

ORDER OF WORSHIP
AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH – January 23rd, 2022
EPIPHANY-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
DECEMBER-FEBRUARY WORSHIP 8:30AM

PRELUDE BY SHIRLEY BERGMAN

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**Please stand as you are able.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who alone does wonders,
who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.**

**We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.**

**We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.**

**We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.**

**Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.**

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.**

Rejoice in this good news:

In \mp Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.

Live as freed and forgiven children of God. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: ELW 886 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

- 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!**

- 2 My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.**

- 3 The name of Jesus charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life and health and peace.**

- 4 He speaks, and list'ning to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.**

- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!**

- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.**

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.

KYRIE:

**Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.
Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.
Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

**Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.
Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**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.**

**Please be seated.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SCRIPTURE READINGS

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

*The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest,
reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear
it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra*

reminds them that "the joy of their strength."

¹All the people [of Israel] 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.² 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.³ 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.⁵ 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.⁶ 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 worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground.⁸ So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And 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 God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.¹⁰ 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."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 19

The teaching of the soul. (Ps.:7)

¹The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky proclaims its handiwork.

²**One day tells its tale another,
and one night imparts knowledge another.**

³Although they have no language,
and their voices not heard,

⁴**their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world,**

where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion in its course.

⁶**It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of the earth;**

nothing is hidden from its heat.

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸**The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.**

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰**More to be desired are they than gold, more than fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey from the comb.**

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is reward.

¹²**Who can detect one's offenses?**

Cleanse me from my faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of all offense.

¹⁴**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to your sight,**

O LORD, my strength and redeemer.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.

¹²For 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.¹³For 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.

¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many.¹⁵If the foot would 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.¹⁶And if the ear would 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.¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be?²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body.²¹The 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.”²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,²³and 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;²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member,²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another.²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.²⁸And 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.²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?³¹^aBut strive for the greater gifts.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

**Please stand as you are able for the Gospel.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia! Lord and savior: open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

Gospel: Luke 4:14-21

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

The holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

14Then 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.

16When 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:

18 "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,

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

20 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."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**Please be seated.*

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 311 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

**Please stand as you are able.*

- 1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
your reign on earth begun!
You come to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression
and rule in equity.**

- 2 You come 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,
are precious in your sight.**

- 3 You shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
spring in your path to birth.
Before you on the mountains
shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.**

- 4 Kings shall fall down before you,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore you,
your praise all people sing.
To you shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
your kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.**

APOSTLES' CREED

Please stand if you are able

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

A brief silence.

You reveal yourself to us in the reading of scripture. Fulfill your word through the faithful witness of your church. Send us out to bring your liberating good news to all people. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

All creation proclaims your handiwork. Teach us to love the intricate and beautiful bodies that you have created. Bless tiny insects, enormous whales, and every creature in between. Sustain species at risk of extinction. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You desire that there be no dissension among us. Where we are divided in our society, nation, or world, come quickly to reunite us into one body. Ease conflict, dispel violence, and bring an end to

war. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Anoint with your Spirit all who seek your favor. Grant provision and justice for people living in poverty, people living with disability, those living with pain, or those living under oppression. Grant healing to all who are sick, especially Stephanie Winklepleck, Dennis Bushkofsky, Betsy Norland, Gene Waring, all those who are sick with Covid-19, and all those we name in our hearts. Grant courage, strength, and endurance to all medical workers and to all who are feeling overwhelmed by the stress of the pandemic. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Build up the body of Christ in this place. Bless the variety of ministries in this congregation. Empower us to freely welcome and deeply value each person who enters into worship and ministry among us. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

In thanksgiving we lift before you the saints for whom the promise of salvation has now been fulfilled. Tend to those who mourn. Bring us together in your everlasting glory. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

**Please remain standing as you are able.*

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

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:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heav'n 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, hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

**Please be seated.*

Friends of Jesus, receive nourishment for your journey. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Please stand as you are able.*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, **gracious God,**
for we have feasted on the abundance of your house.
Send us to bring good news
and to proclaim your favor to all,
strengthened with the richness of your grace
in your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

BENEDICTION

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness,
who rejoices over you,
and who calls you by name,
✠ your going out and your coming in,
today and forever. **Amen.**

**Please be seated.*

CLOSING HYMN: ELW 551 The Spirit Sends us forth to Serve

- 1 The Spirit sends us forth to serve;
we go in Jesus' name
to bring glad tidings to the poor,
God's favor to proclaim.**

- 2 We go to comfort those who mourn
and set the burdened free;
where hope is dim, to share a dream
and help the blind to see.**

**3 We go to be the hands of Christ,
to scatter joy like seed
and, all our days, to cherish life,
to do the loving deed.**

**4 Then let us go to serve in peace,
the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
we go in Jesus' name.**

DISMISSAL BY CHILDREN

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

And have fun doing it.

We will! Amen!

POSTLUDE by Shirley Bergman

PLEASE STAY FOR THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Worship 8:30 AM through February 27.

Annual meeting: January 23 following worship. Zoom link in your email.

Song requests: You are welcome to suggest songs for worship. Write your requests on the Worship & Music sheet at the usher's table.

ALC Hospitality & Outreach Team: Please consider enhancing ALC's ministry on this team. Thank you to all the long-standing and new members of our committees.

Youth: Our January Youth Group event (ice skating at Young Arena) has been canceled due to lack of interest. Youth families - please fill out the surveys in your email regarding the February Lock-In and summer mission trip.

Prayers and Cares: The Cares Team has added Iva Ruehs and Christy Phillips who will regularly connect with our shut-ins, along with Kaye Jones who continues her contacts with communion visits. This ministry enhances Pastor Kristen's monthly connections with ALC Cares members.

Donations: To help ALC member **Stephanie Winkelpleck** with medical expenses for Acute Myeloid Leukemia, please designate your donation on your check.

Caring Bridge link:

<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/stephaniewittwinkelpleck>. Thank you for your very generous giving.

Prayer Shawl meets Tuesdays, 10 AM - noon. Enjoy fellowship while knitting and crocheting. New members welcome. The shawls and blankets are shared with those who are ill, grieving, and in need of comfort.

Quilting for Lutheran World Relief: Our next work day is January 24, 2022 at 1:00 PM. We gather every second and fourth Monday to cut, pin, sew, iron, and tie quilts. Come join us! Thanks for your continued donations of sheets for quilt backs.

Mobile Giving App If you give your regular contributions using Give Plus App, we have been notified that they will stop supporting the Give Plus app as of January 31, 2022. You should download the new app called Vanco Mobile to continue using. Note: your username and password will remain the same, and any recurring payments you have scheduled will continue in the new app. **If you do not currently have anything setup, now is a great time to download the**

Vanco Mobile app and start your recurring giving today

Military members: Jordan and Justin are at the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City, IA. Jeryn Loyd is in the Army Reserves and is a student at Iowa State. Please contact the church office to add other names who serve. We'd like to remember them in our prayer

ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY:

Pastor: Pastor Kristen Rod

Music: Shirley Bergman

Usher: Wayne Schneider/Pat Winblade

THIS WEEK AT ALC

Sunday, Jan 23rd:

8:30am Worship and Communion, with annual meeting to follow

Monday Jan. 24th:

1pm LWR Quilting

Tuesday Jan. 25th:

10am -12pm Prayer Shawl

Wednesday Jan. 26th:

5:30pm 7pm Confirmation

Sunday Jan 30th:

8:30am Worship and Communion

BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance: 1/16/22- 44

Current: \$ 20,044.63

Offering: 1/16/22
Current: 1,645
Benevolence: 232
Improvement: 135