

# Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

PO Box 843 Granby, CO 80446

**Ministers:** All God's People

(970)887-9252

**Pastor:** Rob Moss

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## LOTV Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, February 16, 2025 Sixth 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.**

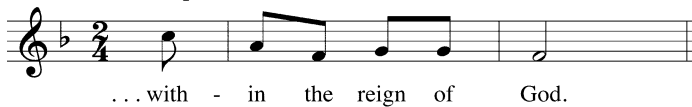
A: O, God, make us ready to journey in this Light.

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

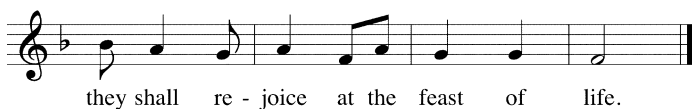
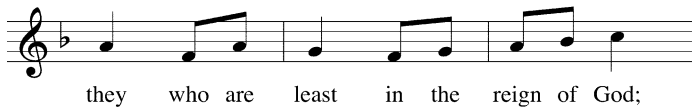
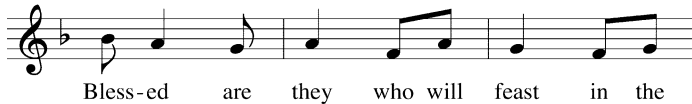
## Song of Praise "Within the Reign of God"

(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: Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Bible Readings

### Jeremiah 17: 5-10

Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals  
and make mere flesh their strength,  
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,  
whose trust is the LORD.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,  
and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else;  
it is perverse—

who can understand it?

I the LORD test the mind

and search the heart,


to give to all according to their ways,  
according to the fruit of their doings.

### 1 Corinthians 15: 12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

## 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 6: 17-26

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

'Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.

'Blessed are you who are hungry now,  
for you will be filled.

'Blessed are you who weep now,  
for you will laugh.

'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

'But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have received your consolation.

'Woe to you who are full now,  
for you will be hungry.

'Woe to you who are laughing now,  
for you will mourn and weep.

'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

# Children's Message and Sunday School Dismissal

## Sermon

### Hymn of the Day "Light Dawns on a Weary World"



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom-ised day of jus - tice comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom-ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom-ised green of E - den comes.



The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won-der ech - oes sha - lom.

## 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.

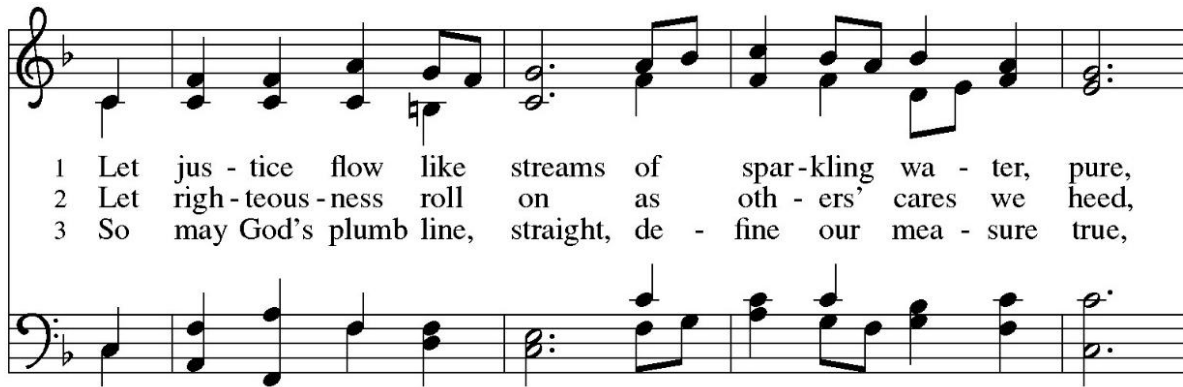
**C: Amen**

## Benediction

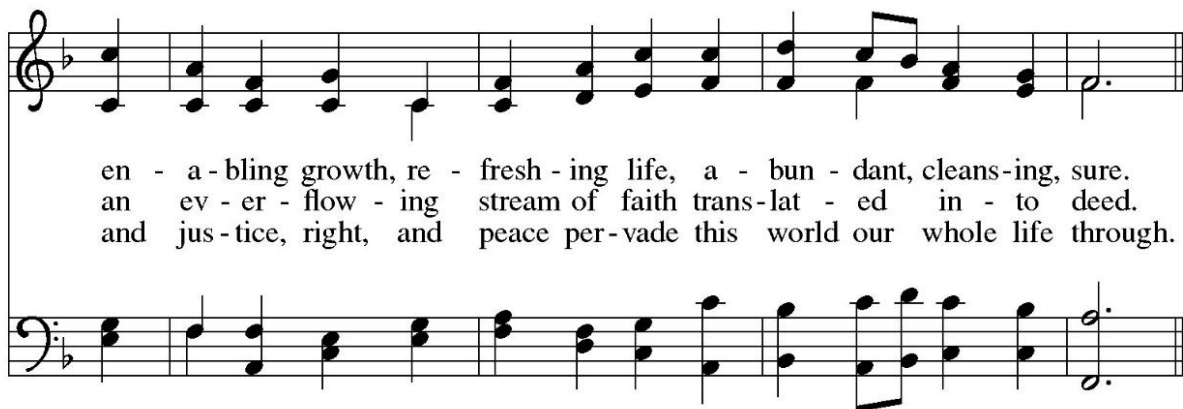
P: May the path that Christ walks:  
to bring justice upon the earth,  
to bring light to those who sit in darkness,  
to bring out those who live in bondage,  
to bring new things to all creation:  
May this path run through our lives, and  
May we be the road Christ takes.

## Sending Song

### "Let Justice Flow like Streams"



1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,  
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,  
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,



en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.  
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.  
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

## Dismissal

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

**C: Thanks be to God! And we will!**