



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

*Sunday, April 10, 2022
Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday*

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
April 10, 2022
Reverend Giuseppe Mattei
Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday

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: 126

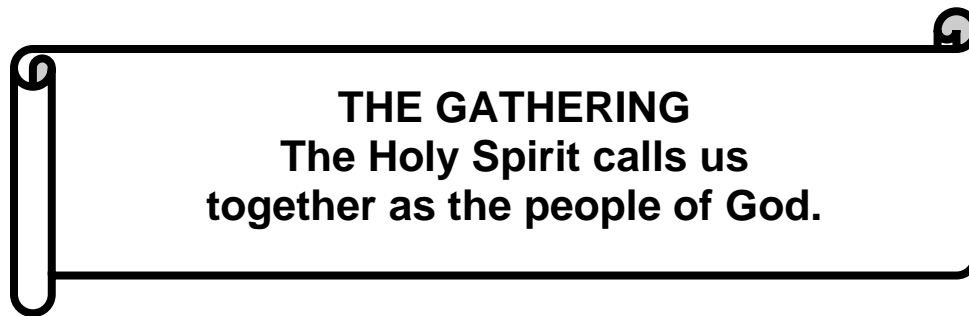
Our on-line attendance has remained steady at around 108 per Sunday. Others worship with us by listening to the radio broadcast on Sunday evening.



INTRODUCTION

Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.

Weather permitting, we gather in the courtyard.



THE BLOWING OF THE SHOFAR

Todd Holly

The shofar, or ram's horn, is one of the earliest instruments used in Jewish music, remaining unchanged for 5,000 years. It was used to announce the beginning of the Sabbath, warn of approaching danger, and proclaim the death of an important leader. In its ritual usage it carried the cries of the multitude to God at the beginning of a great assembly or parade or worship event. It is still traditionally blown on Rosh Hashana (Jewish New Year) and Yom Kippur (Jewish day of repentance). See Leviticus 25.

The presiding minister begins....

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Luke 19:28-40

The holy gospel according to Luke.
Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁸After he had said this, Jesus went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.
²⁹When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” ³²So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴They said, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸saying, “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!” ³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” ⁴⁰He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

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

THE BLESSING OF PALMS

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept.

We praise You, O God,
for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ.
Today he entered the holy city in triumph
**and was proclaimed Messiah and King by those who spread
garments and branches along his way.**

Please raise your branches.

Bless these branches and those who carry them.
**Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that,
joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with You;
through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

THE PROCESSION OF THE PALMS

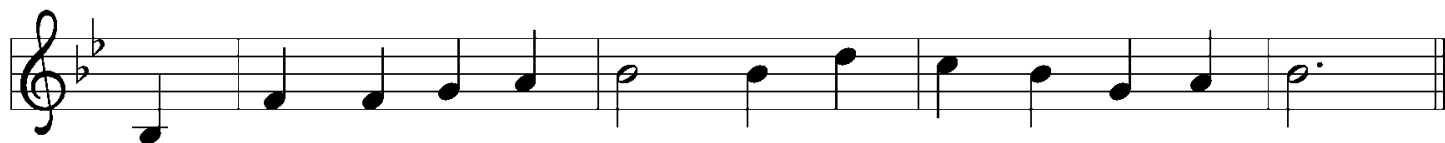
Let us go forth in peace,
in the name of Christ. Amen.

The people follow the cross and the pastor to the altar as we sing...

Refrain



All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re - deem - er, king,



to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.



- 1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
- 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
- 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
- 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
- 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain



now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless - ed One.
 cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
 To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
 great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

After all are in their places....

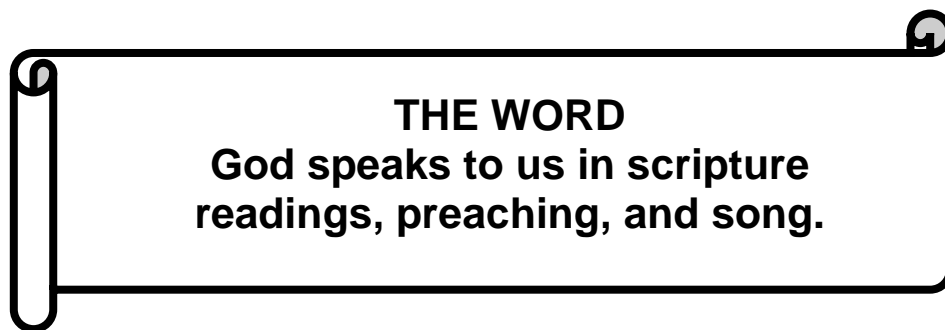
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Please be seated.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray.

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race You sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**A READING FROM THE BOOK OF
THE PROPHET ISAIAH****50:4-9a**

Reader: Gary Kopitzke

⁴The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore, I have not been disgraced; therefore, I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 31:9-16

Cantor: Al Wright

⁹Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I ^l am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat ^l and my belly.

**¹⁰For my life is wasted with grief, and my ^l years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones ^l are
consumed.**

¹¹I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a
dismay to ^l my acquaintances;
when they see me in the street ^l they avoid me.

**¹²Like the dead I am forgotten, ^l out of mind;
I am as useless as a ^l broken pot.**

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is ^l all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to ^l take my life.

**¹⁴But as for me, I have trusted in ^l you, O LORD.
I have said, “You ^l are my God.**

¹⁵My times are ^l in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who ^l
persecute me.

**¹⁶Let your face shine up- ^l on your servant;
save me in your ^l steadfast love.”**

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS

2:5-11

Reader: Gary Kopitzke

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lenten Refrain

Return to the Lord



S 151b

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,

slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Please be seated.

DRAMATIZATION OF LUKE 22 & 23

See insert for hymns

The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise be to God!

HYMN

O God of Every Nation

713



1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,
2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease
4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,



re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
when hope and cour - age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,



in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Sit or stand as you desire.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

After each petition: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **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.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, **You bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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. 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:

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.

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

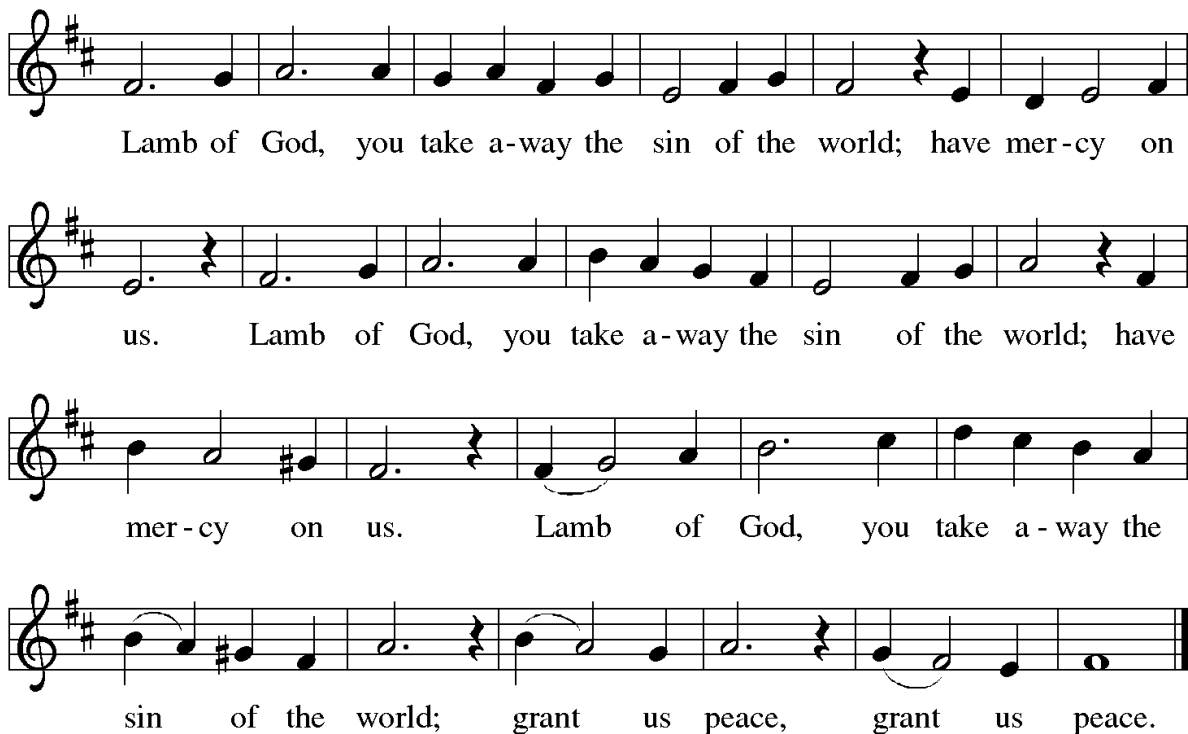
those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Return to God with all your heart.

Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

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.

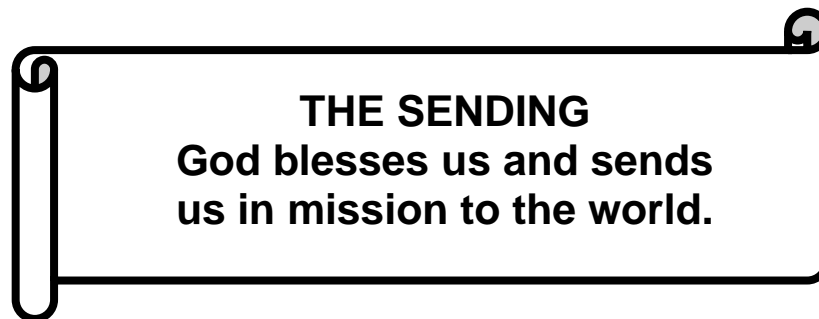
TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Compassionate God, **You have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**



BLESSING

You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ✝ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

351

1 O sa - cred head, now wound - ed, with grief and shame weighed down,
 2 How pale thou art with an - guish, with sore a - buse and scorn;
 3 What lan - guage shall I bor - row to thank thee, dear - est friend,
 4 Lord, be my con - so - la - tion; shield me when I must die;

now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed with thorns, thine on - ly crown;
 how does thy face now lan - guish, which once was bright as morn!
 for this thy dy - ing sor - row, thy pit - y with - out end?
 re - mind me of thy pas - sion when my last hour draws nigh.

O sa - cred head, what glo - ry, what bliss till now was thine!
 Thy grief and bit - ter pas - sion were all for sin - ners' gain;
 Oh, make me thine for - ev - er, and should I faint - ing be,
 These eyes, new faith re - ceiv - ing, from thee shall nev - er move;

Yet, though de - spised and gor - y, I joy to call thee mine.
 mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, but thine the dead - ly pain.
 Lord, let me nev - er, nev - er out - live my love to thee.
 for all who die be - liev - ing die safe - ly in thy love.

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! Remember the poor! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

Larry Shackley

✙ ✙ ✙ ✙

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:19-26	Luke 24:1-12

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Holy (Maundy) Thursday - April 14, 6:00PM

Stations of the Cross
April 15, 3:00PM – 6:00PM

Good Friday Tenebrae Service
April 15, 6:00PM

Easter Sunday Eucharistic Celebration
April 17, 9:30AM

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

Tracy Baker, Blackwell family, Bob Bohn, Linda Borowski's son and family, Linda Borowski's daughter and family, Kim Bozzuto, Iris Brunner, Elliott Burger, Debbie Christian, Joyce Colombo, Woody and Joan Cornetta, Denise Crawford, Judy Dietz, Bill Fasulo, Randy Feuerstein, Irene Froehlich, Geiser family, Irene and Larry Gilbert, Addy Hackl, Donald Haig, Irma Haig, Gary and Mary Heinecke, Kay Hill, Karen Hoffman, Barbara Hofving, Brian Johnson, June Johnston, Alfred Korndoerfer, Shane Kelsey, Buddy Kristoferson, Lofgren family, Carl Lundh, Gail MacConnell, Germaine Major, Joanne Manos, Elaine Malone, Pat Manson, Raina McDannold, Mary McDowall, Rich Miller, Rick and Sue Mom, Mark and Wayne Musarra, Susan Nordstrom, Oliver family, Sheryl O'Conner, Jack Page, Harold Salmon, Peggy Sanders, Ginny Saunders, TC Shuttler, Linda Silva, Karen Simons, Mary Smith, Snow family, Marge Spina, Barbara Strohl, Carolyn Torres, Paul Umbaugh, Jeanette Vandermark, Sylvia Vega, Carsyn Volpe, Kassi Warner, Terry Watterson, West family, Janet Wilkens, Christopher Younger, Diane Zabel, Roger & Jane Zimany, Laoretta 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, 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.



Presiding Minister	Reverend Giuseppe Mattei
Assisting Minister	Deacon Clyde Rosten
Scripture Reader	Gary Kopitzke
Cantor	Al Wright
Music Director	Donna Olsen
Bell Choir Directors	Janet & Todd Holly
Altar Guild	Gayle Howland & Pat Squires
Sanctuary	Beryl Clements
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)	
Head counter this week	Jean Drach

Dramatization Readers – Luke 22 & 23

Pastor Mattei
Deacon Clyde Rosten
Gary Kopitzke

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**

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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.