



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

*Sunday, June 26, 2022  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*



# NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, June 26, 2022

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

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.nlcwww.org](http://www.nlcwww.org).

**In-person attendance for last Sunday: 114**

**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

We have no good apart from God. That makes Jesus' call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, and patience. This is freedom to not be imprisoned by anything that would keep us from the fullness of the life God has given us. This is the path of life.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHIMES**

Indicates the start of worship.

**PRELUDE**

*Heavenly Sunlight*

Cook/Shackley



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

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Throughout the ages, disciples have said,  
“I will follow You wherever You go.”

**Lord, give us the freedom to follow You in the ways of love.**

We come from busy homes, filled with little time to consider Christ in our lives.

**Lord, give us the strength to follow You in the ways of peace.**

In times of struggle, we look to God for help.

**Lord, give us the opportunity to follow You in the ways of kindness.**

We celebrate the Holy Spirit, who shows us the joy of following God.

**Lord, give us the patience to follow You in the ways of faith.**

**Amen.**

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

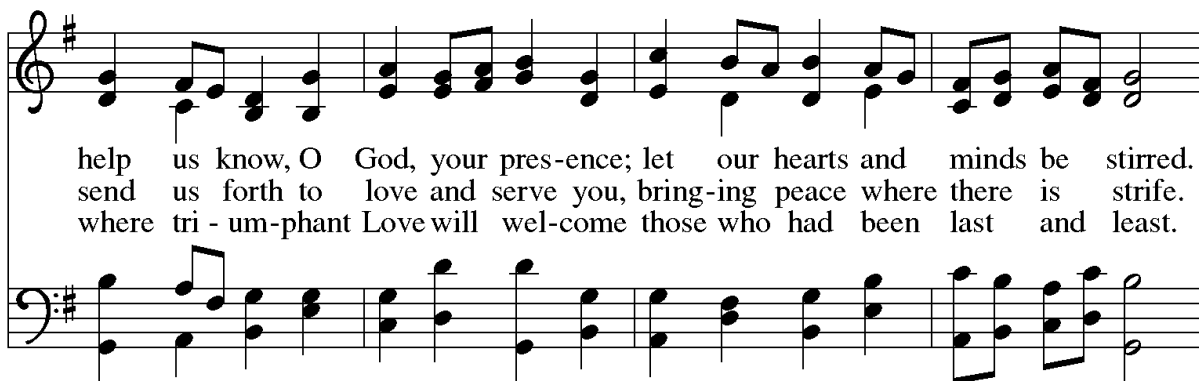
**GATHERING HYMN**

*As We Gather at Your Table*

522



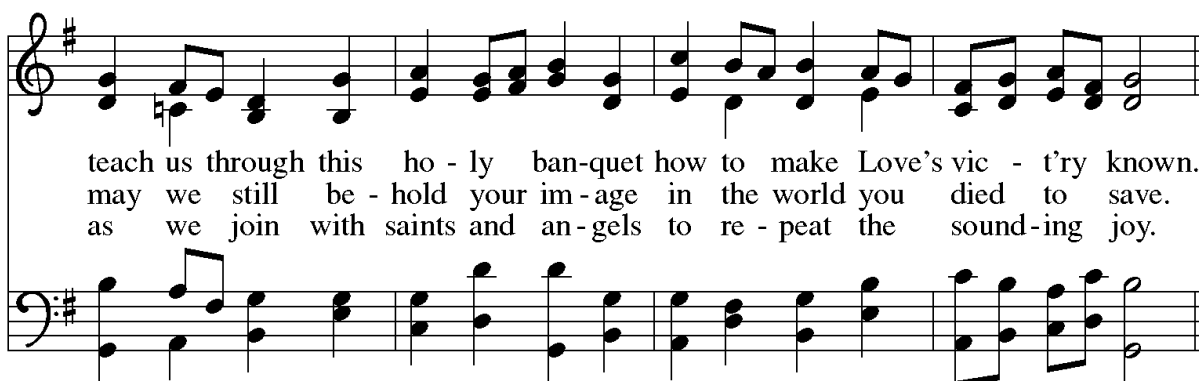
1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
 There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
 may we still be - hold your im-age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

## GREETING

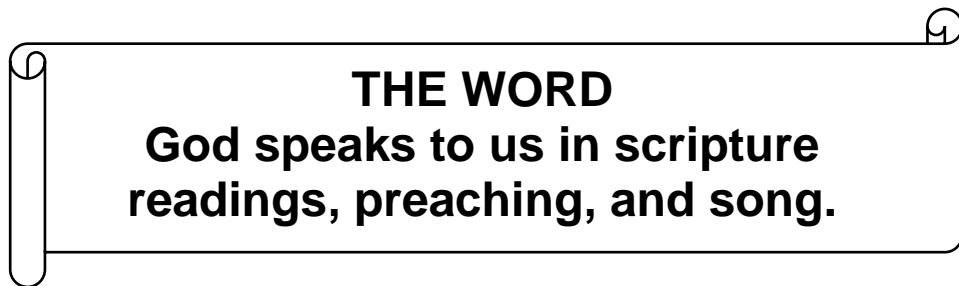
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, Ruler of all hearts, You call us to obey You, and You favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*



## SPECIAL MUSIC

*I Will Be Christ To You*

Marty Parks

Soloist: June Heinecke

## A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE GALATIANS

**5:1, 13-25**

Reader: Kim Mehan-Conklin

<sup>1</sup>For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. <sup>13</sup>For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another.

<sup>14</sup>For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup>If, however, you bite and devour one

another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. <sup>16</sup>Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup>For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. <sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. <sup>19</sup>Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, <sup>20</sup>idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup>envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>22</sup>By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. <sup>24</sup>And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup>If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

**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

LUKE 9:51-62

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>51</sup>When the days drew near for Jesus to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup>And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; <sup>53</sup>but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup>When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" <sup>55</sup>But he turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup>Then they went on to another village. <sup>57</sup>As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." <sup>58</sup>And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." <sup>59</sup>To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." <sup>60</sup>But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." <sup>61</sup>Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." <sup>62</sup>Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

*Please stand as you are able.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*A moment of silence for reflection.*

Merciful God, **we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.**

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

(see insert)

Rick Behan & Mae Haines


*Please stand as you are able.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

798

vv. 1,2 & 5




1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.

*Remain standing or sit as you desire.*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

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

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping. **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.nlcww.org>, or on our Facebook page.*

*Assisting Minister unveils the chalice and paten.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance: **You have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

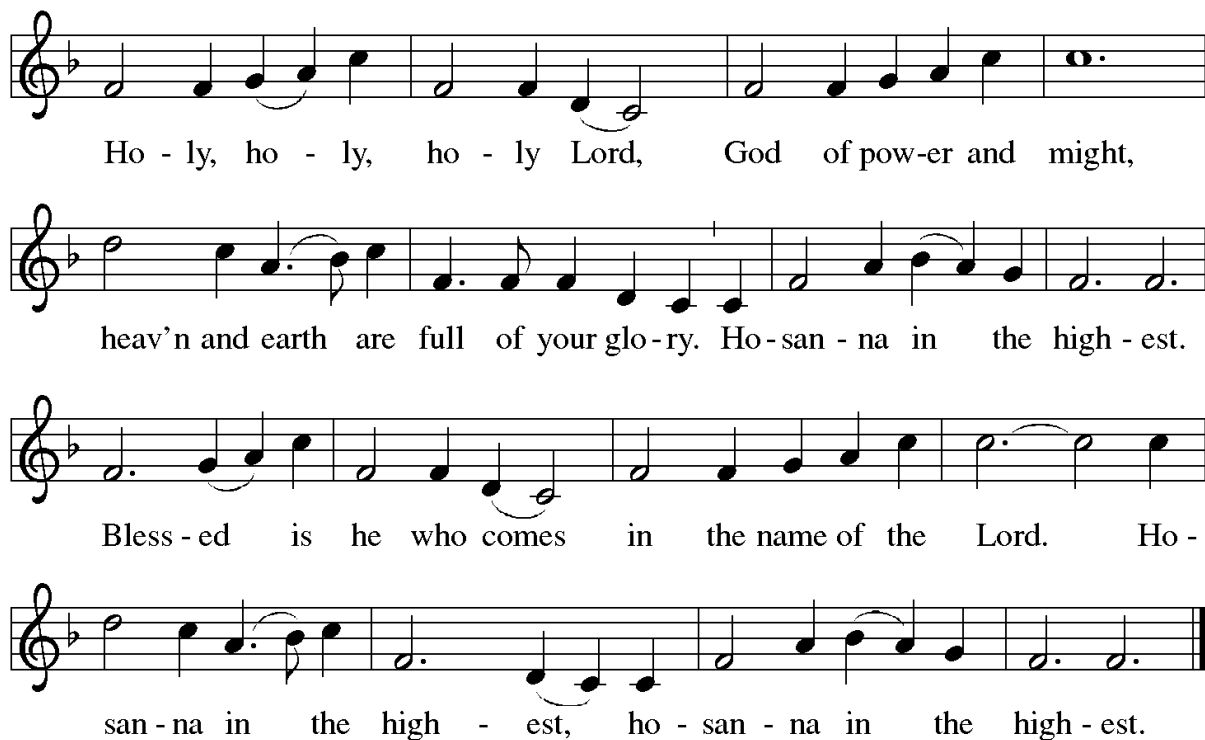
## GREAT THANKSGIVING

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, You have brought us this far along the way.

**In times of bitterness You did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light.**

In every age You sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity.

**The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.**

In the fullness of time, You sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen. **Amen.**

Send your Holy Spirit, our Advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen. **Amen.**

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray the prayer Christ himself taught us:

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

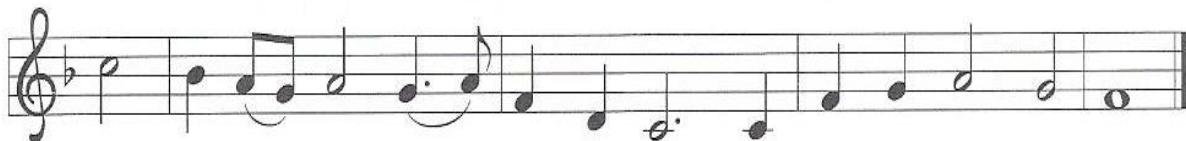
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### *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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet!

## COMMUNION HYMNS

810, 697, 881, 870, 826

*Please follow the instructions of the ushers as you come forward.*

*Please let an usher know if you cannot come to the altar to receive communion.  
We will have communion brought to you.*

*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.

Life-giving God, **through this meal You have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**



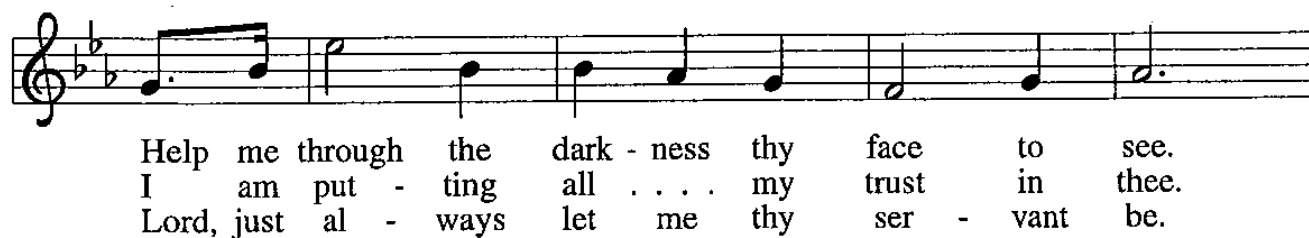
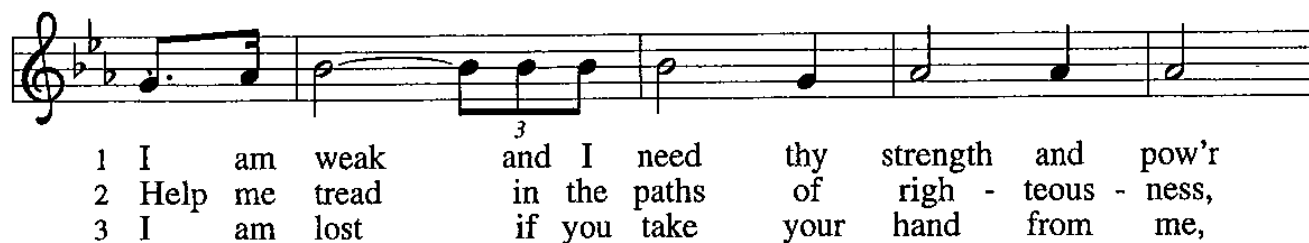
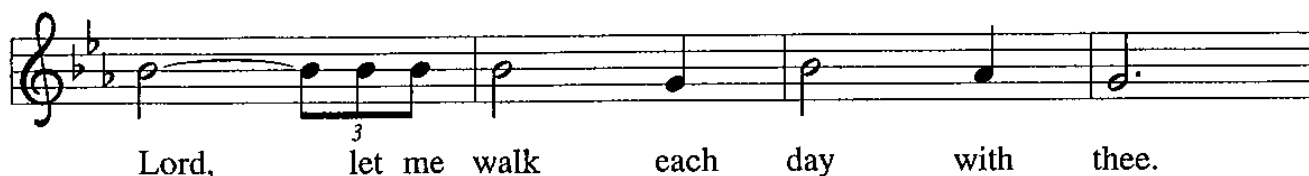
## **BLESSING**

The God of peace, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. **Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

*Lead Me, Guide Me*

768



## SENDING

People of Nativity, what is our mission?

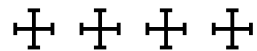
**With the birth of Jesus in our hearts we carry light and love to the world.**

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace! Love your neighbor!

**Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**      *Take The Name of Jesus With You*      Doane/Kaiser



## NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

|                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Isaiah 66:10-14  | Psalm 66:1-9        |
| Galatians 6:7-16 | Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 |

**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

Melvin Aukamp, Anne Barsumian, 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, Kat Crawford, Judy Dietz, Jessica Dome, Charlotte Downing, Irene Froehlich, Rich Geiser, Irene and Larry Gilbert, Ghita Gaudet, Darlene Gould, Addy Hackl, Donald Haig,

Irma Haig, Sara Hanneman and her grandchildren Joey and Jacen, Gary and Mary Heinecke, Richard and Nancy Heinecke, Marilyn Henkel, Kay Hill, Hoffman family, Brian Johnson, June Johnston, Kocovic family, Alfred Korndoerfer, Buddy Kristoferson, Edgar Lawrence, Kaitlin Lee, Lofgren family, Kathy Lowery, Carl Lundh, Gail MacConnell, Claudette Major and family, Joanne Manos, Elaine Malone, Joan Marceua, Kathleen Menzies, Glenn Meredith family, Rich and Sharelle Miller, Rick and Sue Mom, Mark and Wayne Musarra, Sheryl O'Conner, Oliver family, Jack Page, Frankie Rocco, Harold & LeMoi Salmon, Ginny Saunders, Patrice Schuttler, TC Shuttler, Linda Silva, Karen Simons, Mary Smith, Snow family, Barbara Strohl, Irmgard Timm, Paul Umbaugh, Jeanette Vandermark, Carsyn Volpe, Kassi Warner, Terry Watterson, West family, Janet Wilkens, Luke Williams, Ann Wright, Roger & Jane Zimany, Lauretta Z.

## **PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY**

Nic Baker, Brandi Culpepper, Daniel Davis, Kyle Davis USMC, Tyler A. Germann-US Air Force, Robert M. Heinecke-2nd Lt USMC, 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:*

Linda & Brian Wagner

in celebration of Brian's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, and in memory of Mildred Feeg's 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***

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|                               |                                    |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Presiding Minister</b>     | Reverend Giuseppe Mattei           |
| <b>Assisting Minister</b>     | ELCA Deacon Michelle Mehan-Conklin |
| <b>Scripture Reader</b>       | Kim Mehan-Conklin                  |
| <b>Crucifer</b>               | Claude Major                       |
| <b>Acolyte</b>                | Mark Major                         |
| <b>Usher</b>                  | Claude Major & Robert Rios         |
| <b>Music Director</b>         | Donna Olsen                        |
| <b>Bell Choir Directors</b>   | Janet & Todd Holly                 |
| <b>Altar Guild</b>            | Gayle Howland & Cheryl Wolfe       |
| <b>Sanctuary</b>              | Connie Chase                       |
| <b>Greeter</b>                | Beryl Clements                     |
| <b>AV Director</b>            | Art Alt                            |
| <b>Audio</b>                  | Guy Peeters, Tim Noe & Pat Squires |
| <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>            |                                    |
| <b>Head counter this week</b> | 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**

6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

Phone (352) 597-1456

Email: [Nativitylutheran63@gmail.com](mailto:Nativitylutheran63@gmail.com), Website: [nlcww.org](http://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.