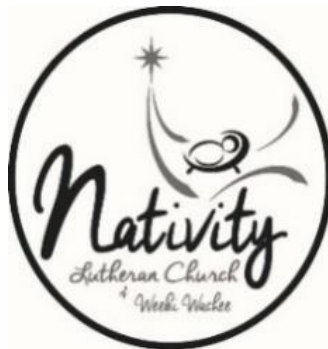




*With the birth of Jesus in our hearts
We carry light and love to the world.*

*Sunday, July 11, 2021
7th Sunday after Pentecost*



NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sunday, July 11, 2021
7th Sunday after Pentecost
Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

We welcome Pastor Peter Stiller who will be presiding over today's service.

The Liturgy is from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

Information for the hearing impaired: Are you having difficulty hearing what is being said during our worship service? If so, try using our Assisted Hearing System, which is available from an usher.

Today's worship service will be replayed next Sunday at 6pm on FM radio station 102.9 and is available to VIEW anytime late afternoon today on the home page of our website www.nlcww.org.

Attendance for last Sunday: 86



INTRODUCTION

When Amos reports his vision of God judging Israel for its mistreatment of the poor, he becomes a threat to the power of the priests and the king. John the Baptist also speaks truth to power, and Herod has him killed. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them, and to proclaim God's saving love.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

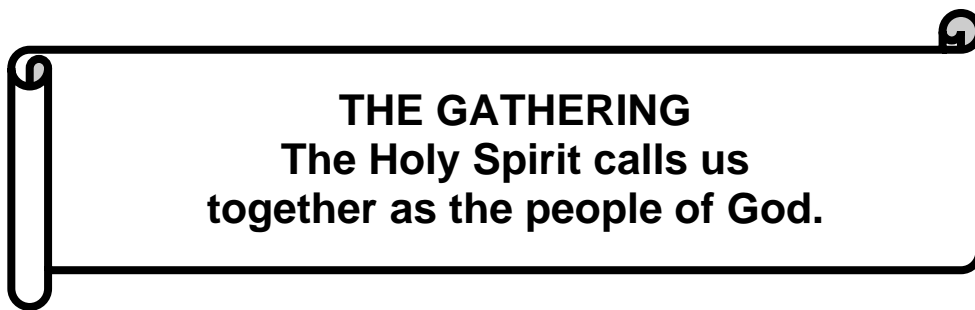
CHIMES

Indicates the start of worship.

PRELUDE

Reckless Love

Cory Asbury



Please stand as you are able and turn toward the baptismal font.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful! **Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

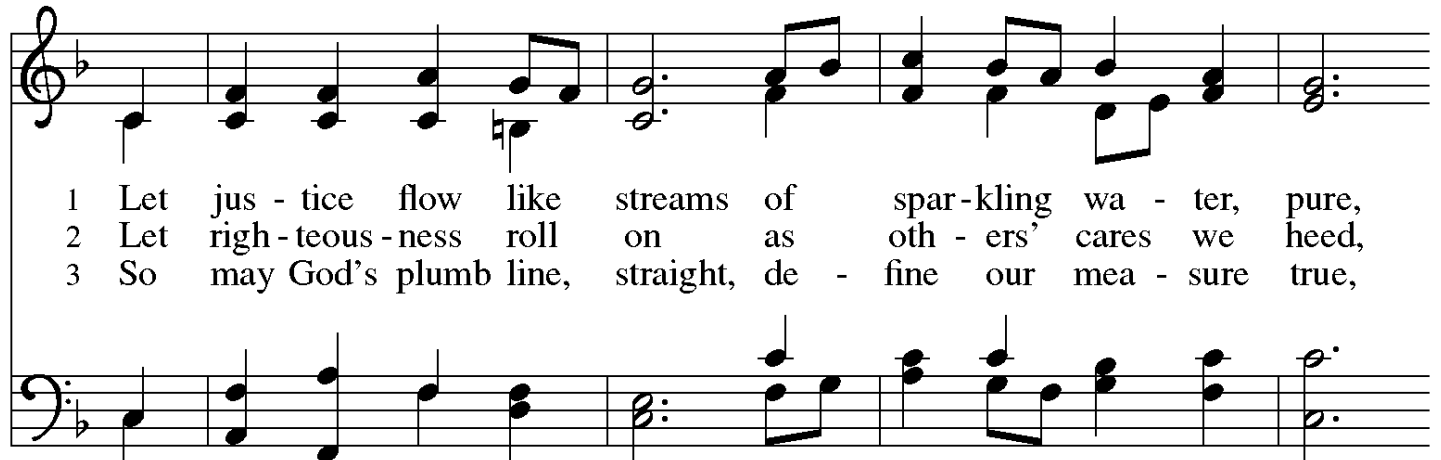
For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed. (Ps. 1)

GATHERING HYMN

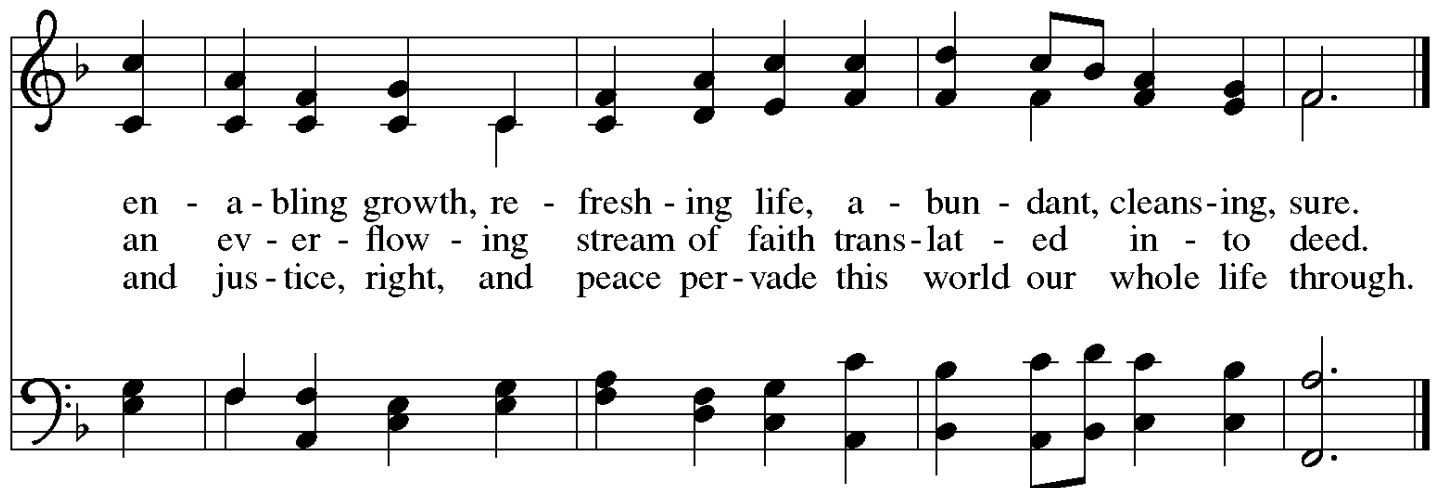
Let Justice Flow like Streams

717

Please look toward the cross as it processes toward the altar.



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

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.**

KYRIE ELEISON

Kyrie Eleison is a pre-Christian expression in Greek that means "Lord have mercy." When we ask for the mercy of God, we are asking for his nearness and for the necessary healing of our human brokenness.

The Cantor sings the verses; the Congregation sings the refrain.

Refrain S 184

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord; let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

For your Spirit to guide; that You center our lives in the water and the Word; that You nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. **Refrain**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the

Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be

peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of

vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -

le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the

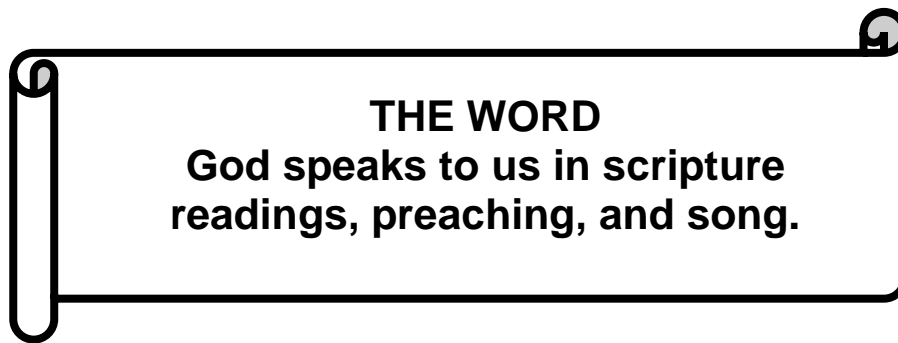
Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, from You come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.



SPECIAL MUSIC

Dear Me

Nichole Nordeman
Soloist: Gina Fell

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

1:3-14

Reader: Tim Noe

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.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

S 188

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

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him."

¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." ¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her.

¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But

an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his

daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom."

²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested,

"I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a

soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples

heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Be Blessed

Pastor Peter Stiller

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

A moment of silence for reflection.

God, our Provider, **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in You. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to You. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the Manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the Worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✝ the Bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Wonderful, Merciful Savior

Wonderful, merciful Savior,
Precious Redeemer and Friend;
Who would have thought that a Lamb could
Rescue the souls of men?
Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

Chorus

You are the One that we praise,
You are the One we adore.

You give the healing and grace our
Hearts always hunger for,
Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

Counselor, Comforter, Keeper,
Spirit we long to embrace;
You offer hope when our hearts have
Hopelessly lost the way,
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way (Chorus)

Almighty, Infinite Father,
Faithfully loving Your own;
Here in our weakness You find us
Falling before Your throne,
Oh, we're falling before Your throne. (Chorus)

Remain standing or sit as you desire.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

After each petition: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to You, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be seated.



OFFERING

Please remain seated. You may drop your offering in the basket by the exit door or at the office during the week. You may also donate safely on-line at <https://www.nlcww.org> or on our Facebook page.

Please hold the communion set in your hands.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, **You have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

DIALOGUE AND PREFACE

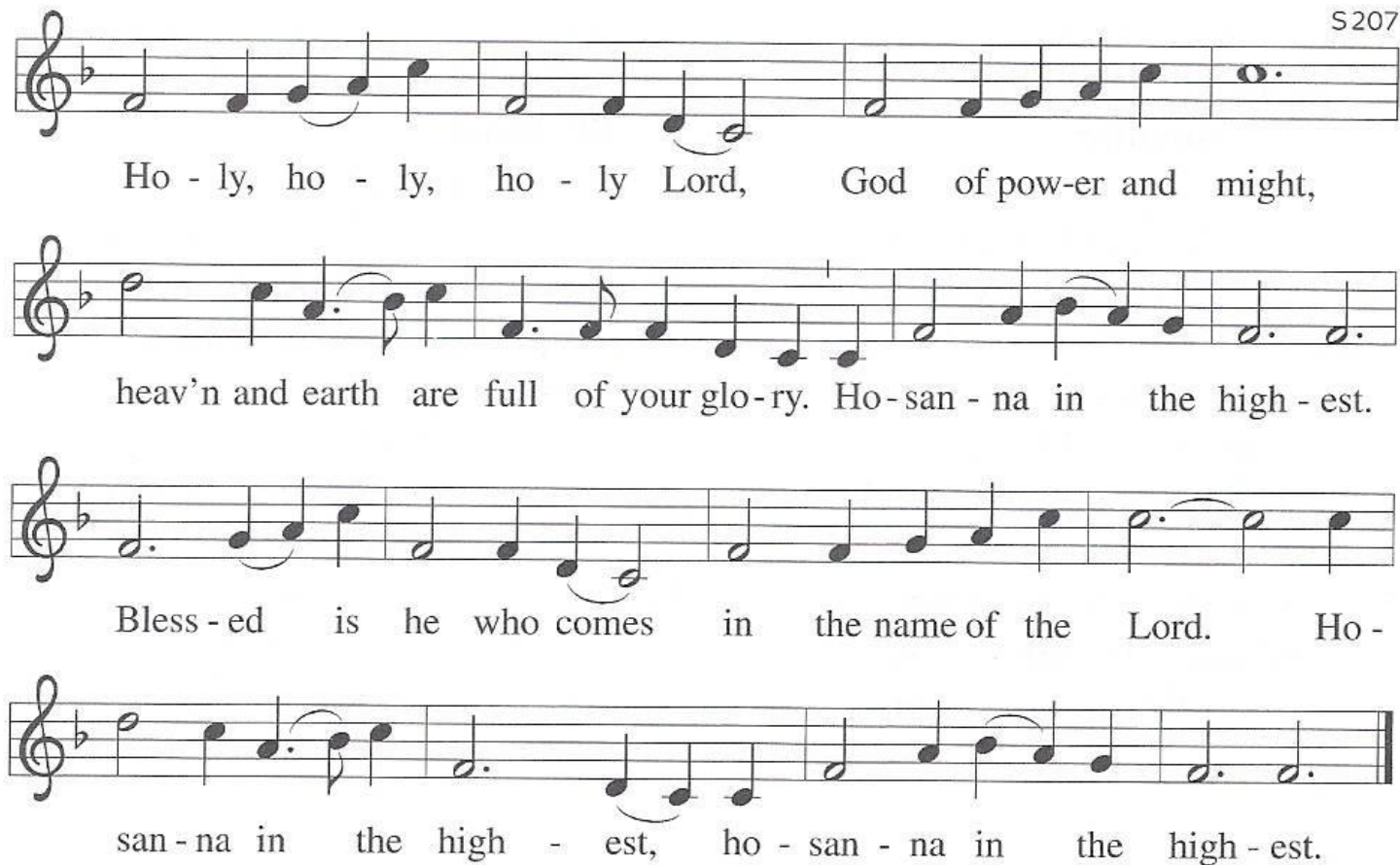
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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.

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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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:

S207



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,

heav'n 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.

REMEMBERING GOD'S ACTS OF GRACE

Blessed are You, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to You for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to You for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to You for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to You for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to You for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to You for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to You for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise You, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray the prayer Christ himself taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

Lamb of God

S208



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

The body and blood of Christ given for you.

Please be seated.

Consume the elements now.

Observe a moment of silence.

Please stand as you are able.

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As You have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

THE SENDING
God blesses us and sends us
in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✝ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Borning Cry

732



Borning Cry



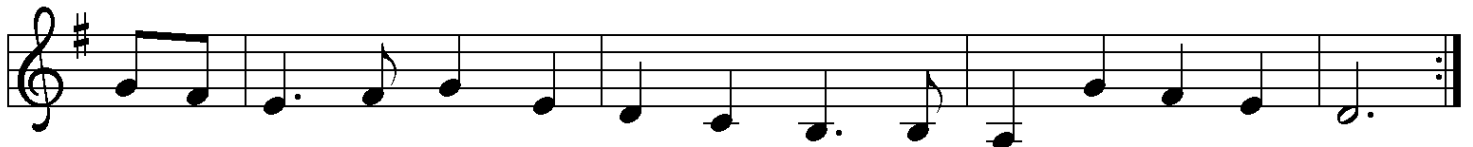
- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold.
you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long.
I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;
If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one,
When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you shut your wea - ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."
I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."
I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



- 4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

SENDING

People of Nativity, what is our mission?

With the birth of Jesus in our hearts we carry light and love to the world.

DISMISSAL

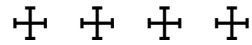
Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Where'er You Walk

G.F. Handel



NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 23:1-6	Psalm 23
Ephesians 2:11-22	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

PRAYERS: *The list will be cleared every other week. If you wish to remain on the list for longer than two weeks, please call the office and request a long-term prayer. In case of emergency, contact the office at **352-597-1456** and leave a detailed message. Messages are checked daily.*



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Peg Ahlquist, Tracey Baker, Mary Bannister, Bob Bohn, Linda Borowski's son and family, Linda Borowski's daughter and family, Kim Bozzuto, Elliott Burger, Joyce Cain, Anne and David Carpenter, Jerry Conklin, Woody and Joan Cornetta, Judy Dietz, Jocelyn Foudali, Jacob Abraham Foudali, Cindy Garrett, Irene and Larry Gilbert, Donald Haig, Irma Haig, William and Charlotte Hamm, Gary and Mary Heinecke, John Heinecke, Marge Henry, Kay Hill, Karen Hoffman, Barbara Hofving, Rev. Joan Holden, Lilo Horeis, Bob Johnson and family, Michael Koch, Rev. Dennis and Linda Koch, Alfred Korndoerfer, Carl and Asta Lundh, Elaine Malone, Maria Mesko, Rich Miller, Marianne Mock, Mark and Wayne Musarra, David Oliver, Sheryl O'Conner, Lisa Passarelli, Mike Ruffner, Judy Seidl and family, TC Shuttler, Barbara Strohl, Keli Tedesco, Cheri Umbaugh, Carsyn Volpe, Ginger Wielk, Janet Wilkens, Alan Van Zee, Laretta Z.

PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY

Nic Baker, Daniel Davis, Kyle Davis, 2nd Lt, USMC Robert M. Heinecke, Maj. Matthew Henry, Colton Hill, Andria T. Hook, Jonathan Hudson, Brett Johnson, Cpt. Will Lawlor, Zachary McGuire, CTT2 William Pause, Brandon Pierce, Clinton Pierce, Isaac Redmond, Andrea Roache, Joel Roberts, William Robishaw, OS2 Jordan A. Torres, Cpl. Timothy Spruytte, Chad Waldorf.



Flowers on the altar are given by:

Jane & Scott Henkel

In celebration of their
40th Wedding Anniversary

ALTAR FLOWERS: *If you would like to order flowers in honor or in memory of someone there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or you can call the office at 352-597-1456. Donation is \$25.00. Flowers can be picked up after the 9:30AM Sunday service, or you can schedule a pick-up time with the office if you are not attending service.*

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister

Pastor Peter Stiller

Assisting Minister

Jim Runyan

Scripture Reader

Tim Noe

Cantor

June Heinecke

Music Director

Donna Olsen

Altar Guild

Suzanne Chelf & Cheryl Wolfe

AV Director

Art Alt

Audio

Guy Peeters & Tim Noe

Cameras

Buddy Kristoferson & Tim Cotter

Graphics

Diane Alt & Ed Lewis

Gardener(s)

Suzanne Chelf

Head counter this week

Jean Drach

MISSION STATEMENT

**With the birth of Jesus in our hearts
we carry light and love to the world.**

OUR VALUES STATEMENT

We recognize that we are not here by chance but are gathered together to be the church of God in Christ.

We recognize that God is making us, through grace, into a Fellowship that embodies and expresses the spirit of Christ.

In this fellowship, the Bible says, “there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female, for all of us are one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:28). We, therefore, welcome equally all people, regardless of religious office, position, possessions, education, race, age, gender, sexual orientation, mental ability, physical ability or other distinctions. (Adopted 9/7/07)

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEEKI WACHEE A CONGREGATION OF THE FLORIDA-BAHAMAS SYNOD OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

Phone (352) 597-1456

Email: Nativitylutheran63@gmail.com / Website: nlcww.org

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

Deacon Charlotte Downing

Deacon Jack Page

Deacon Clyde Rosten

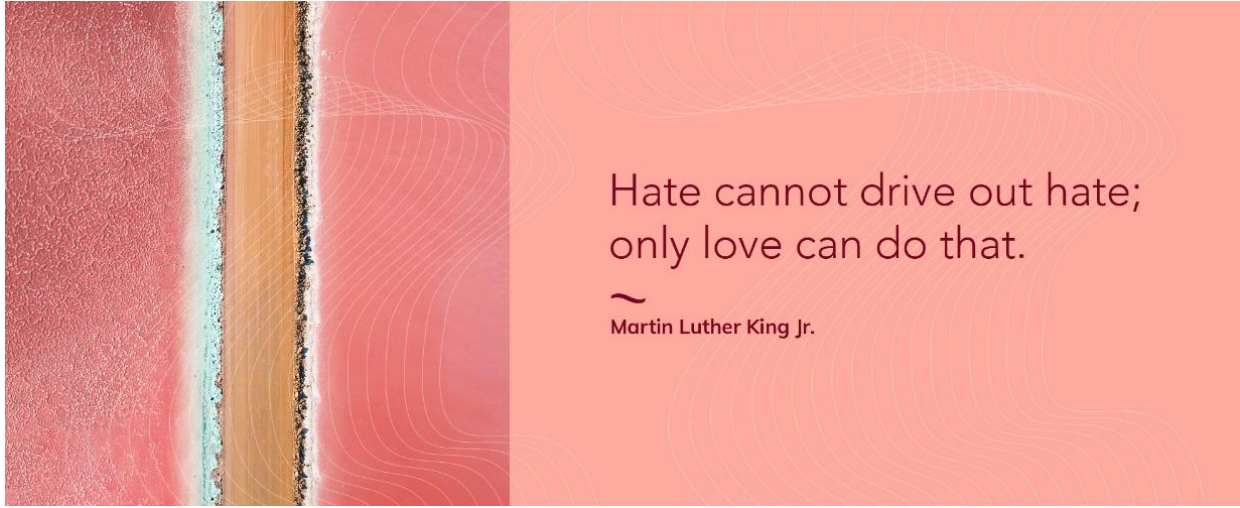
ELCA Deacon Michelle Mehan-Conklin

Music Director: Donna Olsen

Audio/Visual Director: Art Alt

Bell Choir Directors: Jane Henkel/Cherylann Schneider

Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.



Hate cannot drive out hate;
only love can do that.

~
Martin Luther King Jr.