

LIVING LORD LUTHERAN CHURCH

2725 58th Avenue

Vero Beach, Florida, 32966

Tel: 772-778-1500 www.livinglordlutheran.com

livinglord@comcast.net



Our Mission Statement

“Living Lord Lutheran Church is a family of believers, renewed through the Holy Spirit, to be the real presence of the Risen Christ in this place, our community, and the world.”

PASTOR

The Rev. Gregory Shreaves, ELCA

MINISTER OF MUSIC

Adria Ryan

MUSICIAN EMERITUS

Pamela Wilcox

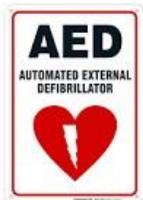
SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION - 10:00 AM

Living Lord Lutheran Church is a church of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (www.elca.org.) With over 9,100 congregations and 4 million members throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands, we are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God’s grace. We are church. We are Lutheran. We are church together. We are church for the sake of the world.

We believe and teach that Christ’s body and blood are truly present and are really given in, with, and under the bread and wine of the Holy Eucharist. Communion at present is given in one kind – that is, the consecrated Body of Christ. It is given, along with the words spoken by the Presiding Minister, “The Body of Christ, the Blood of Christ.” Children and adults are invited to come forward to receive a blessing if you do not wish to receive the Sacrament.

Our parish family extends a warm welcome to all newcomers, as well as those returning home to Living Lord today. We do not consider newcomers to be visitors. This is the church of Jesus Christ, and there is a place for you here. We invite you to join the conversation, participate fully in the spiritual life of this community, and proclaim with us the Good News to all the world. Again, welcome to Living Lord Lutheran Church. If you are visiting today, please inform an usher or the Pastor. Restrooms are located in the hallway off the lobby of the church.

Pastor Greg’s contact information email: gbsbuckeye1@gmail.com Mobile phone: 610.295.9774



In the event of emergency, an AED device is located in the lobby/narthex of the church. You will find it on the wall leading to the restrooms.

Sunday, November 27th, 2022
Service of Holy Communion – Advent 1



WELCOME TO ALL WHO WORSHIP HERE TODAY

As the music begins please silence your phones and end your conversation with your neighbor and begin your conversation with the LORD.

+ *Indicates that the congregation is invited to stand as you are able.*

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY *The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.*

WE SING

"People Look East"
ELW #248

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the announcements, the assembly is invited to stand as you are able...

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

+ **BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

P: Blessed the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things. **All: Amen.**

Silence is kept from reflection before continuing...

P: Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.
Let us confront our sins,
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence before continuing...



P: God of new beginnings,
 C: we confess that we have not welcomes your holy reign.
We have strayed from your paths.
We prepare for war instead of peace.
We dishonor one another and your creation.
Purify us with your refining fire.
And set us again on your way of love,
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance.
And welcome your coming among us. Amen.

P: People of God,
 A new thing is growing in our midst,
 a tender branch,
 a living sign.
 By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.
 you have put on Christ,
 and your sins have been washed away.
 Rejoice in the way of the Lord.
 C: **Amen.**

+ **ENTRANCE HYMN**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”
 ELW #279

+ **KYRIE**

see seasonal words below...

Kyrie

Mass of Remembrance

Marty Haugen

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three staves of music with lyrics and guitar chords.

Staff 1: Chords: Dm, A7, Dm, Gm, Dm, A7, Dm. Lyrics: Ky-ri-e e - le-i-son, Chri - ste e - le-i-son, Ky-ri-e e - le - i - son.

Staff 2: Chords: F, C, Gm7, Asus4, A, A7. Lyrics: Je - sus Christ, have mer - cy: we_ ask for your for - giv - ness.

Staff 3: Chords: Dm, A7, Dm, Gm, Dm, A7, Dm. Lyrics: Ky-ri-e e - le-i-son, Chri - ste e - le-i-son, Ky-ri-e e - le - i - son.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie, eleison

You will come in glory with salvation for your people.

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie, eleison

+ APOSTOLIC GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

L: The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, the love of Christ that guards our hearts and minds, and the joy and consolation of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. *(the assembly prays together)*

C: **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The assembly is invited to be seated...

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING/HYMN

One of the best-known customs for the season is the Advent wreath. The wreath and winter candle-lighting amid growing darkness strengthen some of the Advent images found in the Bible. The unbroken circle of greens is clearly an image of ever-lasting life, a victory wreath, the crown of Christ, or the wheel of time itself. Christians use the wreath as a sign that Christ reaches into our time to lead us to the light of everlasting life. The four candles mark the progress of the four weeks of Advent and the growth of light. Sometimes the wreath is embellished with natural dried flowers or fruit. Its evergreen branches lead the household and the congregation to the evergreen Christmas tree. In many homes, the family gathers for prayers around the wreath.

The assembly remains seated. As the lighters of the Advent wreath come forward, the assembly sings vs. 1 and 2 of “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”. ELW #257

Reader/s: Blessed are you, God of Jacob, for you promise to transform weapons of war into implements of planting and harvest and to teach us your way of peace; you promise that our night of sin is far gone and that your day of salvation is dawning. As we light the first candle on this wreath, wake us from our sleep, wrap us in your light, empower us to live honorably, and guide us along your path of peace.

O house of Jacob, come,

C: let us walk in the light of the Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.



FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshipping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

The reading is announced:

L: A reading from Isaiah.

The reading is concluded...

L: The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." (Ps. 122:1)

¹I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."

²**Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;

⁴**to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.**

⁵For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.

⁶**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.**

⁷Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.

⁸**For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.**

⁹Because of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good."

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

The reading is announced:

L: A reading from Romans.

The reading may be concluded:

L: The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly is invited to stand as you are able....

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Alleluia! Hurry, the Lord is Near” (verse 1)

Refrain

Al - le-lu - ia! Hur-ry, the Lord is near. Al-le-lu-ia,

Verses

al - le - lu - ia! Hur-ry, the Lord is near.

1. Sound_ the trum-pet, the
2. Earth_ has longed _ for
3. Go out to meet _ him,
4. He is the might-y one,

1. Lord _ is near; Hur-ry, the Lord is near; see, _ he
2. his _ ap-proach: Hur-ry, the Lord is near; straight-en the
3. shout _ his name: Hur-ry, the Lord is near; his might-y
4. he is the Word: Hur-ry, the Lord is near; God ev - er -

to Refrain

1. comes _ to save us all.
2. road, _ smooth the path.
3. king-dom shall nev - er end.
4. last - ing, Prince of Peace. } Hur-ry, the Lord is near!

+GOSPEL Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

The gospel is announced.

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 24th Chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O LORD.**

The gospel is concluded:

L: The gospel of the LORD.

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

The assembly is invited to be seated...

MESSAGE

The Rev. Gregory Shreaves

Silence for reflection . . . The assembly is invited into quiet reflection after the message, and before the Hymn of the Day. The assembly is invited to stand as you are able...

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

“Joy to the World”

ELW #267

[Note: Isaac Watts’ birthday is 11/25]

+ NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

+ PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

The service continues with the prayers of intercession.

A: As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

The prayers are concluded with these or similar words...

P: God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. C: **Amen.**

+THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: **And also with you.**

The peace is shared by remaining in place and bowing, waving, extending a hand to those around you.

The service continues with the Offering.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.



THE OFFERING OF THE GIFTS

The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared. All are invited to place their offering in the offering plates in the lobby/narthex of the church either prior to entering the worship space, or on the way out of the church. All are invited into quiet reflection as the Offertory is played.

OFFERTORY **"The King Shall Come"**
offered by Adria Ryan

The assembly is invited to stand as you are able...

+ OFFERING PRAYER

A: Eternal God,
You make the desert bloom
and send springs of water to thirsty ground.
Receive thee simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,
and make us messengers of your mercy and love
for all in need of your healing and justice.
We ask this through Christ our Savior. C: **Amen.**

+ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister offers the Words of Institution over the bread and wine...

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.**

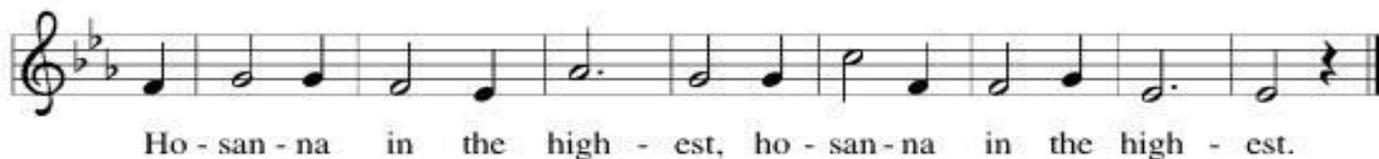
PREFACE

P: 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:

+SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy *Great Thanksgiving*



Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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The Presiding Minister continues...

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word
made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your
Word dwelling among us, full of grace and
truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most

High, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: And now we pray boldly as our LORD Christ taught us to pray:

+LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is
in heaven.**

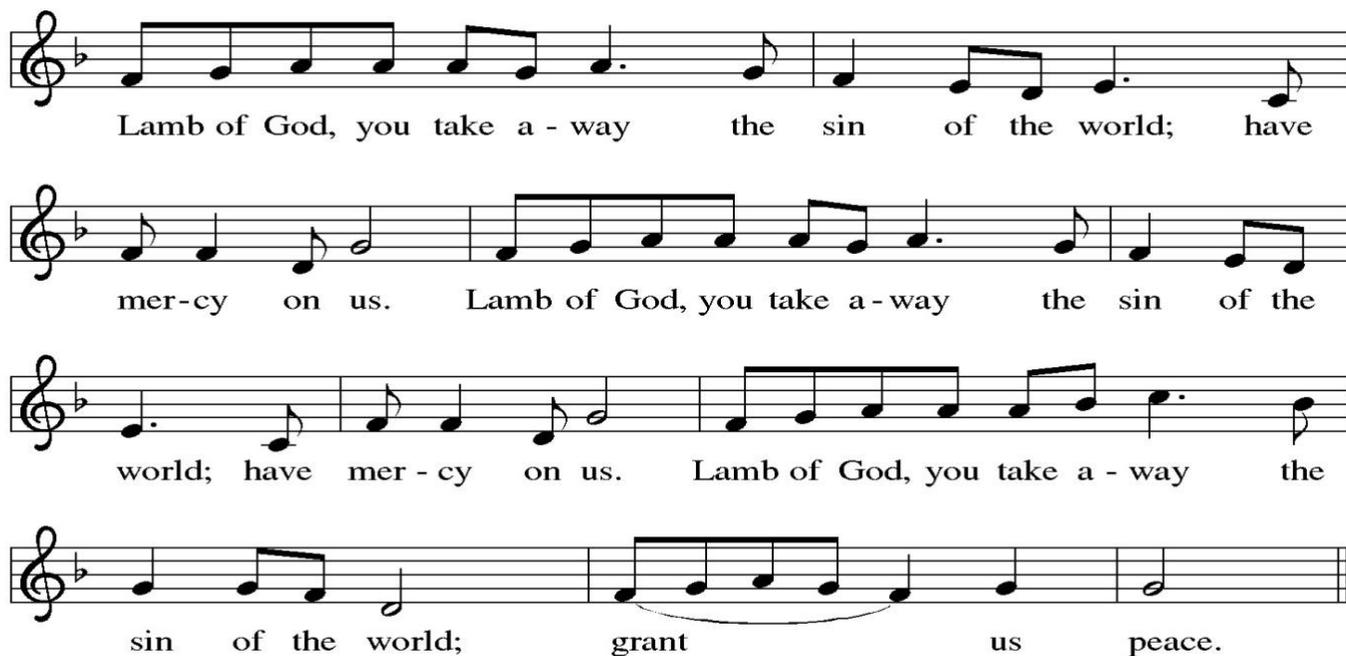
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who
trespass against us; and lead us
not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Even as we watch and wait, Christ is here. Come, eat and drink.

COMMUNION SONG



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; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

The assembly is invited to be seated for the distribution of the Sacrament.

The Sacrament is distributed. Worshipers will come forward, respecting social distancing, to receive a host from the Presiding Minister, and moving to the right, receive the wine from the Assisting Minister. Proceed to the right of the church as you face it, depositing the used wine container in the receptacle provided.

As the Presiding Minister offers these words, “The body of Christ, given for you”, and the Assisting Minister offers these words, “The blood of Christ, shed for you” each is invited to respond with “Amen.”

During the distribution of the Sacrament, the assembly is invited to sing below:

COMMUNION HYMN

**“Maranatha”
see p.**

After the distribution of the Sacrament is completed, all are invited to stand as you are able...

+ P: The body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C: **Amen.**

+ POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Faithful God,
In this meal you have remembered your mercy,
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ,
as we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy my story.
Guide us toward your promised future,
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. C: **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.



+BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

P: God the eternal Word,
who dwells with us in Jesus,
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,
+bless you now and forever.
C: **Amen.**

The assembly is invited to be seated for Ministry Announcements.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly is invited to stand as you are able...

+ SENDING HYMN

**“Stay Awake”
see p.**

+DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Christ is near!

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL MESSAGE

November 27, 2022

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Time to Wake Up

Advent is a season of waking up. Even as the days grow darker, we are awoken to the light of truth about our lives, the world, and, ultimately, God. But no one really *likes* being woken from sleep, real or metaphorical. No one likes being pulled from a cozy blanket to a crowded commute, from dreams to reality, from what's comfortable and "always has been" to what's actually happening right now. It's why when we have pivotal, perhaps painful moments in our lives in which we become aware of something previously hidden, or about which we shed the veil of denial, we refer to them as "wake-up calls."

Yet it is never God's intent to hurt us by rousing us from sleep. It is not to punish us for our past mistakes, to expose our inner failings to the world, or to add to the already deep well of shame that so many of us carry. *It is for our good* that God comes to reveal that which was hidden, breaking into our world as human flesh and blood. And it is for our good that, through our baptism, we are able to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 13:14). The divine image is revealed in you, and in every friend and stranger. God knows, loves, and takes delight in each of us.

That is why nations will beat their swords into plowshares, their spears into pruning hooks, and their guns into gravel to build a highway for our God. We won't *need* to learn war anymore, as the prophet says (Isaiah 2:4), because you can't raise arms against your own kin, another person in whom the living Christ dwells.

This season is a time for us to awaken to this new reality: at any moment, and at every moment, Christ lives among and within us, helping us rub the sleep out of our eyes, and revealing a different way. Welcome to Advent.

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THANKS!

Many thanks to Tom and Wanda Highley for the reading today!