



December 14, 2025

A Special Message to First-Time Visitors

We are delighted to have you with us today! Here are a few things you might want to know as you prepare for worship.

We love to see children at worship and welcome them in the sanctuary. There are activity bags available in the hallway for them should they become restless. We also have a nursery located in the wing opposite the sanctuary staffed by two capable, loving people.

The restrooms are located just outside the hallway leading to the sanctuary, with a wheelchair/handicap accessible restroom down the hall. If you need help finding any of these, please ask an usher.

Each row has a red pad with a form for all in attendance to complete. Please complete the form so we can provide a more personal ministry.

Prayer request cards are included for you to fill out and place in the plate when the offering is taken. The pastor will then, with your permission, share the concern and pray for your need during the prayer time.

We celebrate Holy Communion every Sunday to all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. You are invited to commune with us. The dark red liquid is wine and the lighter colored liquid is grape juice.

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning! We are blessed by your presence, and God is glorified. Please join us for coffee following the service.

December 14, 2025

Usher
Sharlene Parker
Acolyte
NA
Nursery
Legacy Lundberg/Grace Reichl
Security
Tony Deas
Sound System
Troy Turner
Lector
Carol Brennan
Communion Assistant
Carol Brennan
Communion Set-up/clean-up
Carol Brennan/Lorraine Stargel
Coffee Hour
Nancy Martin/Toni Sherman
Flowers
*** Poinsettias ***
Tellers
Sharlene Parker/Linda Deas
Julian Estates / Bonaventure
Jeff DeBord/Ron Heilman

December 21, 2025

Usher
Lorraine Stargel
Acolyte
Ransom Lundberg
Nursery
Legacy and Harmony Lundberg
Security
Duane Claiborne
Sound System
Ron Johnson
Lector
Sharlene Parker
Communion Assistant
Bob Martin
Communion Set-up/clean-up
Nancy Martin/Ardis Kilber
Coffee Hour
Carol Brennan/Valerie Claiborne
Flowers
*** Poinsettias ***
Tellers
Sharlene Parker/Denise Alvord
Julian Estates / Bonaventure
Ron Heilman



Order of Worship

December 14, 2025, 3rd Sunday in Advent

Pastor Eric Lundberg

LBW-Green Hymnal, HWC-Light Blue Hymnal, WOV-Dark Blue Hymnal

Please remember to silence all electronic devices upon entering the sanctuary.

Before the service we talk to God. During the service God talks to us.

After the service, we talk to each other.

MISSION STATEMENT

"We, God's people of Living Word Lutheran Church, grounded in Holy Scripture are called to follow and share the inspired Word of God in Christ, to live as faithful and obedient servants, reaching out to all people with the love of Jesus Christ."

Living Word is affiliated with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. (<https://lcmc.net>)

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10515 269th Street East, Graham, WA 98338

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Prelude

“The Birthday of a King”

Praise Song

“Therefore the Redeemed”

Chorus

Therefore the redeemed
Of the Lord shall return
And come with singing unto Zion
And everlasting joy
Shall be upon their head
(REPEAT)

Bridge

They shall obtain
Gladness and joy
And sorrow and mourning
Shall flee away
(Chorus)

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We Worship by Confessing Our Faith in the Words of the Apostles' Creed

(please stand)

I BELIEVE in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I BELIEVE in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our LORD. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I BELIEVE in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Opening Hymn

“Joy to the World”

LBW 39

Verse 1

Joy to the world, The Lord is come!
Let earth receive its King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Verse 2

Joy to the earth, The Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Verse 3

No more let sin and sorrow grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

Verse 4

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

Prayer of the Day (all pray): **Almighty God, you once called John the Baptist to give witness to the coming of your Son and to prepare his way. Grant us, your people, the wisdom to see your purpose today and the openness to hear your will, that we may witness to Christ's coming and so prepare his way; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Confession and Forgiveness of Sins (Lutheran Book of Worship, p. 56)

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: (*Facing altar which symbolizes God's presence*): Most merciful God,

C: **We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole hearts; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P: (*Facing the congregation, declares God's grace*): In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

All: **Praise the LORD!**

We Hear and Read God's Word

The first reading is from Isaiah 35:1-10 (ESV)

¹ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;

² it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to those who have an anxious heart,
"Be strong; fear not!"

Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you."

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;

in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸ And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
⁹ No lion shall be there,

nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there
¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

(The Word of the Lord)
C: Thanks be to God

This reading is from Psalm 146:5-10 (ESV) (responsive)

R: ⁵ Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God,
C: ⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;**
R: ⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free;
C: ⁸ **the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;**
the Lord loves the righteous.
R: ⁹ The Lord watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
C: ¹⁰ **The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the Lord!**

(R Here ends this reading)

Announcements

The Gospel Text

(Please stand for the reading of the Gospel lesson)
The Gospel according to St. Luke 2:8-20 (ESV)

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,
¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

(R: The Gospel of the Lord) **C: Praise to you O Christ**

Message

Offertory

“Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella”

Traditional French Carol

Offering Hymn

“With Grateful Joy”

With grateful joy for You, The Source of all life
We raise one voice
To You from whom all blessings flow

You are the Giver of life, You are the Lover of life
The good Sustainer of life
We live in You
We live in You

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The Words of Institution

Holy Communion

Communion Hymns

“Lamb of God”

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, grant us peace.

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

HWC 124

Verse 1

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Verse 2

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a Child, and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all-sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

HWC 123

Verse 1

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear. **(Refrain)**

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee,
O Israel!

Verse 2

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. **(Refrain)**

Verse 3

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
And order all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And cause us in her ways to go. **(Refrain)**

“Emmanuel” (2X)

HWC 134

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us; His name is called Emmanuel.

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Prayers of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (spoken)

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.

Benediction (*please stand*)

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

On Our Way Rejoicing

Closing Hymn

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

LBW 551

Verse 1

Joyful, joyful we adore thee
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
Praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

Verse 2

All thy works with joy surround thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in thee.

Verse 3

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!

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Postlude

P: Go in Peace! Serve the LORD!

C: Thanks be to God!

Pianist: Dan Owen

***Thank you for worshiping with us this morning! Please join us for
Coffee Hour following the worship service.***

10:45 – Refreshment Time (Coffee Hour) in the Fellowship Hall

11:05 – No Sunday School

11:15 – Choir Rehearsal