



LORD of LOVE
Lutheran Church

First Sunday after Christmas



The Son of God Comes to Make Sons of God



Welcome! We are so happy you have come to worship today! Someone has described worship as “a joyful dialogue with God.” God speaks to us in his Word, and we speak to him in praise and prayer. May God richly bless you through this “joyful dialogue” today!

Restrooms – The restrooms are located straight ahead as you enter the building. You will also find restrooms in the lower level gathering space at the end of the classrooms on the right side before the exit doors.

Parent’s Room – The sound of children in the house of the Lord is music to our ears! However there is also a parent room to the right just before you enter the sanctuary if your little one needs a moment. It is accessed as you exit the sanctuary, on the left, next to the seats reserved for families with small children.

Assistance Getting Around – There is a walker and a wheelchair available in the fellowship hall. Anyone who needs them is welcome to use them. Please speak to an usher if you need help accessing them.

Offering Message – An offering will be gathered in the service today. These offerings support the Gospel ministry of Lord of Love locally, and also the global mission of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Visitors need not feel obligated to give, but certainly may if you wish.

Explanation of the theme of the day: Christmas holidays mean family time, often with extended family travel and visits. Meals are prepared, gifts are given, memories are made. But the memories might not all be good. Sometimes there are Christmas hurts or even tragedies. We live in a world still affected by sin.

The sinfulness of the world cannot rob us of the peace God intends to bring through his Son. Christ the Savior is born, and through his life, God brings us into the family. He gives us the rights of redeemed sons and daughters, the privileges of inheritance.

Lord of Love Lutheran Church

December 28, 2025

THE COMMON SERVICE

OPENING HYMN (CW 34)

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our
2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to
3 Now through his Son doth shine The Fa - ther's grace di -
4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly



voice; He from whom joy stream - eth Poor
thee, Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O
vine, Death o'er us had reign - ed Through
ground? Where the an - gels sing - ing With



in a man - ger lies; Not so bright - ly
pure and ho - ly Child; Through thy grace and
sin and van - i - ty; He for us ob -
all his saints u - nite, Sweet - est prais - es



beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies,
mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
tain - ed E - ter - nal joy on high,
bring - ing In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!
Draw me un - to thee! Draw me un - to thee!
May we praise him there! May we praise him there!
Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

Text: Latin hymn, 14th century; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.
Tune: IN DULCI RUBILO (66 66 66 55) German melody, 14th century, alt.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Re - joyce, re - joyce this hap - py morn! A Sav - ior
un - to us is born, The Christ, the Lord of glo - ry.
His low - ly birth in Beth - le - hem The an - gels
from on high pro - claim And sing re - demp - tion's sto - ry.
My soul, Ex - tol God's great fa - vor; Bless him ev - er For
sal - va - tion. Give him praise and ad - o - ra - tion.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of six staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major). The lyrics are written below the notes. The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some rests. The final note of the sixth staff is a whole note.

Text: Birgitte K. Boye, 1742–1824; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937.

Tune: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET (887 887 22 44 48) Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, alt.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming, deliver us from the corruption of our sin, and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 63:7-9

*⁷ I will tell about the LORD's mercies,
about the praises of the LORD,
about all that the LORD has done for us,
about his great goodness to the house of Israel,
which he performed for them according to his abundant compassion,
and according to his great mercy.*

*⁸ He said, "Surely they are my people,
children who will not deal falsely,"
so he became their Savior.*

*⁹ In all their anguish he felt anguish,
and the Angel of his Presence saved them.
In his love and in his pity he himself redeemed them,
and he took them up and carried them all the days of old.*

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 2

Refrain

Great are the works of the Lord. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-
lu-ia! Great are the works of the Lord.

Psalm tone

*

Why do the nations conspire*
and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers
gather together against the LORD*
and against his Anointed One. *Refrain*

The One enthroned in heaven laughs;*
the Lord scoffs at them.

Then he rebukes them in his anger
and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,*
“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:*
He said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have become your Father.”

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen. *Refrain***

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

M: Alleluia. Sing to the LORD a new song; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him. Alleluia.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:13-23

¹³ After the Wise Men were gone, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared to Joseph in a dream. He said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, because Herod will search for the child in order to kill him."

¹⁴ Joseph got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and left for Egypt. ¹⁵ He stayed there until the death of Herod. This happened to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

¹⁶ When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Wise Men, he was furious. He issued orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and in all the surrounding countryside, from two years old and under. This was in keeping with the exact time he had learned from the Wise Men. ¹⁷ Then what was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

*¹⁸ A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and great mourning,
Rachel weeping for her children,
and she refused to be comforted,
because they are no more.*

⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt. The angel said, ²⁰ "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to kill the child are dead."

²¹ Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus, Herod's son, had succeeded his father as ruler in Judea, he was afraid to go there. Since he had been warned in a dream, he went to the region of Galilee. ²³ When he arrived there, he settled in a city called Nazareth. So what was spoken through the prophets was fulfilled: "He will be called a Nazarene."

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

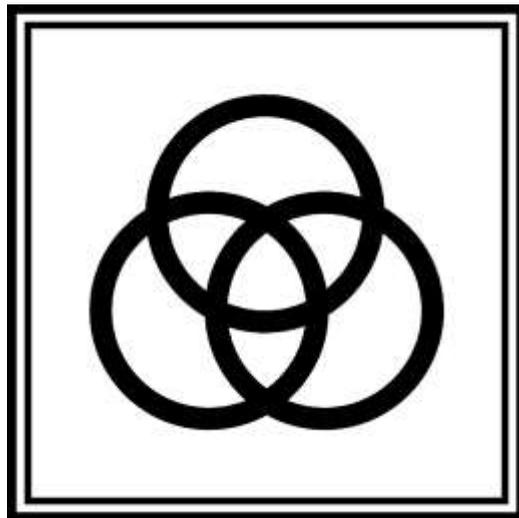
The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**





1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore his
 2 He leaves his heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
 3 He veils in flesh his pow'r di - vine A ser - vant's
 4 A won - drous change which he does make: He takes our
 5 He serves that I a lord may be— A great ex -



high - est throne; To - day he o - pens heav'n a - gain And
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
 form to take; In want and low - li - ness must die Who
 flesh and blood, And he con - ceals for sin - ners' sake His
 change in - deed! Could Je - sus' love do more for me To



gives us his own Son, And gives us his own Son.
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
 heav'n and earth did make, Who heav'n and earth did make.
 maj - es - ty as God, His maj - es - ty as God.
 help me in my need, To help me in my need?

6 For us he opens wide the door
 Of paradise today.
 The angel guards the gate no more;
 To God our thanks we pay,
 To God our thanks we pay.

⁴ But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son to be born of a woman, so that he would be born under the law, ⁵ in order to redeem those under the law, so that we would be adopted as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts to shout, “Abba, Father!” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son. And if you are a son, then you are also an heir of God through Christ.

Sonship through the Son

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

GATHERING OF THE THANK-OFFERING

While the offering is being collected, please sign and pass the Friendship Register.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

For the Lord's blessing on the whole Church on earth, that Christ's people may set their hearts and minds on the things above and, in love, be clothed with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our families, that they would be ruled by Christ's peace; that the Word of Christ would dwell richly among us; that fathers and heads of the household would teach and admonish their families in all wisdom; and that our words and deeds would be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, with thanksgiving, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who await the second advent of our Savior, that our gracious Father would give us faithful patience to endure in our vocations and do the good works prepared in advance for us to do, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those suffering wounds of body and soul, that our gracious Father would heal them according to his will and sustain them unto the day of the resurrection of all flesh, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

That we, like Mary, may know what is worthy of our attention and what will pass away; and that, approaching the table of our Lord, we may be well-prepared to receive his body given for the life of the world and his blood that cleanses us from all sin, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

All these things we pray, O Lord, in confidence of your mercy, trusting that you will grant us all things needful and prevent all things harmful to our faith, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.



M: Lift up your hearts.



M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for in the wonder and mystery of his birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Sanctus

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n 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, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - men.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

Holy Communion is celebrated today. Mindful of the Scriptural teaching concerning church fellowship, we practice close (or closed) communion. Communicant members of this congregation, or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod), are encouraged to commune this morning. Guests are asked to speak with our pastor, before the service, if they wish to commune.



1 Peace came to earth at last that cho - sen night
 2 And who could be the same for hav - ing held
 3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen,
 4 How else could I have known you, O my God!



When an - gels clove the sky with song and light And
 The in - fant in their arms and lat - er felt The
 In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain, In
 How else could I have loved you, O my God! How



God em - bod - ied love and sheathed his might— Who could but
 wound-ed hands and side, all doubts dis - pelled— Who could but
 bread and wine you vis - it us a - gain— Who could but
 else could I em - brace you, O my God! Who could but



gasp: Im - man - u - el! Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!
 sigh: Im - man - u - el! Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!
 see: Im - man - u - el! Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!
 pray: Im - man - u - el! Who could but praise: Im - man - u - el!

The picturesque language of this Jaroslav Vajda hymn vividly illustrates the weighty significance of God becoming man in Christ.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919-2008 © 1984 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Tune: PEACE CAME TO EARTH (10 10 10 88) Richard Jeffrey, b. 1952 © 2000 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP),
 a division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
 2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
 3 "This is the Christ, our God most high, Who hears your
 4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow: Pre - pared by
 5 "These are the signs which you shall mark: The swad - dling



news to ev - 'ry home; Glad ti - dings of great joy
 cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of low -
 sad and bit - ter cry; He will him - self your Sav -
 God for all be - low, That in his king - dom, bright
 clothes and man - ger dark. There you will find the in -



I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
 ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
 ior be From all your sins to set you free,
 and fair, You may with us his glo - ry share.
 fant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

- 6 How glad we'll be to find it so!
 Then with the shepherds let us go
 To see what God for us has done
 In sending us his own dear Son.
- 7 Come here, my friends, lift up your eyes,
 And see what in the manger lies.
 Who is this child, so young and fair?
 It is the Christchild lying there.
- 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,
 Through whom the sinful world is blest!
 You came to share my misery
 That you might share your joy with me.
- 9 Ah, Lord, though you created all,
 How weak you are, so poor and small,
 That you should choose to lay your head
 Where lowly cattle lately fed!
- 10 Were earth a thousand times as fair
 And set with gold and jewels rare,
 It would be far too poor and small
 A cradle for the Lord of all.
- 11 Instead of soft and silken stuff
 You have but hay and straw so rough
 On which as King, so rich and great,
 To be enthroned in royal state.
- 12 And so it pleases you to see
 This simple truth revealed to me:
 That all the world's wealth, honor, might
 Are weak and worthless in your sight.
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
 Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled
 Within my heart, made clean and new,
 A quiet chamber kept for you.
- 14 My heart for very joy must leap;
 My lips no more can silence keep.
 I, too, must sing with joyful tongue
 That sweetest ancient cradle song:
- 15 Glory to God in highest heaven,
 Who unto us his Son has given!
 While angels sing with pious mirth
 A glad new year to all the earth.

THANKSGIVING

STAND

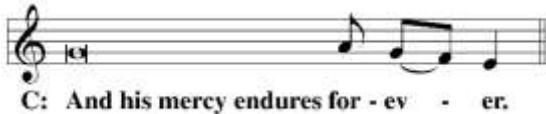
SONG OF SIMEON

Nunc Dimittis



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.



Personal Prayers for Worship

Before Communion:

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communion:

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

O living Bread from heaven, how richly you have fed your guest! The gifts you now have given have filled my heart with joy and rest. Lord, grant me that thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, I serve with holy fear. And when you call my spirit to leave this world below, I enter through your merit where joys unmingled flow.

Gluten Free communion wafers: Gluten free communion wafers are available each Sunday during the Lord's Supper. They are placed on the baptismal font at the start of communion. If you would prefer this wafer, please pick it up as you approach the altar.

In Our Prayers: Roger LaGrange, Peter Leege, Mary Mundt, Peg Schroeder, John Schueman, and Bonnie Gotzion who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Carter Chavez (grandson of John & Sherry Hill), and Shannon Garrett.

Weekly Bible Studies

Sunday 9:15 am: The Lord's Plan for Salvation, *sanctuary*

Tuesday 9:00 am: Kings and Prophets of Israel, *lower level*

Friday 6:00 am: Breakfast 6:00, Bible study 6:45 | The Book of Proverbs, *DeForest Family Restaurant (505 W. North Street, DeForest)*

Sunday December 28: First Sunday after Christmas

Worship Service: 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion

9:15 am: Adult Bible Study, Sunday School, and Teen Class

- Pastor: Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Jennifer Boll
- Councilman/Elder: 8:00: Mike Wilson 10:30: Steve Kalscheuer
- Ushers 8:00: Roger and Lucas LaGrange
- Ushers 10:30: The Heath Family
- Counters: Kim Bauer and Wayne Kaalberg
- Altar Guild: Colleen Biwer and Kathy Zech
- A/V & Recording: Devin Anderson
- Refreshments: The LaGrange Family

Sunday January 4: Second Sunday after Christmas

Worship Service: 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion

9:15 am: Adult Bible Study, Sunday School, and Teen Class

- Pastor: Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Sharon Freund
- Councilman/Elder: 8:00: Paul Crary 10:30: Mike Wilson
- Ushers 8:00: Steven and Sef Fox
- Ushers 10:30: The Holzman Family
- Counters: Bob Degnan and Gene Freund
- Altar Guild: Sally Kaalberg and Sandy Heath
- A/V & Recording: Devin Anderson
- Refreshments: TBD

Happy Birthday We wish God's blessings to Kathy Sletten (12/31), Dar Raether (1/1), Mike Wilson (1/1), Sharon Freund (1/2), Linda Dobbins (1/3) as they celebrate their birthdays this week.

Happy Anniversary We wish God's blessings to Kent and Sabrina Leonard (1/6) as they celebrate their anniversary this week.

COMING UP AT LORD OF LOVE

December 31: New Year's Eve Worship Service | 4:00 p.m.

Jan 1: Food Drive Begins

Jan 8: Elders Meeting | 6:30 p.m. – Fellowship Hall

Jan 9: LoL Fun and Games Day | 1:30 p.m. – Fellowship Hall

Jan 12: Council Meeting | 6:00 p.m. – Fellowship Hall

Jan 12: Evening Quilting Guild | 6:00 p.m. – Lower Level

Jan 15: Ladies Friendship Circle Meeting | 6:30 p.m. – Fellowship Hall

Jan 17: Ladies Coffee/Breakfast | 8:00 a.m. M-N-M Coffee House, Waunakee

Jan 22: Red Cross Blood Drive | 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. – Lower Level

Jan 25: Congregation Quarterly Meeting | 9:15 a.m. – Sanctuary

Jan 26: Evening Quilting Guild | 6:00 p.m. – Lower Level

New Year's Eve Worship Service 4:00 p.m.

Quarterly Food Drive | Jan 1 – Jan 31

We will be collecting food and non-perishable items throughout the month of January to help stock the shelves at our local food pantry. There are collection bins located at both the main and fellowship entrances. You may also drop donations off during office hours Tuesday – Friday from 8:30 – 2:00 p.m. All donations go to the DeForest Area Needs Network. (DANN) to help our local community.

Red Cross Blood Drive – January 22, 2026 | 12:00 – 5:00 pm - Volunteers Needed

Lord of Love is hosting our 7th annual Blood Drive on January 22 from 12 – 5 pm. If you would like to volunteer to assist with registration or serving food, there will be a sign-up sheet on the back counter as you enter church from the main entrance on January 4th.

Quarterly Congregation Meeting & Open Forum | January 25, 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

We will be having our quarterly congregational meeting and open forum between services in the sanctuary on Sunday January 25, 2025. (No Bible Study).



LORD of LOVE
Lutheran Church

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Pastor Joel Jenswold | pr.jenswold@gmail.com | c. 608.572.1654

Chairman: Mike Wilson | mikew4519@gmail.com | c. 608.692.4292
Office Assistant: Kristin Vomhof, Office hours Tuesday – Friday: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - ***Christ's Love, Our Calling.***

**“I rejoiced with those who said to me,
‘Let us go to the house of the LORD.’”
Psalm 122:1**



*Today's 8:00 service will be recorded including the Service of the Sacrament.
Individuals taking communion will not be visible in the recording.*