





## Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the “Means of Grace” — God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

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January 26, 2025

*Third Sunday after Epiphany*

### Welcome

#### *Where Charity and Love Prevail*

*LSB 845*

- 1** Where charity and love prevail  
There God is ever found;  
Brought here together by Christ’s love  
By love are we thus bound.
- 2** With grateful joy and holy fear  
His charity we learn;  
Let us with heart and mind and soul  
Now love him in return.
- 3** Forgive we now each other’s faults  
As we our faults confess,  
And let us love each other well  
In Christian holiness.
- 4** Let strife among us be unknown;  
Let all contention cease;  
Be God’s the glory that we seek;  
Be ours his holy peace.
- 5** Let us recall that in our midst  
Dwells Christ, his only Son;  
As members of his body joined  
We are in him made one.
- 6** For love excludes no race or clan

**That names the Savior's name;  
His family embraces all  
Whose Father is the same.**

*Stand*

## **Invocation**

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## **Confession and Absolution**

- P** When the people of Judah returned from exile, Ezra the priest read to them from the book of the law for hours, “making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.” When the people heard the law and its explanation, they wept.
- C** **As we confess our sins before God, we too are conscious of God's commandments:**
- P** You shall have no other Gods. You shall not bear false witness. You shall not covet.
- C** **And we are conscious of their meanings:**
- P** We should fear, love, and trust God above all things. We should interpret our neighbors' actions in the best possible way. We should not try to get what belongs to others in a way that only appears right.
- C** **We are guilty of breaking your commandments in their words and in their meanings, O Lord. Have mercy upon us.**

*We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.*

- P** When God's people wept, Ezra and Nehemiah said to them, “This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn our weep...do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your

strength.” While God wants us to confess our sins, he does not mean to leave our hearts burdened. Jesus is the light of the world, and his blood sets you free from sin, guilt, and shame. In the stead and by the command of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. God gives you, his forgiven people, the gift of joy in his salvation!

**C** The joy of the Lord is our strength! Alleluia!

## *Kyrie*

*Spoken*

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

**P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

## *This is the Feast*

*LSB 155*

**C** This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of

**all creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.**

**Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **Sharing of the Peace**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** We share Christ's peace with one another.

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).*

## **Prayer of the Day**

**P** 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.

**C** **Amen.**

## **First Reading**

*Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10*

<sup>1</sup> All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel.

<sup>2</sup> So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand. <sup>3</sup> He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could

understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

<sup>5</sup> Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up.<sup>6</sup> Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, “Amen! Amen!” Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

<sup>8</sup> They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read.

<sup>9</sup> Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and teacher of the Law, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, “This day is holy to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep.” For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

<sup>10</sup> Nehemiah said, “Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is holy to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

*1 Corinthians 12:12-31a*

<sup>12</sup> Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. <sup>14</sup> Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

<sup>15</sup> Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. <sup>19</sup> If they were all one part, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

<sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!” <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, <sup>24</sup> while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, <sup>25</sup> so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. <sup>26</sup> If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. <sup>28</sup> And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup> Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31</sup> Now eagerly desire the greater gifts. And yet I will show you the most excellent way.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia and Verse

**C** Alleluia.

**Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 4:14-21*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>14</sup> Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. <sup>15</sup> He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

<sup>16</sup> He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He

stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

<sup>18</sup> “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,

because he has anointed me

to proclaim good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners

and recovery of sight for the blind,

to set the oppressed free,

<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

<sup>20</sup> Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him.

<sup>21</sup> He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

***We All Are One in Mission***

*ELW 576 (tune LSB 893)*

- 1 We all are one in mission;  
We all are one in call,  
Our varied gifts united by Christ,  
The Lord of all.  
A single great commission  
Compels us from above  
To plan and work together  
That all may know Christ’s love.**
- 2 We all are called for service;  
To witness in God’s name.  
Our ministries are different,  
Our purpose is the same:  
To touch the lives of others  
With God’s surprising grace,  
So ev’ry folk and nation  
May feel God’s warm embrace.**
- 3 Now let us be united,  
And let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel**

**For God's redeeming Word.  
We all are one in mission;  
We all are one in call,  
Our varied gifts united  
By Christ, the Lord of all.**

## **Homily**

### **Nicene Creed**

**☩ I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of his Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from  
heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day he rose again according to the  
Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And he will come again with glory to judge both the  
living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,**

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped  
and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayers of the Church

### Presentation of the Offering

*Please sign the Friendship Register located on each pew and pass it to others seated with you so that we may have a record of all those who are worshipping and receiving communion with us today.*  
*Stand*

### Preface

*spoken*

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give him thanks and praise**

### Sanctus

*LSB 161*

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### Lord's Prayer

### The Words of Our Lord

### Agnus Dei

*LSB 163*

- C** **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have**

**mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

## **Distribution**

*We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith.*

*If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit.*

## **Bell Choir**

### ***Hail to the Lord's Anointed***

*LSB 398 (tune 660)*

- 1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,  
Great David's greater Son!  
Hail, in the time appointed,  
His reign on earth begun!  
He comes to break oppression,  
To set the captive free,  
To take away transgression  
And rule in equity.**
- 2 He comes with rescue speedy  
To those who suffer wrong,  
To help the poor and needy  
And bid the weak be strong;  
To give them songs for sighing,  
Their darkness turn to light,  
Whose souls, condemned and dying,  
Were precious in his sight.**

**3** He shall come down like showers  
Upon the fruitful earth;  
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,  
Spring in his path to birth.  
Before him on the mountains  
Shall peace, the herald, go;  
And righteousness in fountains  
From hill to valley flow.

**4** Kings shall fall down before him  
And gold and incense bring;  
All nations shall adore him,  
His praise all people sing.  
To him shall prayer unceasing  
And daily vows ascend;  
His kingdom still increasing,  
A kingdom without end.

**5** O'er ev'ry foe victorious,  
He on his throne shall rest,  
From age to age more glorious,  
All blessing and all-blest.  
The tide of time shall never  
His covenant remove;  
His name shall stand forever—  
That name to us is Love.

*Church of God, Elect and Glorious*

*LSB 646 (tune 700)*

**1** Church of God, elect and glorious,  
Holy nation, chosen race;  
Called as God's own special people,  
Royal priests and heirs of grace:  
Know the purpose of your calling,  
Show to all his mighty deeds;  
Tell of love that knows no limits,  
Grace that meets all human needs.

- 2** God has called you out of darkness  
Into his most marv'ulous light;  
Brought his truth to life within you,  
Turned your blindness into sight.  
Let your light so shine around you  
That God's name is glorified  
And all find fresh hope and purpose  
In Christ Jesus crucified.
- 3** Once you were an alien people,  
Strangers to God's heart of love;  
But he brought you home in mercy,  
Citizens of heav'n above.  
Let His love flow out to others,  
Let them feel a Father's care;  
That they too may know his welcome  
And his countless blessings share.
- 4** Church of God, elect and holy,  
Be the people he intends;  
Strong in faith and swift to answer  
Each command your Master sends:  
Royal priests, fulfill your calling  
Through your sacrifice and prayer;  
Give your lives in joyful service—  
Sing his praise, his love declare.

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

*LSB 643*

- 1** Sent forth by God's blessing,  
Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from his dwelling take leave.  
The Supper is ended.  
O now be extended  
The fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of his teaching,  
Receptive souls reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
His grace did invite us,

His love shall unite us  
To work for God's kingdom and answer his call.

- 2 With praise and thanksgiving  
To God ever-living,  
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing,  
In love ever caring,  
Embracing his children of each tribe and race.  
With your feast you feed us,  
With your light now lead us;  
Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living  
With praise and thanksgiving  
Give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

## Dismissal

## Benediction

*LSB 166*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- G** Amen.

## *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

*LSB 975*

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.
- 2 Before our Father's throne  
We pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
Our comforts and our cares.
- 3 We share our mutual woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.

- 4 **When here our pathways part,  
We suffer bitter pain;  
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart,  
We hope to meet again.**
- 5 **From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
And sin we shall be free  
And perfect love and friendship reign  
Through all eternity.**

## **Announcements**

### **Sending**

- P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**G** Thanks be to God!

# Serving in worship today

January 26, 2025

## **Pastor**

Jason Neel

## **Acolyte**

Eli Neel

## **Usher**

Sue Anderson

## **Elders**

Phil Marquardt

Eric Skogerboe

## **Reader**

Robert Pajak

## **In our prayers**

**Celebrating Birthdays:** Doug Degler 1/26, Lincoln Bryan 1/27, Adam Garland 1/28, and Spencer Anderson 2/1.

**Celebrating Baptisms:** Autumn Parson 1/26, Chris Elhardt 1/29, Eden Miller 2/1, and Phil Hagel 2/1.

**Praying for:** Aaralyn Skogerboe, Sandy Elhardt

## **This Week at a Glance**

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
	6:00 p.m.	NYG Youth Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
Monday	7:00 p.m.	Book Club
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Stewardship Board
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
	7:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
	11:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study

## Notes of Information

**2024 Giving Summaries:** Please check your mailbox in the Narthex for your 2024 giving statements.

**Newsletter:** We are working on a newsletter, if you have items that you would like to have included (especially if you are a part of a specific ministry) please get it to Laura at Secretary@soclc.org by Wednesday January 29<sup>th</sup>. If you have questions, please see Laura.

**LWML Byte:** A Legacy of Love for Special Needs Children Lutheran Special Education Ministries | \$100,000

A "Legacy of Love for Special Needs Education" \$100,000 grant will support Lutheran Special Education Ministry (LSEM) in the expansion of their services for special needs children in Lutheran schools and churches. It will help LSEM develop new resources to serve future needs and ensure their ministry is continually helpful and effective. To learn more, visit [www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-23](http://www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-23) The mite box is available in the narthex.

**Book Club:** Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet in the fellowship hall at 7 p.m. Dates and books are:

January 27 – The Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance

February 24 – All the Little Hopes by Leah Weiss

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager

**Upcoming Book Study:** In February, Pastor Jason will be hosting a 3-week study of C.S. Lewis' *The Great Divorce*, a fictional account of Lewis finding himself in Hell boarding a bus bound for Heaven. This is the starting point for an extraordinary meditation upon good and evil, grace and judgement.

Copies of the book are available in the church office. The cost for the book is \$8. You may choose either Monday nights (Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>) from 6 pm to 7 pm or Wednesday mornings (Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>) from 11 am to 12pm. Session 1 will cover chapters 1-6 (pages 1-50), Session 2 will cover chapters 7-10 (pages 51-96), and Session 3 will cover chapters 11-14 (pages 97-

146).

**Evangelism Book Study:** Mark your calendars for our upcoming book study of *Meaningful Outreach an Essential Guide for Churches* by Mark A. Wood. Sessions will be held on Saturday, February 8, and Saturday, March 1 at 10:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Copies are available in the church office.

**Stewardship Note:** “You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you.”

**NACE:** North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf is currently in need of boxed sides, including stuffing, pasta and potatoes. They are no longer taking summer clothing items but are looking for new socks and underwear in all sizes and gently used fall/winter children’s clothing. Thank you for your donations. For more information, reach out to Toni Peterson.

Average Weekly Offering	\$3862
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$7271

### Next Week’s Readings

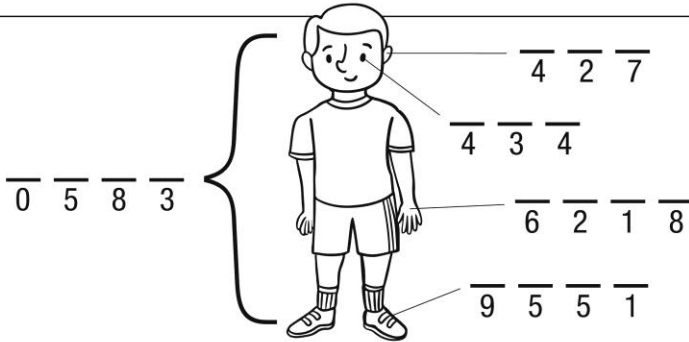
**Jeremiah 1:4-10, 1 Corinthians 13:1-13, and Luke 4:21-30**



# WORKING IN UNISON

Just as body parts work in unison, the church – the body of Christ – is to work together for God’s purposes.

*Directions: Fill in the letters for each body part. Add up each part's number total, and use those totals to complete the Bible passage.*



Now if the           <sup>20</sup> should say, “Because I am not a           <sup>17</sup>, I do not belong to the           <sup>16</sup>,” ... And if the       <sup>13</sup> should say, “Because I am not an           <sup>11</sup>, I do not belong to the           <sup>16</sup>,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the           <sup>16</sup>. If the whole           <sup>16</sup> were an           <sup>11</sup>, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole           <sup>16</sup> were an           <sup>13</sup>, where would the sense of smell be? ... As it is, there are many parts, but one           <sup>16</sup>.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:15-17, 20, NIV



**SPIRIT of CHRIST**  
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
[www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org](http://www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org)

Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another, reaching out to all people,  
proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

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Ministers:	All Members
Music Director John Peterson:	<a href="mailto:carsinger@aol.com">carsinger@aol.com</a>
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