

Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

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Ministers: All God's People

Pastor: Rob Moss

LOTV Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, January 26th, 2025 Third Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome and Announcements

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

C: And also with you.

Epiphany Confession and Forgiveness

P: God of Light,

C: We have lived in darkness for too long. We have built walls of isolation so high that the sun is no longer visible. We have a fortress of protection so complete that the sun cannot penetrate. We have stumbled down dark alleys in search of real meaning. God of light and life, illuminate the rooms of our life with your light, and draw us closer to you. Forgive the sin which keeps us in our private darkness. Allow us to live in the light of your freedom and acceptance.

P: Our God is Light and life. Our God has brightened our days with hope and exposed every dark corner of our lives with grace and mercy. The Light of life is Christ Jesus, who brings the compassion of God's brightness into a dark world. In Jesus, we live in the light of our Creator and know the joy of hope and community.

C: We give thanks to God for light and new life! Amen!

Tree of Life

Gathering Song "Come and Gather Beneath the Tree of Life"

Refrain



Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of life.



Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of



life— root of wis - dom, branch of peace, fruit of



heal - ing and re - lease. Come and



gath - er be - neath the tree of life.

Verses



1. Here we raise the sav - ing cross of
2. Flow - ing from this tree of grace and
3. Come and drink the wa - ters of sal -
4. Here be - neath the branch - es of your



Je - sus, sing - ing praise to him who
pas - sion, Oh how sweet the taste, how
va - tion, come and die to sin, rise
mer - cy, we in - voke your name, re -

To Refrain



leads us on from death in - to new life.
deep and rich the well - spring of your love.
up to life with - in the Reign of God.
mem - ber how your love has set us free.

Epiphany Litany (based on Isaiah 60:1-6)

A: Arise! Shine! The light you have been waiting for is here!

C: **Darkness has been banished!**

A: God's light of hope floods the earth.

C: **God's light comes to us all.**

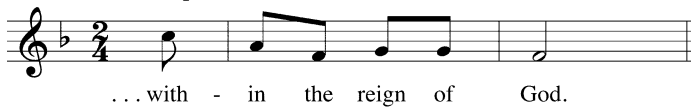
A: O, God, make us ready to journey in this Light.

C: **In this time of worship, prepare our hearts to live in your marvelous Light. Amen.**

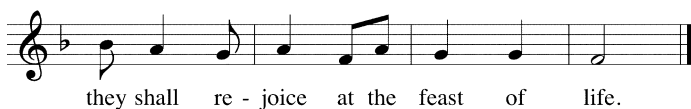
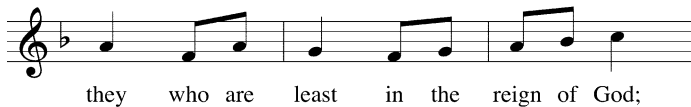
Song of Praise "Within the Reign of God"

(The congregation sings the verse response and the refrain)

Verse Response



Refrain



Verse: Come now, the feast is spread; in Jesus' name we break the bread,

Here shall we all be fed, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**

All you who seek God's face are welcome in this holy place;

Join in the feast of grace, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**

(Refrain)

Verse: Welcome the weak and poor, the sinner finds an open door,

None judged, and none ignored **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**

Here shall the weary rest, the stranger be a welcome guest.

So shall we all be blest, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**

(Refrain)

Verse: One earth, one holy band, one family as our God has planned,

All share the promised land, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**

Come now, the feast is spread, in Jesus' name we break the bread;

Here shall we all be fed, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**

(Refrain)

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray,

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

Bible Readings

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

All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen', lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'

1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Lord, to whom shall we go? For

you have the words, you have the words, the words of e -

ter - nal life, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

Luke 4: 14-21

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me

to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.'

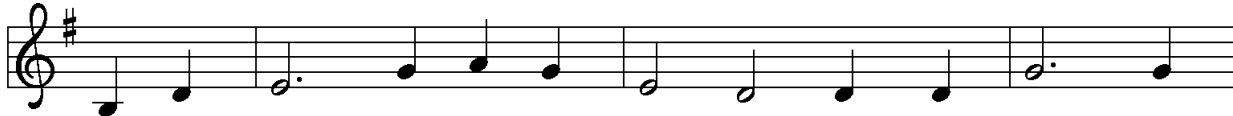
And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

Children's Message and Sunday School Dismissal

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

"Jesus, Come! For We Invite You"



1 Je - sus, come! for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,
2 Je - sus, come! trans-form our plea - sures, guide us in - to
3 Je - sus, come! in new cre - a - tion, heav'n brought near in
4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness, make us will - ing



friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,
paths un - known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser - vants,
pow'r di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,
to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,



speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or
let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may work in
chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of your dis -
all the best you have to give: let us find your hid - den



doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!


Prayers of the People

A: God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Offering

Offering Response "Come, Let us Bring"



1. Come, let us bring the warm and fra - grant bread.
2. Come, let us bring the sweet a - bun - dant wine.
3. Praise be to you who set all peo - ple free.

Come, let us bring the warm and fra - grant bread.
Come, let us bring the sweet a - bun - dant wine.
Praise be to you who set all peo - ple free.

Bro - ken here so all God's peo - ple might be fed.
In this cup we taste the joy of grace di - vine.
Blest are they who share the feast of ju - bi - lee.

Bro - ken here so all God's peo - ple might be fed.
In this cup we taste the joy of grace di - vine.
Blest are they who share the feast of ju - bi - lee.

Leader: Let us pray. Merciful God,

ALL: Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right and good...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord,
God of power and might, heav-en and earth are full of your
glo-ry. Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na, ho - san - na, ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

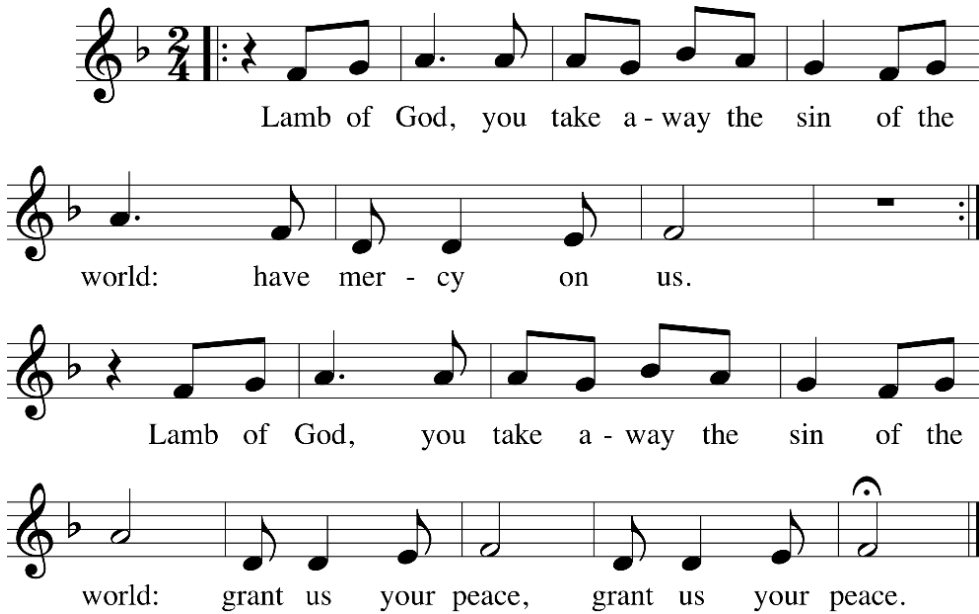
Leader: Lord, remember us in your love and teach us to pray.

ALL: 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.

Distribution of Communion

We invite all who come in faith to the Lord's Table as we celebrate Holy Communion in our worship today. For those who prefer, grape juice and gluten free wafers are available, let the server know as you approach. Those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

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: grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in his grace.

C: Amen

P: Life-giving God, in this meal you have bound us to yourself, at this table we have received the very presence of Jesus Christ. Send us now to be what we have received, that all creation might know your love and sing your praise now and always.

C: Amen

Benediction

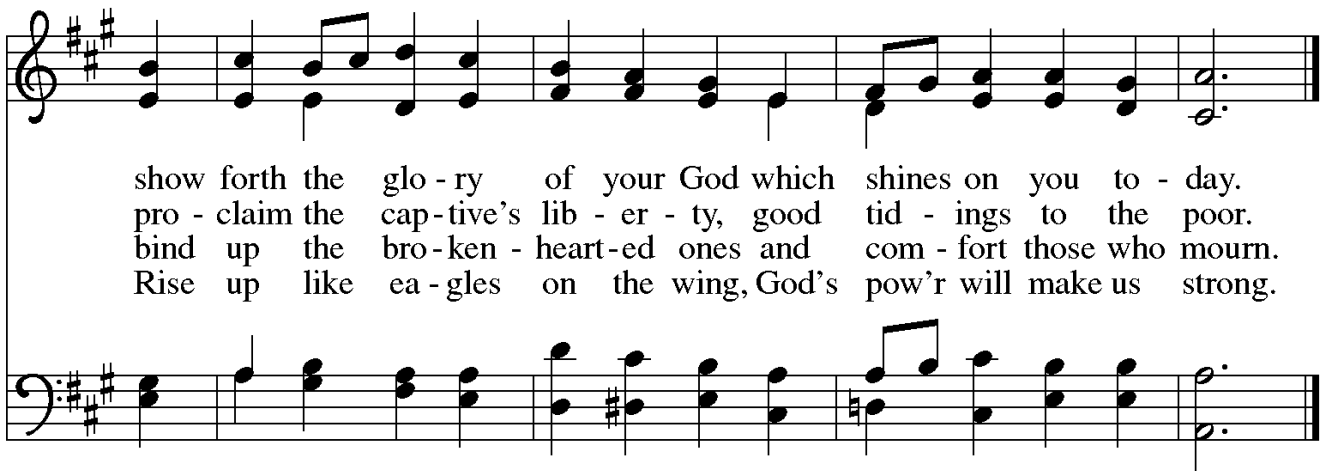
P: May the path that Christ walks:
to bring justice upon the earth,
to bring light to those who sit in darkness,
to bring out those who live in bondage,
to bring new things to all creation:
May this path run through our lives, and
May we be the road Christ takes.

Sending Song

"Arise, Your Light Has Come!"



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



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

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Shine the light of Christ in the world.

C: Thanks be to God! And we will!