



# 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 25, 2026

*Third Sunday in Epiphany*

## Welcome

### *O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth*

*LSB 834*

**1 O God, O Lord of heav’n and earth,**

*(tune 538)*

**Thy living finger never wrote**

**That life should be an aimless mote,**

**A deathward drift from futile birth.**

**Thy Word meant life triumphant hurled**

**In splendor through Thy broken world.**

**Since light awoke and life began,**

**Thou hast desired Thy life for man.**

**2 Our fatal will to equal Thee,**

**Our rebel will wrought death and night.**

**We seized and used in prideful spite**

**Thy wondrous gift of liberty.**

**We housed us in this house of doom,**

**Where death had royal scope and room,**

**Until Thy servant, Prince of Peace,**

**Breached all its walls for our release.**

**3 Thou camest to our hall of death,**

**O Christ, to breathe our poisoned air,**

**To drink for us the dark despair**

**That strangled our reluctant breath.**

**How beautiful the feet that trod**

**The road that leads us back to God!**

**How beautiful the feet that ran**

**To bring the great good news to man!**

**4 O Spirit, who didst once restore  
Thy Church that it might be again  
The bringer of good news to men,  
Breathe on Thy cloven Church once more,  
That in these gray and latter days  
There may be those whose life is praise,  
Each life a high doxology  
To Father, Son, and unto Thee.**

*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** The people living in darkness have seen a great light;

**C** **On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.**

**P** Jesus calls us to repent, turning from the darkness of our lives.

**C** **His voice calls us to follow him and he leads us into the light of life.**

**P** Lord, forgive us for the dark paths we have walked.

**C** **Drive us from the shadows, and make a new day dawn in us.**

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

**P** Jesus promises that he has already won forgiveness for us and rescued us from the darkness. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Now he prepares us to share this good news with everyone God places in our path. He wants them to know that the darkness will not separate them from God. Jesus comes near through you, for all to know the joy he brings.

**C** **Lord, let your light shine through our witness. Amen!**

## **Kyrie** *Spoken*

LSB 168

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

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**A** 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.**

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

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C** **Amen.**

## ***This is the Feast***

LSB 171

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

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

**Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His.**

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

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

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

**This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.**

**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).8*

## First Reading

*Isaiah 9:1-4*

Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

<sup>2</sup> The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.

<sup>3</sup> You have enlarged the nation  
and increased their joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as people rejoice at the harvest,  
as warriors rejoice  
when dividing the plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For as in the day of Midian's defeat,  
you have shattered  
the yoke that burdens them,  
the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

*1 Corinthians 1:10-18*

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. <sup>11</sup> My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ."

<sup>13</sup> Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize, but

to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

*LSB 173*

**C** Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 4:12-25*

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

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

When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in

Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali— <sup>14</sup> to fulfill what was said through the prophet Isaiah:

<sup>15</sup> “Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,  
the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan,  
Galilee of the Gentiles—

<sup>16</sup> the people living in darkness

have seen a great light;

on those living in the land of the shadow of death

a light has dawned.”<sup>17</sup> From that time on Jesus began to

preach, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

<sup>18</sup> As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup> “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” <sup>20</sup> At once they left their nets and followed him.

<sup>21</sup> Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, <sup>22</sup> and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. <sup>24</sup> News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who

were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them. 25 Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him.

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

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

*Sit*

### *In Christ There Is No East or West*

*LSB 653*

- 1 In Christ there is no east or west,  
In Him no south or north,  
But one great fellowship of love  
Throughout the whole wide earth.
- 2 With God there is no tribe or race;  
In Him we all are one.  
He loves us as His children through  
Our faith in His dear Son.
- 3 So, brothers, sisters, praise His name  
Who died to set us free  
From sin, division, hate, and shame,  
From spite and enmity!
- 4 Join hands, disciples of the faith,  
Whate'er your race may be;  
Who serves my Father as His child  
Is surely kin to me.
- 5 In Christ now meet both east and west;  
In Him meet south and north.  
All Christian souls are one in Him  
Throughout the whole wide earth.

## **Homily**

*Stand*

### **Nicene Creed**

- C** 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.

*Sit*

## **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 worshiping 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 178*

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

## **Lord's Prayer**

## **Words Of Our Lord**

*Sit*

## **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.*

*Stand*

## **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.**

***O Christ, Who Called the Twelve***

*LSB 856*

**1 O Christ, who called the Twelve  
To rise and follow You,  
Forsaking old, familiar ways  
For ventures bold and new:  
Grant us to hear Your call  
To risk security  
And, bound in heart and will to You,  
Find perfect liberty.**

**2 O Christ, who taught the Twelve  
The truth for ages sealed,  
Whose words and works awakened faith,  
The ways of God revealed:  
Instruct us now, we pray,  
By Your empow'ring Word.  
True teacher, be for all who seek  
Their light, their life, their Lord.**

- 3 O Christ, who led the Twelve  
Among the desolate  
And broke as bread of life for all  
Your love compassionate:  
Lead us along the ways  
Where hope has nearly died  
And help us climb the lonely hills  
Where love is crucified.
- 4 O Christ, who sent the Twelve  
On roads they'd never trod  
To serve, to suffer, teach, proclaim  
The nearer reign of God:  
Send us on ways where faith  
Transcends timidity,  
Where love informs and hope sustains  
Both life and ministry.
- 5 O Christ, the \_apostles' Lord,  
The martyrs' strength and song,  
The crucified and risen King  
To whom the saints belong:  
Though generations pass,  
Our tribute still we bring,  
Our hymns a sacrifice of praise,  
Our lives an offering.

*Come unto Me, Ye Weary*

*LSB 684*

- 1 "Come unto Me, ye weary,  
And I will give you rest."  
O blessèd voice of Jesus,  
Which comes to hearts oppressed!  
It tells of benediction,  
Of pardon, grace, and peace,  
Of joy that hath no ending,  
Of love that cannot cease.
- 2 "Come unto Me, ye wand'ers,  
And I will give you light."  
O loving voice of Jesus,  
Which comes to cheer the night!

Our hearts were filled with sadness,  
And we had lost our way;  
But Thou hast brought us gladness  
And songs at break of day.

3 “Come unto Me, ye fainting,  
And I will give you life.”  
O cheering voice of Jesus,  
Which comes to aid our strife!  
The foe is stern and eager,  
The fight is fierce and long;  
But Thou hast made us mighty  
And stronger than the strong.

4 “And whosoever cometh,  
I will not cast him out.”  
O patient love of Jesus,  
Which drives away our doubt,  
Which, though we be unworthy  
Of love so great and free,  
Invites us very sinners  
To come, dear Lord, to Thee!

*The People That in Darkness Sat*

*LSB 412*

1 The people that in darkness sat  
A glorious light have seen;  
The light has shined on them who long  
In shades of death have been,  
In shades of death have been.

2 To hail thee, Sun of Righteousness,  
The gath'ring nations come;  
They joy as when the reapers bear  
Their harvest treasures home,  
Their harvest treasures home.

3 To us a Child of hope is born,  
To us a Son is giv'n,  
And on his shoulder ever rests  
All pow'r in earth and heav'n,  
All pow'r in earth and heav'n.

- 4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace,  
The Everlasting Lord,  
The Wonderful, the Counselor,  
The God by all adored,  
The God by all adored.
- 5 His righteous government and pow'r  
Shall over all extend;  
On judgment and on justice based,  
His reign shall have no end,  
His reign shall have no end.
- 6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,  
And make us thine alone,  
Who with the Father ever art  
And Holy Spirit, one,  
And Holy Spirit, one.

## Dismissal

*Stand*

## Benediction

**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.

**C** Amen.

## *Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

*LSB 398*

- 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.**

## **Announcements**

### **Sending**

**P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

# Serving in Worship This Morning

January 25, 2026

**Pastor:**

Jason Neel

**Elder:**

Chuck Johnson  
Kevin Zimmerman

**Reader:**

Peggy Peterson

**Usher:**

Sue Anderson

**Organist:**

Karine Platt

**Acolyte:**

Evan Baker

**Greeter:**

Carl Schwanbeck

**In our prayers**

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

**Celebrating Baptismal Birthdays:** Autumn Parson 1/26, and Christopher Elhardt 1/27.

## **This week at a Glance:**

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
Monday	6:00 p.m.	Faith Class
	7:00 p.m.	Book Club
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Stewardship Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Faith Class
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Saturday	7:00 a.m.	Small Group Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	Women's Retreat
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
	6:00 p.m.	Faith Class

## **Notes of Information:**

**Nursery Coordinator:** Looking for someone from the congregation who would be interested in being the Nursery Coordinator. If interested, please see Leslie Kuntz or call her @ 763-592-9206

### **Stewardship Messages:**

*"If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditure excludes them."*

*(C.S. Lewis)*

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

January 26 - The Women by Kristin Hannah

February 23 - James by Percival Everett

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager.

**Prayer Opportunity:** An Elder will be available weekly at the end of service at the Communion Rail for personal prayer support. If privacy is requested that it will be accommodated.

**NACE:** At this time NACE is taking winter clothes. Food needs are canned Fruit, Sides and Peanut Butter. For more information, reach out to Toni Peterson.

**Carl’s Movie Minute:**

**Still Hope** limited showing 2/5-9 AMC Mounds View, Coon Rapids, Emagine White Bear. A young girl is ripped from a loving family forced in sex trafficking...after years trapped, she escapes and returns to her loving family hoping for freedom and hope for a new future; but first she must fight for her normalcy after years. Based on true stories and illustrating the courage it takes to regain a ‘normal’ life. This a very soberly and intense look at the reality around you today, a reality that isn’t evident enough. Not for children, possibly late teens and adults.

**Solo Mio** extended run from 2/5-19 E. Bethel and White Bear Emagine, AMC Coon Rapids....a romcom, certainly a strong contrast from Still Hope. Kevin James plays an awkward shy gentleman who is getting married in Italy, destination wedding, but is left at the altar, NOW what does he do.....a prominent role for Jesus in this one....likely safe for the whole family.

**The Apocalypse of St. John.** Feb 15-17 Emagine White Bear: A Spanish production with English subtitles, a documentary interruption on John’s vision in Revelation

**I Can Only Imagine 2.** The sequel of I Can Only Imagine; the continued story of Bart Millard and Mercy Me. Success doesn’t mean happily ever after..... Opens 2/20 check through Kingdom Stories productions or watch Emagine theaters or AMC websites for times closer to 2/20 For ages who love Mercy Me. This could be a group event if someone wants to organize it. I’ll be out of town until March 6. I’ll be seeing it in Texas...

<i>Average Weekly Offering</i>	\$6,569.00
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$6730.28

**Readings for next week:**

Micah 6:1-8, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Matthew 5:1-12

*LWML Mission Grant for January.  
Christ-Centered Hope for Cancer Patients  
2025–2027 Mission Grant 6 — \$100,000*

**Phil's Friends operates in the LWML Northern Illinois District, and the Bible verse from Matthew 25:36 is at the core of its mission. Testimonies are received every week from recipients telling how their care package and ongoing Cards of Hope strengthen, encourage, and uplift their spirits. Some recipients say they began reading the Bible for the first time and came to faith in Jesus. Phil's Friends plants Gospel seeds, reaches the spiritually lost, and rejoices over every person who will join Jesus in heaven. The LWML Mission mite box is available in the narthex. Thanks to all who are moved to contribute!**

Women of all ages are invited to join us



## WINTER RETREAT



SATURDAY JANUARY 31, 2026

10am—Noon

**ACTIVITY** lead by **Jennifer Williams PT**

### **Motion is Lotion**

Movement is essential for joint health and maintaining mobility for your day to day activities. Join in and learn a few simple, doable exercises that you can add to your daily regime. While you participate at your own level, you will gain a better understanding of the benefits beyond just range of motion.



**Mites:**  
Mites will be  
collected at this event

**Time also Include:**  
Devotions  
and  
a sub sandwich meal

Sponsored by Spirit of Christ's



Lutheran  
Women  
In Mission

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

**CRAFT:**

**We will assemble:**



**Find info at:**

<https://fbf501c3.com/crosses-for-benny-2/>

Please sign up by January 25



**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>
Office Manager Amy Fey:	<a href="mailto:secretary@soclc.org">secretary@soclc.org</a>
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