



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

*Sunday, January 23, 2022
Third Sunday after Epiphany*



NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sunday, January 23, 2022
Third Sunday after Epiphany
Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

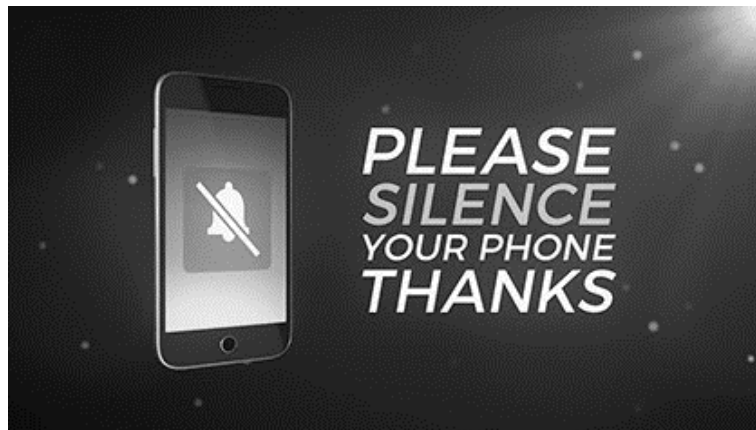
The Liturgy is from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

Are you hearing impaired? If you are having difficulty hearing our worship service, 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.

In-person attendance for last Sunday: 101

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

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round! Listen up! Glimpse the glory of God!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

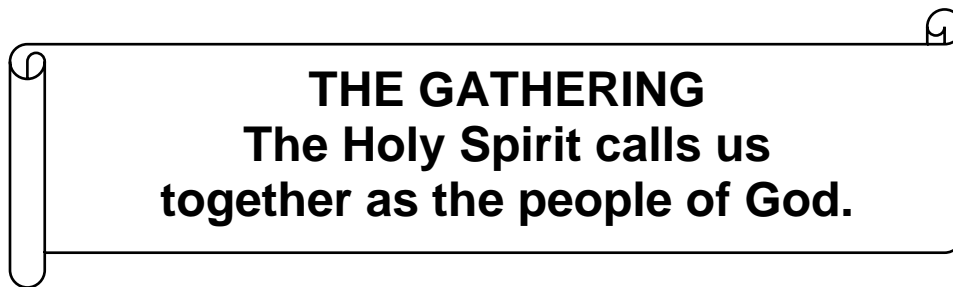
CHIMES

Indicates the start of worship.

PRELUDE

Morning Has Broken

Larry Shackley



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

CALL TO WORSHIP

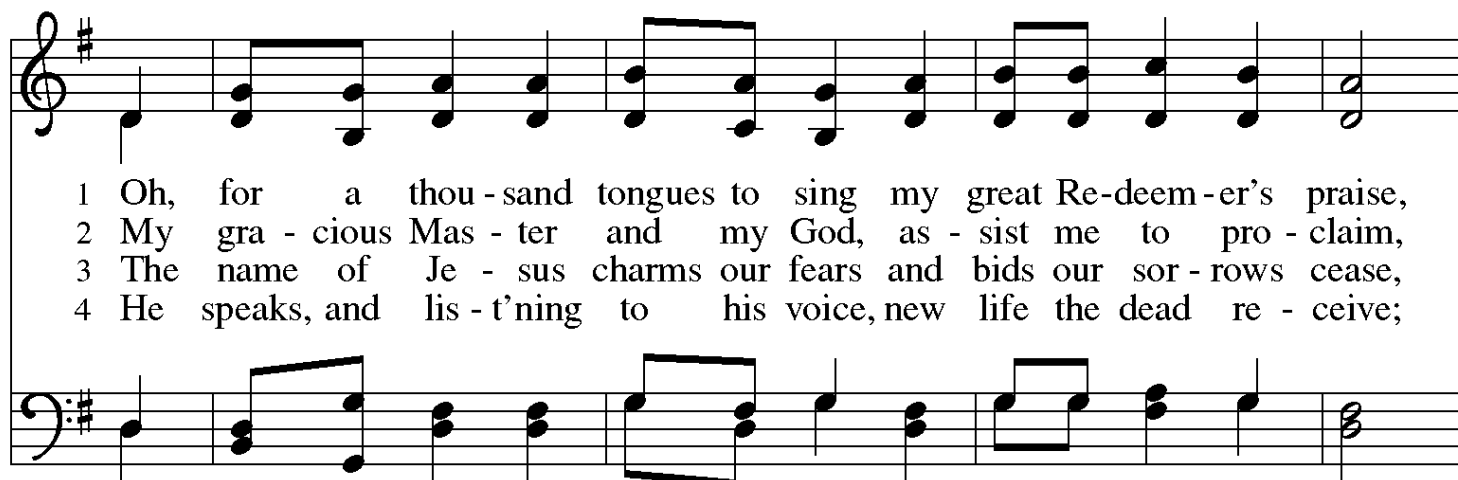
19:1-4

The heavens declare the glory of God;
the sky displays his handiwork.

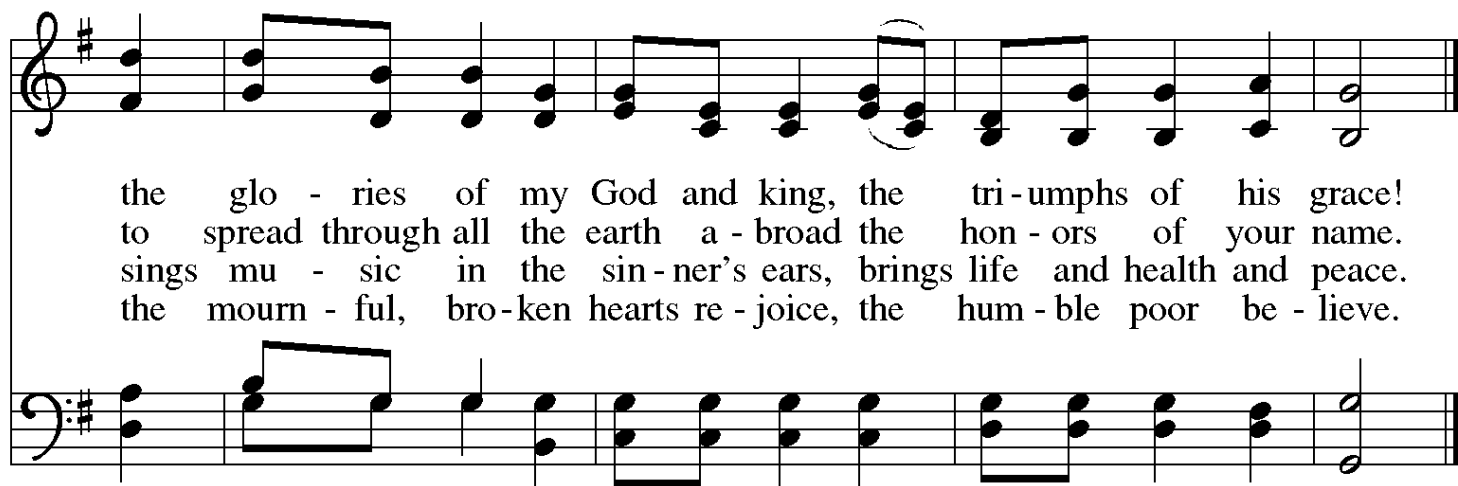
Day after day it speaks out;
night after night it reveals his greatness.

There is no actual speech or word, nor is its voice literally heard.
Yet its voice echoes throughout the earth;
its words carry to the distant horizon.
In the sky he has pitched a tent for the sun.

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



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise,
 2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
 3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
 4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;



the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
 to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
 sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
 the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
 O fallen human race!
 Look and be saved through faith alone,
 be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
 be now and ever giv'n
 by saints below and saints above,
 the church in earth and heav'n.

GREETING

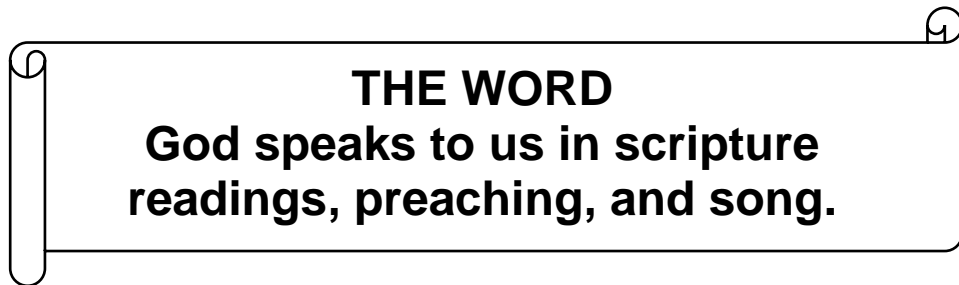
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Blessed Lord God, You have caused the holy Scriptures to be written for the nourishment of Your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.



SPECIAL MUSIC

King of Kings

Geoff Bullock
Soloist: Gina Fell

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Reader: Jesse Wright

¹All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the

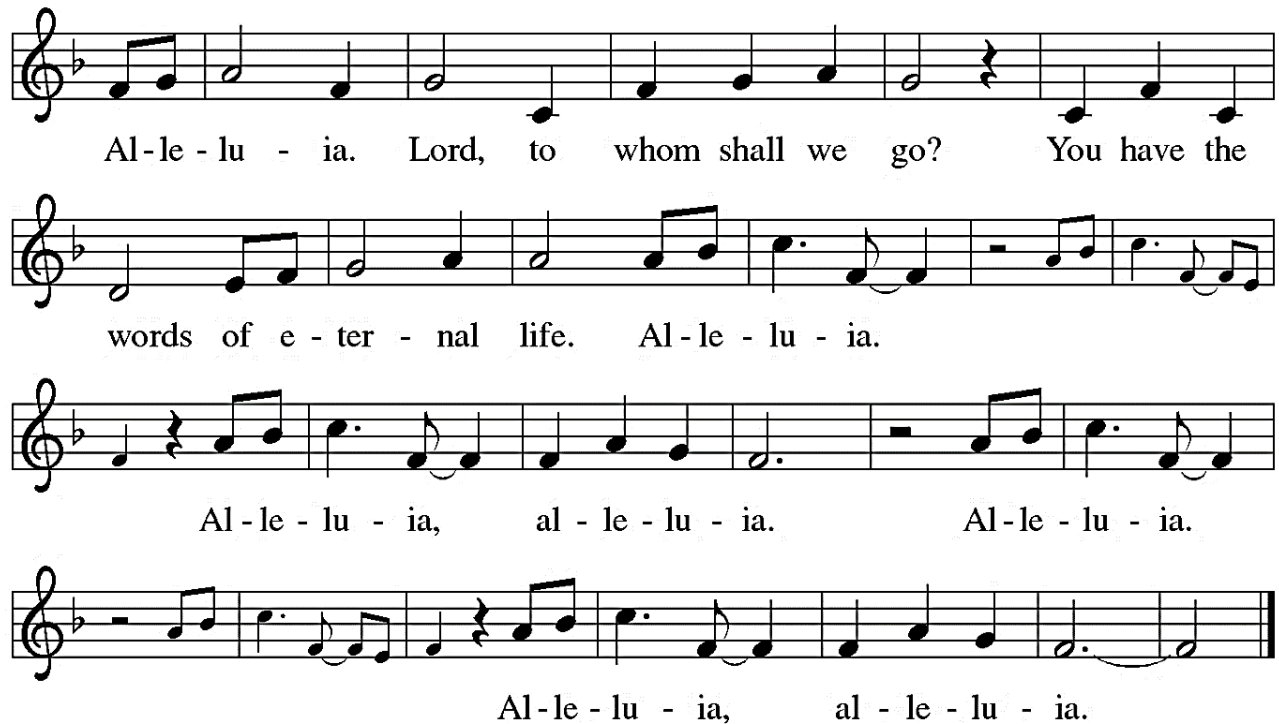
people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. ⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 4:14-21

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. ¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll,

gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

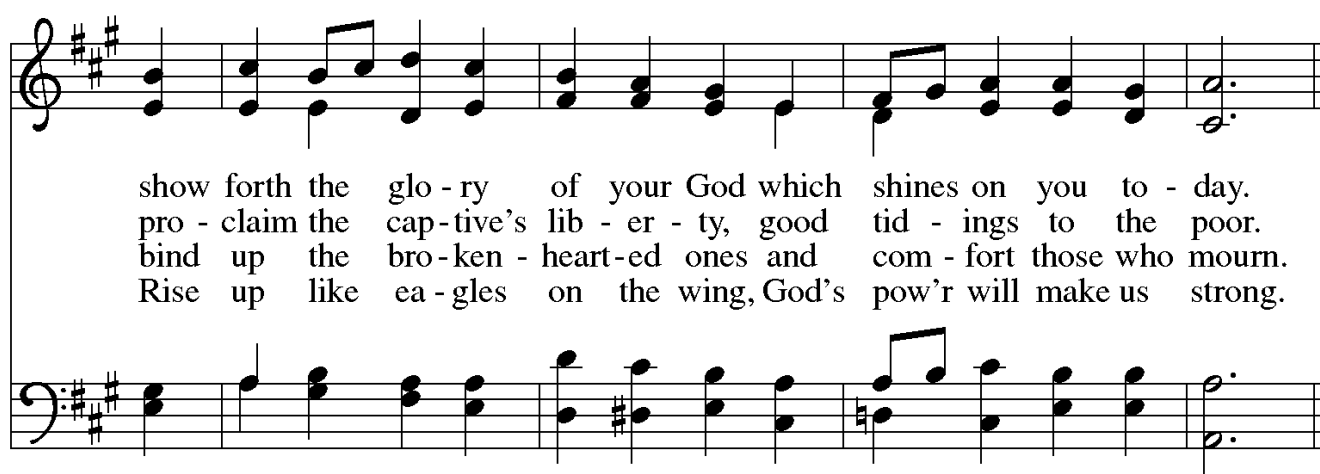
HYMN OF THE DAY

Arise, Your Light Has Come

314



1 A - rise, your light has come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light has come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
3 A - rise, your light has come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light has come! The moun - tains burst in song!



show forth the glo - ry of your God which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap - tive's lib - er - ty, good tid - ings to the poor.
bind up the bro - ken - heart - ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing, God's pow'r will make us strong.

Please be seated.

INSTALLATION OF NEW COUNCIL

See Insert

Stand or sit as you desire.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

After each petition: God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to You in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **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 on-line at <https://www.nlcwww.org>, or on our Facebook page.

Assisting Minister unveils the chalice and paten.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are You, O God, **Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.**

Please stand as you are able, and hold the communion set in your hands.

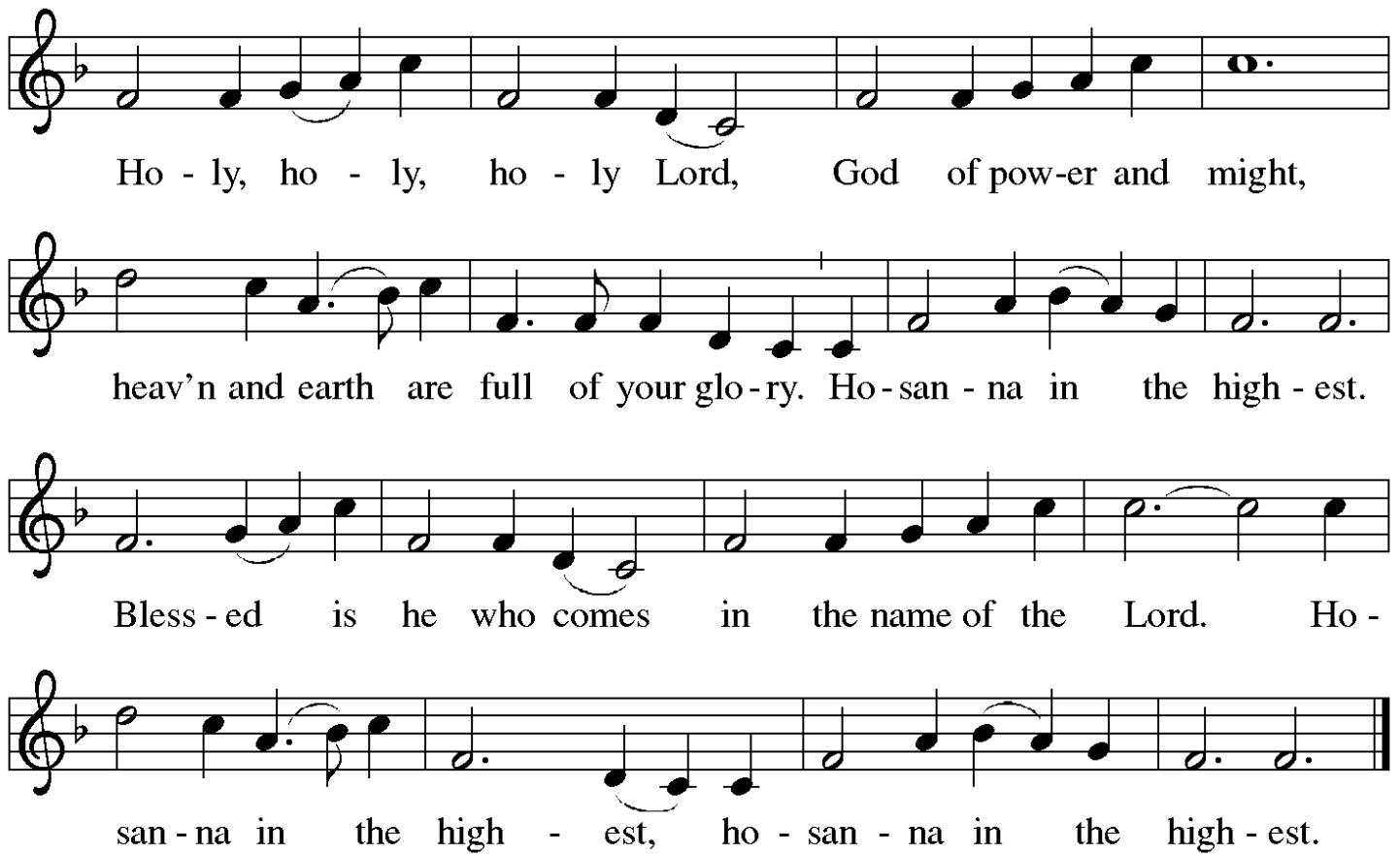
GREAT THANKSGIVING

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. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh You have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us pray the prayer Christ himself taught us:

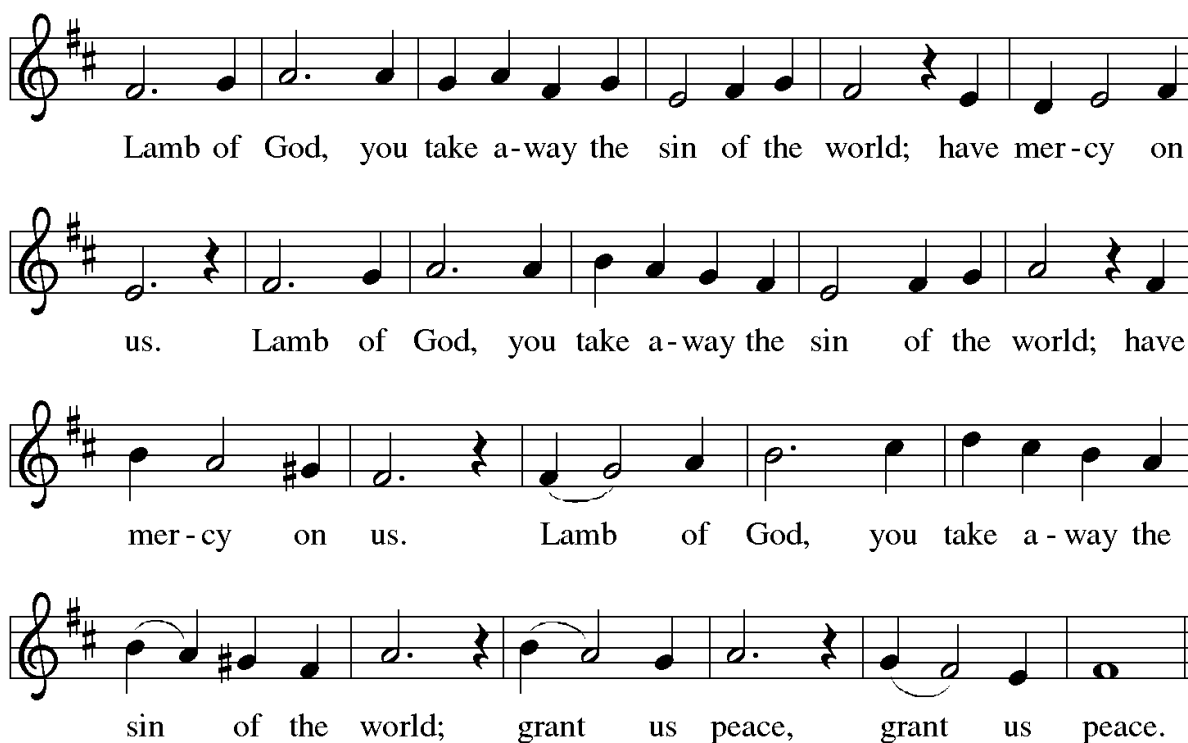
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the

sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The body and blood of Christ given for you.

Please be seated and consume the elements.

Observe a moment of silence.

Please stand as you are able.

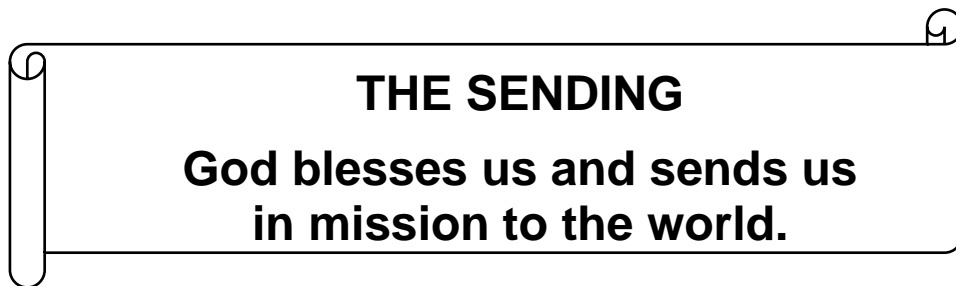
TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We give You thanks, gracious God, **for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

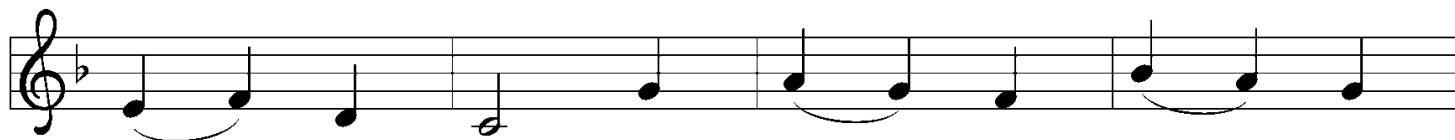


BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, ✝ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. **Amen.**



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
 2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
 3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
 4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
 bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
 joy like seed and, all our days, to
 to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
 share a dream and help the blind to see.
 cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
 pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

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

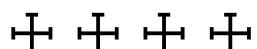
Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

The March of Faith

Paul Taylor



NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Luke 4:21-30

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

Baker family, Christopher Barnes, Larry Barnes, Claudette Belliveau, Windy Binns, Cache Blevins, Bob Bohn, Linda Borowski's son and family, Linda Borowski's daughter and family, Kim Bozzuto, Iris Brunner, Elliott Burger, Joyce Colombo, Jerry Conklin, Woody and Joan Cornetta, Denise Crawford, Kat Crawford, Daniel Davis, Judy Dietz, Karis Dorfman, Bill Fasulo, Irene Froehlich, Geiser family, Irene and Larry Gilbert, Willie Mae Graham, Laurie Ane Graham, David and Sally Green, Nena & Bill Gulbrandsen, Sally Gulbrandsen, Donald Haig, Irma Haig, Trish Hambaugh, Gary and Mary Heinecke, Kay Hill, Carolyn Hively, Hoffman family, Barbara Hofving, Brian Johnson, June Johnston, Alfred Korndoerfer, Lofgren family, Carl Lundh, Joanne

Manos, Elaine Malone, Buck McKibbon, Rich Miller, Mark and Wayne Musarra, Oliver family, Sheryl O'Conner, Jack Page, Margret Raeder, Mike Ruffner, TC Shuttler, Linda Silva, Karen Simons, Ellee Simons, Mary Smith, Snow family, Marge Spina, Kathy St. Jacques, Barbara Strohl, Dave Swank, Torres family, Umbaugh family, Jeanette Vandermark, Sylvia Vega, Carsyn Volpe, Kassi Warner, Terry Watterson, Weatherbee family, Kay Weiland, West family, Janet Wilkens, Christopher Younger, Laoretta Z.

PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY

Nic Baker, Brandi Culpepper, Daniel Davis, Kyle Davis, 2nd Lt, USMC Robert M. Heinecke, Maj. Matthew Henry, Colton Hill, Andria T. Hook, Jonathan Hudson, 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, Kesley Underwood, Kyle Underwood, Chad Waldorf.



Flowers on the altar are given by:

Suzanne Chelf In memory of her mother's birthday, and in honor of her twin granddaughter's 16th birthday.

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	Reverend Giuseppe Mattei
Assisting Minister	Ed Lewis
Scripture Reader	Jesse Wright
Music Director	Donna Olsen
Bell Choir Directors	Janet & Todd Holly
Altar Guild	Marilyn Henkel & Cheryl Wolfe
Sanctuary	Cheryl Wolfe
Greeter	Evelyn Galli
AV Director	Art Alt
Audio	Guy Peeters, Tim Noe & Pat Squires
Cameras	Buddy Kristoferson & Tim Cotter
Graphics	Diane Alt, Ed Lewis & Linda Rizzo
Video Production	Vicki Page
Gardener(s)	Doug Johnson
Head counter this week	Barbara Crisanti

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

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Phone (352) 597-1456

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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.