

# SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

January 4, 2026



Burke Lutheran Church

**Reconnect.**

5720 Portage Rd / Madison, WI 53718-2761  
608-244-8486 / burkelutheran@att.net  
[www.burkelutheran.org](http://www.burkelutheran.org)

***“Preach. Teach. Reach.”***

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

*Please rise.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Reconciling God,

C **we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.**

P God's grace upon grace flows over you. † Christ's presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

C **Amen.**



## GATHERING SONG

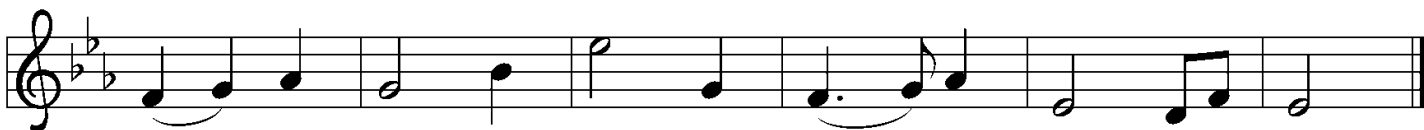
### The Bells of Christmas



- 1 The bells of Christ - mas chime once more; the heav'n - ly  
2 This world, though wide and far out - spread, could scarce - ly  
3 Now let us go with qui - et mind, the swad - dled  
4 Oh, join with me, in glad - ness sing, to keep our



guest is at the door. He comes to earth - ly  
find for you a bed. Your cra - dle was a  
babe with shep - herds find, to gaze on him who  
Christ - mas with our king, un - til our song, from



dwel - lings still with new year gifts of peace, good will.  
man - ger stall, no pearl nor silk nor king - ly hall.  
glad - dens them, the love - liest flow'r of Jes - se's stem.  
lov - ing souls, like rush - ing might - y wa - ter rolls!

5 O patriarchs' Joy, O prophets' Song,  
O Dayspring bright, awaited long,  
O Son of Man, incarnate Word,  
great David's Son, great David's Lord:

6 Come, Jesus, glorious heav'nly guest,  
and keep your Christmas in our breast;  
then David's harpstrings, hushed so long,  
shall swell our jubilee of song.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Charles Porterfield Krauth, 1823–1883, alt.  
Music: DET KIMER NU TIL JULEFEST, Carl C. N. Balle, 1806–1855

## GREETING

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**C** Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## FIRST READING

*Jeremiah 31:7-14*

*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.*

**R** <sup>7</sup> Thus 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." <sup>8</sup> See, 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. <sup>9</sup> With 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. <sup>10</sup> Hear 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." <sup>11</sup> For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. <sup>12</sup> They 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. <sup>13</sup> Then 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. <sup>14</sup> I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

**R** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

PSALM

*Psalm 147:12-20*

- R <sup>12</sup> Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,  
 C <sup>13</sup> **who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.**  
 R <sup>14</sup> God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.  
 C <sup>15</sup> **God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.**  
 R <sup>16</sup> God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.  
 C <sup>17</sup> **God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?**  
 R <sup>18</sup> The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.  
 C <sup>19</sup> **God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.**  
 R <sup>20</sup> The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments.  
 Hallelujah!

SECOND READING

*Ephesians 1:3-14*

*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.*

- R <sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup> He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup> In 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, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In 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; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.
- R The word of the Lord.  
 C **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL VERSE



**C**      **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*John* 1:1-18

*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.*

P <sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. <sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup> And 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. <sup>15</sup> (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.'") <sup>16</sup> From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

*Please be seated.*

SERMON

*Pastor Bryan Lagerstam*

*Please rise.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

## Holy Child within the Manger

1 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, long a -  
2 Once a - gain we tell the sto - ry— how your  
3 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, lead us

go yet ev - er near; come as friend to ev - 'ry  
love for us was shown, when the im - age of your  
ev - er in your way, so we see in ev - 'ry

stran - ger, come as hope for ev - 'ry fear.  
glo - ry wore an im - age like our own.  
stran - ger how you come to us to - day.

As you lived to heal the bro - ken, greet the  
Come, en - light - en with your wis - dom, come and  
In our lives and in our liv - ing give us

out - cast, free the bound, as you taught us love un -  
fill us with your grace. May the fire of your com -  
strength to live as you, that our hearts might be for -

spo - ken, teach us now where you are found.  
pas - sion kin - dle ev - 'ry land and race.  
giv - ing and our spir - its strong and true.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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## NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

R O God, you reveal yourself wherever two or three are gathered in your name. Be with us now, not only in the infant Jesus and resurrected Christ, but in the beloved people of this assembly. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

R You reveal yourself in the waters of the womb; in brooks, ponds, and oceans; and in the waters of baptism. Grant us wisdom to tenderly care for the earth as a garden watered by your grace. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

R You reveal yourself in blessed diversity. Help us to look for you in people near and far, in bodies of all kinds, and in kindred young and old. Let us seek you in many places, praising you in many tongues. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

R You reveal yourself in holy communion. Sustain all who provide food and fellowship in this congregation and in the wider community. Make our tables signs of your welcoming presence among us. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P You reveal yourself in new life. Support those beginning a new job, a new relationship, or a new living situation, especially those displaced because of tragedy or loss. Be with all others who need your life-giving touch this day, especially Lisa, Mark, Mary, Tim, Bill, Carla, Paul, Diane W, Shannon, Diane M., family and friends of Pat Graham, and all those we name upon our lips and in our hearts. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P You promise to turn mourning into joy and to comfort those who weep. We remember those who have died and look to being united with them in your glory. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.** (*Greet one another with God's peace.*)

*Please rise.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

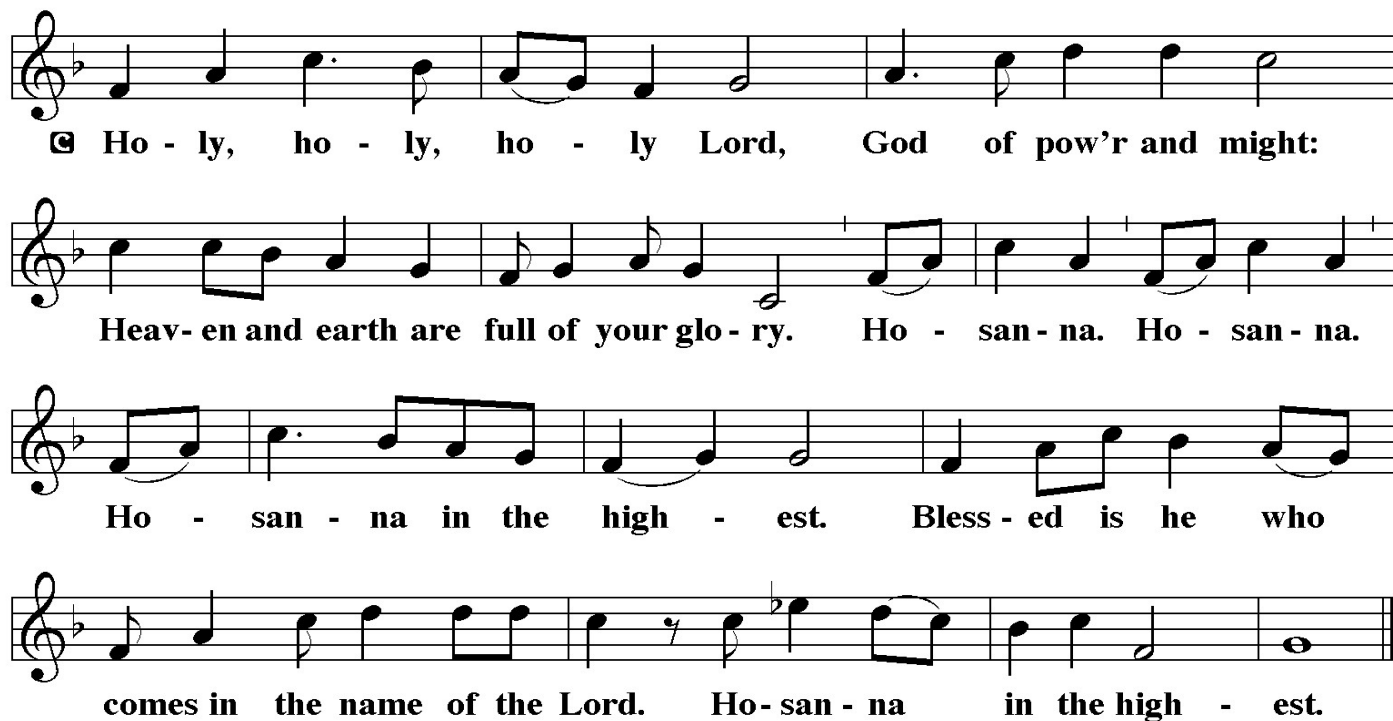
P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty, . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C** 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.

*Please be seated.*

## COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION & HYMNS

### In the Bleak Midwinter

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.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830–1894  
Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

# Of the Father's Love Begotten



1 Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the worlds be -  
 2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, when the vir - gin,  
 3 This is he whom seers in old time chant - ed of with  
 4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his  
 5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
 full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
 one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets  
 prais - es sing; pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him  
 Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that  
 bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -  
 prom - ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -  
 and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be  
 and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,  
 deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,  
 pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord  
 si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring  
 min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
 ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

A - men.

Text: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 346-413; ic. composite  
 Music: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, plainsong mode V, 13th cent.

*Please rise.*

## COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us.

C **Amen.**

## BLESSING

P The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, ✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

C **Amen.**



## SENDING SONG

### What Child Is This



- 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!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898  
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

*Please be seated.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISMISSAL

- P Glory to God in the highest!
- C **And peace to God's people on earth!**
- P Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

IF YOU ARE VISITING TODAY: Thank you for joining us at Burke for worship and fellowship! Please sign a card in the pew and/or the visitor book in the narthex.

### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

We teach that Jesus is truly present in the bread and the wine. All are invited to the table to share God's grace. Grape juice is available in the center of the tray for those who desire it, as well as gluten-free wafers.

*Please fill out a communion card  
and place it in the offering plate if  
you are communing today.*

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## OUR STAFF

### **Pastor**

Bryan Lagerstam

309-236-7334

Bryan.lagerstam@gmail.com

### **Administrative Secretary**

Laura Steig

608-244-8486

burkelutheran@att.net

### **Maintenance Engineer**

Colin Hamrick

## PRAYERS & CARES

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**A Nursery (Youth Room)** for children under six is located down the hallway near the church offices. Activity bags are available in the Narthex for children at worship.

**Our Prayer List:** Contact the church office with prayer concerns. Unless otherwise advised, names remain on our list for four weeks.

Family and Friends of Pat Graham

Lisa Thompson

Mark Gehrke

Mary Brantmeyer

Tim Lothe

Bill Schmidt

Carla Housner

Paul Fritz

Diane Wendt

Shannon Schlingens

Diane Moore

## Congregational Opportunities

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**QUILTING:** Every Wednesday at 9:00am.

**OWLS:** Wednesdays at 1:30pm.

**JAM at NGMLC:** Every Wednesday at 6:30pm.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Bulletin Announcements:** Bulletin deadline is noon on Tuesdays. Send them to [burkelutheran@att.net](mailto:burkelutheran@att.net) or drop them off at the office.

**Hospitalized?:** Please let the hospital staff know you are a member of Burke Lutheran Church so we are notified.

**January Food Pantry Focus:** “Meals in a Can,” such as soups, stews, chili, canned meat (tuna, chicken), canned vegetables, canned fruit, etc. Cans with pop tops are especially welcomed. Please place your non-perishable goods in the ‘Donations’ basket in the entryway and it will be delivered to the pantry.

**Birthday Bags for River Food Pantry.**

List of contents and bags are located in the entryway.

**Light of Life & Sunday Bulletin Articles**

If you have news you’d like to see in the Sunday bulletin announcements and/or Light of Life newsletter:

1. Email your submissions to burkelutheran@att.net (please indicate in the subject line whether it is for the bulletin, LOL or both), or
2. Mail to church, 5720 Portage Rd, Madison, WI 53718, or
3. Turn it into the church office.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Tuesdays LIGHT OF LIFE DEADLINE: 25th of the month**

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## **Your Ideas are Needed!**

Burke is again eligible to apply for a special grant through the Madison Community Foundation.

We are in need of volunteers to help us brainstorm ideas. The grant can support new programs or expand on an existing program that has been successful. It cannot be used for annual operating costs or capital projects. Grant is for approximately \$10,000.

If you are interested please contact Angie Lenzendorf, Mary TeWinkel or the church office. Plans are to meet after church services on Sunday, January 11th. So put on your thinking caps and come share your thoughts and ideas. Together we can come up with a great plan.

## THIS WEEK AT BURKE

<b>Wednesday, January 7</b>	Quilting, 9:00am	OWLs, 1:30pm JAM, 6:30pm
<b>Sunday, January 11</b>	Worship, 9:00am	

## WORSHIP LEADERS

	<b>January 4 - 9:00am Service</b>	<b>January 11 - 9:00am Service</b>
<b>Organist/Pianist</b>	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore
<b>Music Leaders</b>	Dave Wisner Jean Schnick	Dave Wisner Gloria Lundquist
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Julie Clark	Sharon Hughes
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Gloria Lundquist	Jean Schnick
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Tim Wachs	Cheryl Beckman
<b>Usher Team</b>	Bob Lenzendorf David Hanson	Steve & Donna Frederick
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Donuts	Donuts
<b>Counters</b>	Gloria Lundquist Rose Haney	Gloria Lundquist Deb Brown

## ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

<b>Sunday 9:00am</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>
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