



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

*Sunday, September 19, 2021  
17th Sunday after Pentecost*



**NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Sunday, September 19, 2021**  
**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Reverend Giuseppe Mattei**

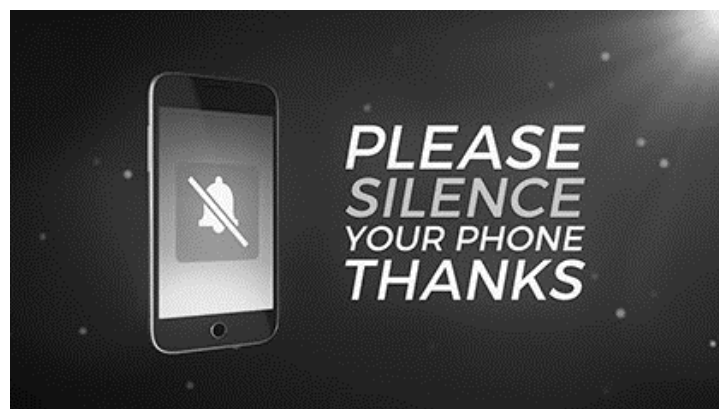
**The Liturgy** is from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

**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](http://www.nlcww.org).

**In-person attendance for last Sunday: 110**

**Our on-line attendance has remained steady at around 115 per Sunday.** Others worship with us by listening to the radio broadcast on Sunday evening.



## INTRODUCTION

Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

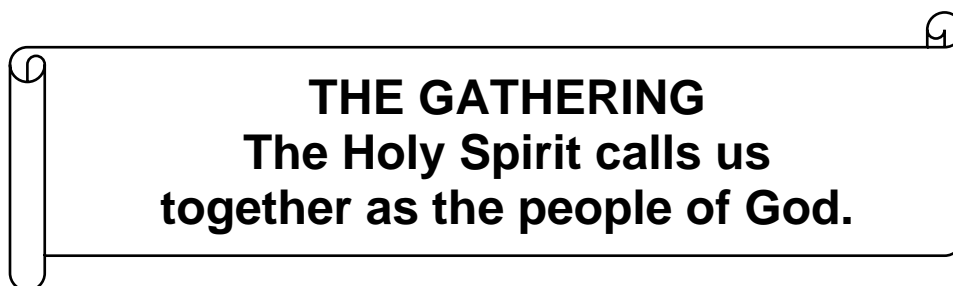
### CHIMES

Indicates the start of worship.

### PRELUDE

*Amazing Grace  
(My Chains Are Gone)*

Chris Tomlin



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

## CALL TO WORSHIP

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

**I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.**

On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

**All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

**For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly;  
but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

**The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love,  
O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your  
hands. (Psalm 138)**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*Praise the One Who Breaks  
the Darkness*

843

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

## Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



- 1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at-ing light;
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen-tle word;
- 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf-fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris-'ners, turn-ing blind-ness in - to sight.  
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc-ing, two-edged sword.  
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal-ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,  
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn-ing sand;  
Let us sing for joy and glad-ness, see-ing what our God has done.



calm-ing storms and feed - ing thou-sands with the ver - y bread of peace.  
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench-ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
Praise the one re - deem-ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

## 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.*



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



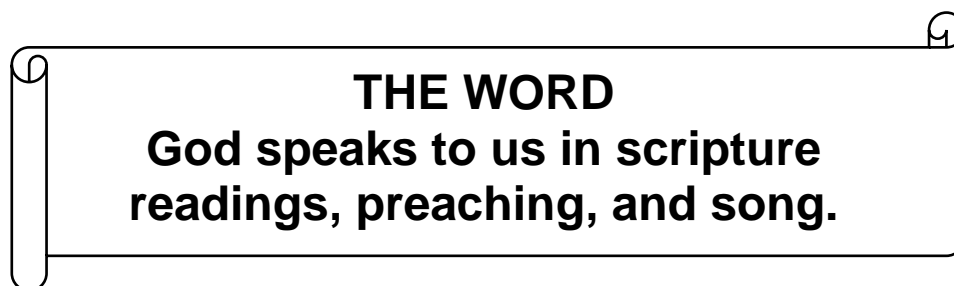
Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, our Teacher and Guide, You draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*



## SPECIAL MUSIC

*A Prayer For Children*

Heather Sorenson

Soloist: Kim Mehan-Conklin

## A READING FROM THE LETTER OF THE APOSTLE JAMES

**3:13--4:3, 7-8a**

Reader: Tim Noe

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. <sup>4:1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you



commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
Al - le - lu - ia, 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.**

<sup>30</sup>Jesus and the disciples went on and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; <sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. <sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” <sup>34</sup>But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON**

*God’s Steadfast Love*

*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

*Children of the Heavenly Father*

781



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,  
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;  
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour - ish.  
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;  
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak - eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.  
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.  
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.  
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

## APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

*Remain standing or sit as you desire.*

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

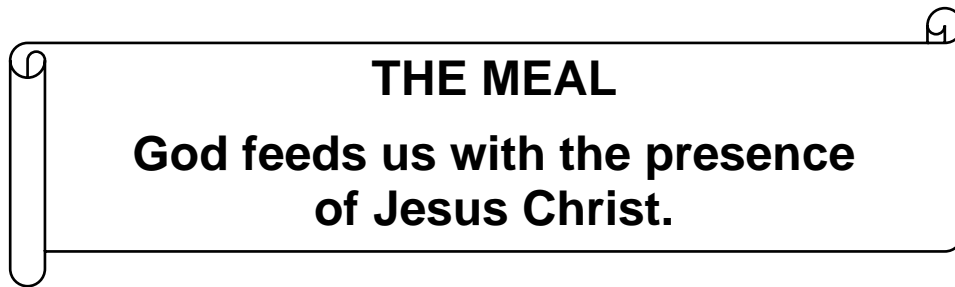
After each petition: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to You; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## PEACE

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

*Please be seated.*



## OFFERING

*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.*

*Assisting Minister unveils the chalice and paten.*

## 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, and hold the communion set in your hands.*

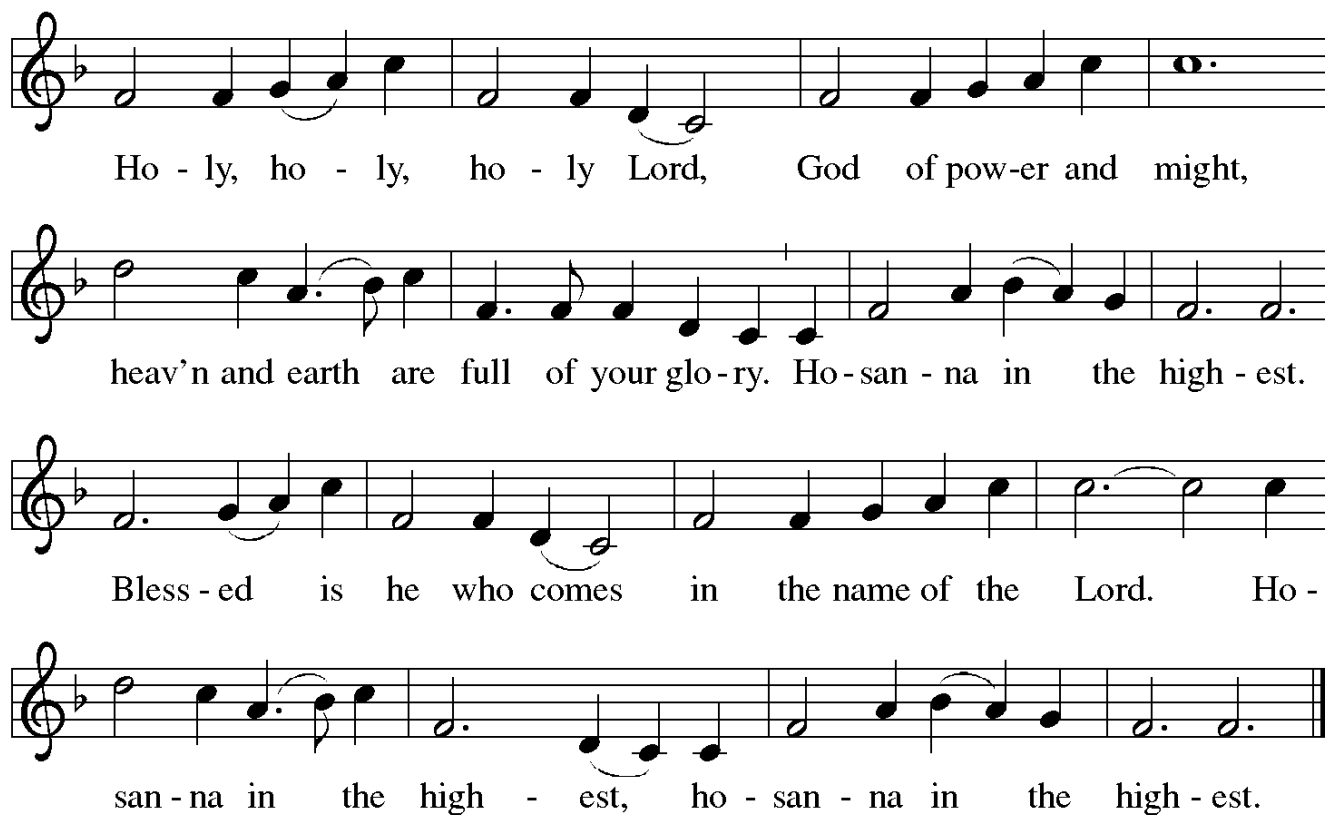
## DIALOGUE AND PREFACE

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:



## 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*



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**

## *Send Me Out*

Jesus, Lord of my salvation, Savior of my soul,  
Send me out to the world to make You known.  
Jesus, King of every nation, this world's only hope,  
Send me out to the world to make You known.  
Send me out to the world.  
I want to be Your hands and feet,  
I want to be Your voice every time I speak,  
I want to run to the ones in need, In the name of Jesus.  
I want to give my life away, all for Your kingdom's sake.  
Shine a light in the darkest place,  
In the name of Jesus. In the name of Jesus.  
Carried to the broken hearted, mercy You have shown,  
Send me out to the world to make You known.  
To the ones in need of rescue, lead me I will go,  
Send me out to the world to make You known.  
Send me out to the world.  
I want to be Your hands and feet,  
I want to be Your voice every time I speak,  
I want to run to the ones in need, In the name of Jesus.  
I want to give my life away, all for Your kingdom's sake.  
Shine a light in the darkest place,  
In the name of Jesus. In the name of Jesus.  
Here am I, I will go, send me out to make You known.

There is hope for every soul. Send me out, send me out.  
Here am I, I will go, Send me out to make You known.  
There is hope for every soul. Send me out.  
I want to be Your hands and feet,  
Be Your voice every time I speak,  
I want to run to the ones in need, In the name of Jesus.  
I want to give my life away, All for Your kingdom's sake.  
Shine a light in the darkest place, In the name of Jesus.  
I want to be Your hands and feet,  
I want to be Your voice every time I speak,  
I want to run to the ones in need, In the name of Jesus.  
I want to give my life away, All for Your kingdom's sake.  
Shine a light in the darkest place,  
In the name of Jesus. In the name of Jesus.

## **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**

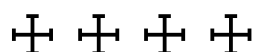
Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **POSTLUDE**

*Sing Praise To Our Creator*

Kevin Norris



## NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29	Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20	Mark 9:38-50

**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

Tracey Baker, Mary Bannister, Christopher Barnes, Cache Blevins, Bob Bohn, Linda Borowski's son and family, Linda Borowski's daughter and family, Kim Bozzuto, Elliott Burger, Anne and David Carpenter, Chris (Westin's friend), Jerry Conklin, Woody and Joan Cornetta, Denise Crawford, Kenji Lewis Crawford, Kat Crawford, Gloria Crayton, Daniel Davis, Judy Dietz, Jocelyn Feudal, Jacob Abraham Foudali, Irene Froehlich, John Gauthier, Rich Geiser, Irene and Larry Gilbert, Willie Mae Graham, Laurie Ane Graham, David and Sally Green, Donald Haig, Irma Haig, Trish Hambaugh, William and Charlotte Hamm, Gary and Mary Heinecke, John Heinecke, Marge Henry, Kay Hill, Karen Hoffman, Barbara Hofving, Rev. Joan Holden, Lilo Horeis, Darby Jonaitis, June Johnston, Bob Johnson and family, Alfred Korndorfer, Virginia Lucas, Carl and Asta Lundh, Joanne Manos, Elaine Malone, Bob McDowall, Maria Mesko, Rich Miller, Marianne Mock, Mark and Wayne Musarra, Rhonda Nelson, Brian Oliver, David Oliver, Kevin Olson, Sheryl O'Conner, Katherine Rizzo, Mike Ruffner, Debbie Shaughnessy, Mary Smith, Barbara Strohl, Dave Swank, Keli Tedesco, 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:

Mary McDowall

In honor of her birthday

Marianne Mock

In memory of Carl Mock

***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*

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<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Pastor Peter Stiller
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Deacon Charlotte Downing
<b>Scripture Reader</b>	Tim Noe
<b>Cantor</b>	June Heinecke
<b>Soloist</b>	Kim Mehan-Conklin
<b>Music Director</b>	Donna Olsen
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Suzanne Chelf & Cheryl Wolfe
<b>AV Director</b>	Art Alt
<b>Audio</b>	Guy Peeters & Tim Noe
<b>Cameras</b>	Buddy Kristoferson & Tim Cotter
<b>Graphics</b>	Diane Alt, Ed Lewis & Linda Rizzo
<b>Video Production</b>	Vicki Page
<b>Gardener(s)</b>	Doug Johnson
<b>Head counter this week</b>	Ernie Horeis

## **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, 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](mailto: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: Janet & Todd Holly

Sunday Services at 9:30 a.m.