For what else shall we pray for today?

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

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*The congregation is invited to be seated.*

*The usher will now pass with the offering plate.*

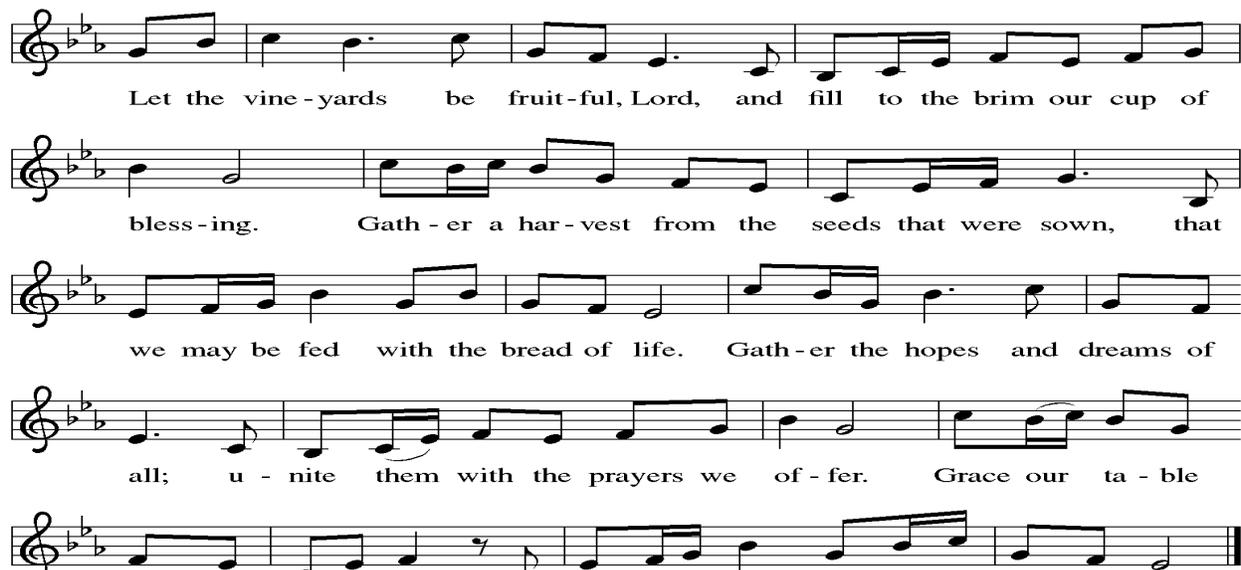
## **MUSIC**

**Janet Weber & David Conrad**

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

## OFFERING

### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



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.

**Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through 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.**

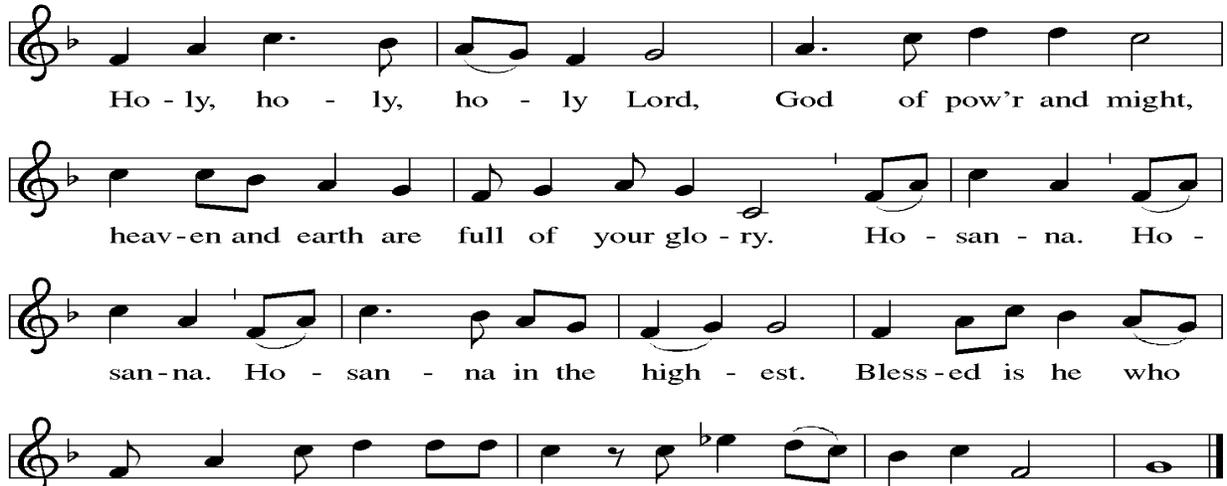
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## 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. 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.

## 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, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

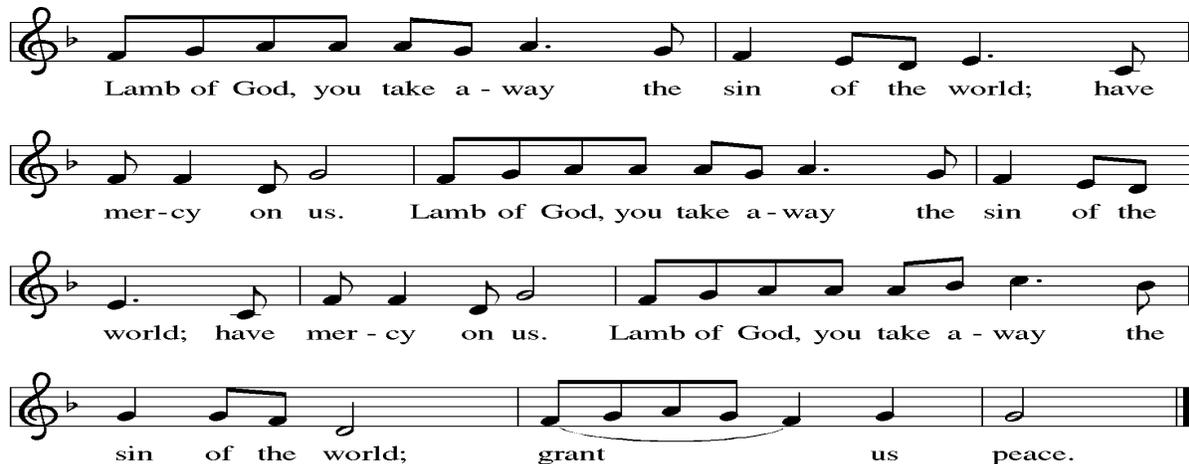
## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

## COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
Amen.

## 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 OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## BLESSING

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

### Angels, from the Realms of Glory



- 1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
- 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
- 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla-tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
- 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

**Janet Weber**



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

**For healing:**

Paulette Hunnewell, Hugo Martinez, Thomas Foley, Gerald Rockwell, Zachery Bell, Colette Boudreaux, Javier Cruz, Jim Feederle, Sandra Ferrer, Jeanne Fouke, Georgina Rockwell, Dicksie Thompson, Gail Watson, Kat & Lee Nelson

**For trust in your mercy:**

Yvonne Pizzo, Arvik Rostamians, George Demas

**For wholeness and wellbeing:**

Jully Bender, Mo Costa, Mary Hohmann, Martha Murphy, Cecelia Ortega, Trinity Patlow and family

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

Will Terry, Jaha Blackwell, Autumn Gates, Sam Gros, Debra Lande, Tim Pugh

**For hopefulness and strength:**

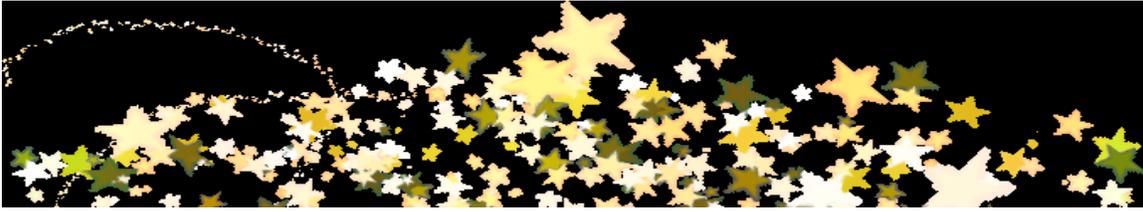
Michelle Cuzzo, Raphael Fetta, Herr Family, Martinez Family, Joshua McGrath & family, Donna Volger, Janet Weber & family, Vicky Anderson's family, the Salguero Family, Harlowe Skinner, Adam Zarookian

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

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

Frank Fetta, Samuel Eli Martinez, Jennifer Herr, Lenny Sabato, Paul Morris, Billie Hayes

As a reminder, this community is inclusive and welcomes all of Gods people. The rainbow candelabra on located on the altar serves as a reminder of this community's inclusive and intentional welcome to the LGBTQ+ community.



## **HOLLYWOOD LUTHERAN CHURCH 100th Year,**

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

Pastor Edgardo Ramirez

Email: [hollyluth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hollyluth@sbcglobal.net) Phone: (323)667-1212

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

### **In Today's Liturgy**

Pastor Pedro Zaragoza

Assisting Minister: Bill Richards

Lector: Phyllis Lundine

Council President: Tom Scott

Sexton: Abilo Salguero

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### **Flowers are given to the glory of God**

### **Special Dispensation**

Pastor Edgardo Ramirez, as a candidate for ordained ministry in the ELCA, has been authorized by Bishop Brenda Bos of the Southwest California Synod, to preside at Holy Communion today.

### **Upcoming Calendar at a glance**

Food Pantry Delivery on Mondays 8:00 am

Food Pantry Distribution on Wednesdays 10:00am-1:00pm

Mariposa Ministry January 15, 2021 (3rd Saturday of the month)

The HLC Food Pantry serves over 100 families a week. Please see Tom Scott for the next opportunity to lend your support or volunteer.

Mariposa Ministry is always accepting letter writing volunteers, any help would make a difference. Every 3rd Saturday of the month is when they all get together to write letters.

Please see David Conrad for details.