



LAKEVIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH
Second Sunday of Christmas
January 2, 2022

Welcome!

We are a community that rejoices in our diversity and shares a common commitment to grow and serve, to celebrate the gift of life and to use our individual gifts to make the world a better place. We believe that God is a mystery; a mystery, like our own lives, to be experienced and entered into, not a puzzle to be solved. That is why we honor questions as much as answers. We seek to explore the mysteries of our lives and of the world around us.

Today we gather to hear the words of scripture, offer our prayers and gifts, and share a meal. Empowered by God's Spirit, we leave to live in sacrificial service to the world. Following Jesus' example, we strive to be an inclusive fellowship, breaking down all those barriers which divide us. We welcome all people regardless of age, race, religion, income, sex, or gender. We celebrate all who join with us this morning in song, reflection, and prayer. This worship program guides and directs our gathering.

TEXT IN BOLD = read by ALL

ZOOM INFORMATION

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83172395263?pwd=bGdGc0tGVdNpck5mUkRFWEZWYTBoUT09>

Password: 170433

BEST PRACTICES FOR WORSHIP ON ZOOM

Once the service has begun, please mute your microphone. Also, some prefer using the "speaker view" in Zoom to create a more visually focused experience. During the announcements, we will ask for responses in the chat feature. If you wish to comment during the service, please direct your message only to the Pastor or to the Zoom leader to avoid distracting others during the service.

GATHERING:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

In threshold places, where endings meet beginnings,
we listen backwards as we move forward.

What can we learn from the year past –
from how evil played its cards,
or from relationships gained and lost?

What brought you deep delight,
when everything was swirling?
To whom were you able to turn to
and who challenged you to grow?
Individually and collectively,
none of us are the same.

For some of these changes we weep
and for others we rejoice
but from each we carry something forward –
a feeling, a lesson, a memory, a challenge, a call to solidarity...
Collectively, we acknowledge a closing and an opening;
A fresh start that offers only as much meaning
as we need from it.
Inviting us not to wage war on ourselves,
but just to pause, pay attention to our longings and our pain,
and what we might learn from them
about how we wish to live.

A new year does not need to mean “a new you.
“You do not need to make demands of yourself
grounded in messages
that are only meant to make you feel inadequate or unlovable.
Your worth is ineffable,
that is a constant that carries from year to year.

Move gently with yourself into 2022
speaking instead words of possibility,
committing to that which calls you,
letting yourself be lured by the Sacred

in the direction of your most powerful becoming.

Make only resolutions that will lead to more flourishing of life, yours and others.
Reject individualistic notions of success (or “failure”)
and channel your growing in the directions of what we can create
of what we can divest from
of what we can abolish
of what we must claim
of what we must fight
of what we can become.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,
who sends the word with angels,
who is made flesh among all peoples,
and who breathes peace on all the earth.

AMEN.

In Christ, we are bold to name our estrangement and cry out for peace.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,

WE CONFESS OUR BROKENNESS BEFORE YOU.

WE REPLACE COMPASSION WITH COMPETITION.

WE SEEK WHAT IS MIGHTY WHILE IGNORING THE MEEK.

WE ARE QUICK TO ANGER BUT SLOW TO FORGIVE.

WE HAVE NOT PUT ON LOVE IN HARMONY WITH YOU.

WRAP US IN THE GRACE OF YOUR POWERFUL WORD.

SWADDLE OUR HEARTS WITH YOUR PEACE,

THAT ALL WE DO, IN WORD OR DEED,

MAY REFLECT YOUR LOVE BORN AMONG US.

AMEN.

I bring you good news of great joy for all people:

God has come among us

in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord.

In Christ your sins are forgiven

and you are clothed in peace.

AMEN.

ENTRANCE HYMN: *The First Noel* (ELW 300)



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
 wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . . up - on . . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . . great light, and . . so it con -
 king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . . and stay right . . o - ver the
 there in his . . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

REETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY:

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.

Let us pray.

Lord of yesterday, today and tomorrow,
we gather here this first Sunday of the New Year,
in a mixture of hope, anticipation, fear, excitement, and expectation.
We do not know what the year holds for us.
there are things we are afraid of:
worries about health and family, job security and finances.
There is much to look forward to –
weddings or anniversaries or baptisms,
holidays to enjoy,
friends to laugh with.

Lord God,
the coming year is full of uncertainty and hope.
Whatever the year holds for us, though,
we trust You, and we place every day of this year in your care
knowing that, as in the past, You are with us,
caring for us with constant love.

And so Lord, we place ourselves into your keeping
and dedicate our lives to your service
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

AMEN

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A warm welcome is extended to all, especially those who are worshipping at LakeView for the first time, or who have returned after an absence. Your presence enriches us during this time of celebration.

HYMN OF PRAISE TO GOD MASS OF CREATION:

Refrain:

Glory to God in the highest
And peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,

we praise you for your glory. Refrain
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer. Refrain
For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord.
You alone are the most high.
Jesus Christ with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen! Amen! Refrain

WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:7-14

The First Reading is from the book Jeremiah

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gift of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

⁷Thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O Lord, your people,
the remnant of Israel."

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,

and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰Hear the word of the Lord, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

¹¹For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.

¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.

¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 1:3-14

The Second Reading is from the book of Ephesians

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to

his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (MASS OF CREATION)

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA

LORD TO WHOM SHALL WE GO

YOU HAVE THE WORD OF ETERNAL LIFE

ALLELUIA!

GOSPEL: JOHN 1: [1-9] 10-18

The Holy Gospel according to John

GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.
PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE DAY: *WHAT CHILD IS THIS (ELW 296)*



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
- 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

CREED:

**WE BELIEVE IN GOD,
WHO IS LOVE, WHOSE LOVE IS MANIFEST
IN ALL CREATION, IN OUR LIVES, AND IN ALL PEOPLE.**

**WE FOLLOW CHRIST, WHO EMBODIED GOD'S LOVE.
IN HIS LIFE AND MINISTRY, HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION,**

**AND HIS GRANTING TO US OF HIS SPIRIT,
HE FILLED US WITH THAT LOVE AS WELL.**

**WE LIVE BY THE SPIRIT, THE PRESENCE OF GOD'S LOVE IN US.
IN THAT LOVE WE PARTICIPATE IN THE CHURCH, BODY OF CHRIST,
IN LOVING GOD BY LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS
THROUGH OUR PRAYERS, OUR PRESENCE, OUR GIFTS AND OUR SERVICE.**

**LOVE IS OUR FAITH, AND IT IS A GIFT FROM GOD.
WE THANK GOD, AND ASK GOD'S BLESSINGS,
THAT WE MAY LOVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST
AND THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT, TO GOD'S GLORY.
AMEN!**

THE PRAYERS:

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

God of wisdom and truth, at the beginning of this new year we look back and we look forward.

In the year that has passed we experienced joy and we experienced sorrow; we felt blessed and we felt challenged. Some things went by much too fast, and some things lingered for far too long.

Here in this place we are reminded that you are present through it all. We are reminded that we are never alone. We are reminded that nothing can separate us from your love.

So at the beginning of this new year, we pause now in silence to reflect on the year that has passed.

We remember the things from this past year that we are most thankful for. We recall the moments we were the happiest. We consider the times we felt most alive. We recognize the times we gave and received the most love.

(silence)

We are grateful, God, that you were present in those times.

We also remember the things from this past year that we are least thankful for. We recall the moments we were the least happy. We consider the times we felt life draining from us. We recognize the times we gave and received the least love.

(silence)

We are grateful, God, that you were present in those times too.

Gracious God, at the beginning of this new year, we also look forward to the year to come. We are confident that you will be with us still, when we are thankful and when we are not; when we are happy and when we are sad; when we feel alive and when we feel drained; when we give and receive love and when we do not.

God, the world we live in is messy and challenging, it is the world of King Herod, a world of pain, a world of doubt, a world of fear, a world of jealousy, a world of violence, a world of domination, a world of injustice, a world of human failings.

Yet, God, you are with us always. So give us grace and give us courage to live faithfully in this imperfect world. Remind us always of the promise of your kingdom, emerging around us and through us. It is for this kingdom that we now pray.

AMEN.

PEACE:

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

AND ALSO WITH YOU.

PEACE BE WITH YOU.

INVITATION TO GIVING:



OFFERING DONATE TO LVLC THROUGH THIS PAYPAL QR CODE

We are grateful for all the support and generosity demonstrated in acts of kindness and service. As we continue to establish our life together in creative ways, we offer this new, digital avenue for your offering gifts to the church.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS: *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful* (Mass of Creation)

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY 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 blessing 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

MEAL

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.

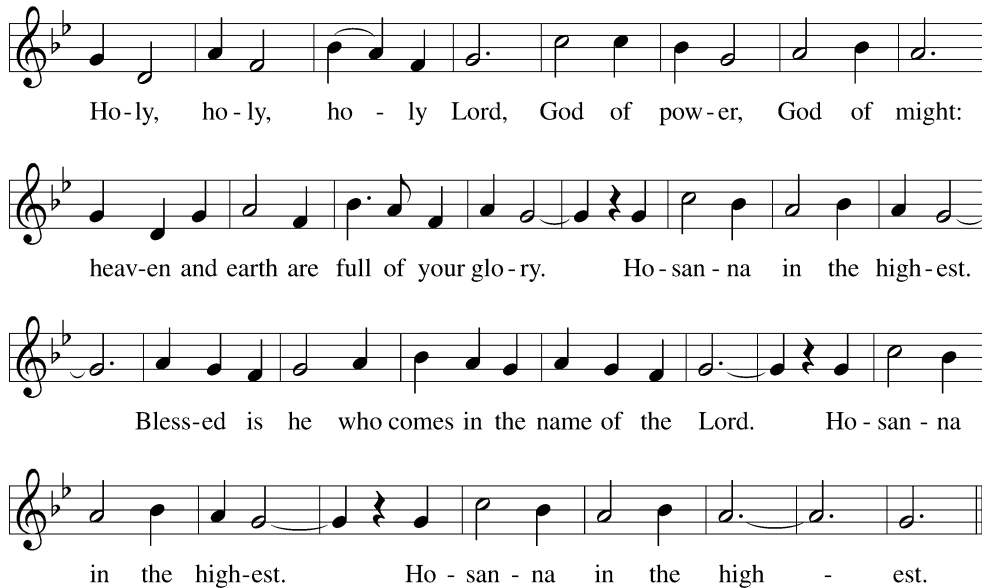
PREFACE:

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:

SANCTUS: *Holy, Holy, Holy Lord (Mass of Creation)*



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of 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 GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

CHRIST HAS DIED.

CHRIST IS RISEN.

CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
COME, LORD JESUS.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
COME, HOLY SPIRIT.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
AMEN

LORD'S PRAYER (WOV p. 71)

Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

**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.

JESUS LAMB OF GOD

**JESUS, LAMB OF GOD;
YOU TAKE AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD,
HAVE MERCY ON US. REPEAT
JESUS LAMB OF GOD;
YOU TAKE AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD:
GRANT US YOUR PEACE.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **AMEN.**

COMMUNION HYMN: *IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER* (ELW 294)



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor earth sus - tain;
3 What . . . can I give him, poor as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER:

May we dream of a world made new,

WHERE TOGETHER WE SHOUT FOR JUSTICE,

AND AS ONE WE FIGHT AGAINST OPPRESSION.

May we dream of a world made new,

WHERE TOGETHER WE SEEK GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS

AND AS ONE WE SING GOD'S PRAISE.

May we dream of a world made new,

WHERE TOGETHER WE CLIMB GOD'S MOUNTAIN,

AND AS ONE WE ENTER THE PROMISED LAND.

May we dream of a world made new,

WHERE TOGETHER WE PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S KINGDOM,

AND AS ONE WE ENJOY ITS PEACE, AND ABUNDANCE AND LOVE.

AMEN.

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

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 HYMN: *LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH*

Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let There Be Peace on Earth
The peace that was meant to be
With God as our Father
Brothers all are we
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment and live
Each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

THANKS BE TO GOD