

# Fourth Sunday of Advent 7:45 & 11 am Traditional Worship December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

Living Lord Lutheran Church 11107 Palmbrush Trail Lakewood Ranch, Florida 34202 941-753-9365

Ed Holloway, Interim Pastor Thomas Pizzi, Minister of Music

Our Mission Statement
Make disciples, Serve selflessly, and Live faithfully



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE** 

O Tannenbaum

Traditional German carol

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

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**ELW p. 94** 

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## C Amen.

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### C Amen.

- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,
- C have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
- P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

## C Amen.

#### Blessed Be the God of Israel



Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944, based on Luke 1:68-79 Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune

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GREETING ELW p. 203

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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW p. 205

A Let us pray.

C Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## 7:45 CONTINUES WITH THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ON PG. 5

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

#### FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a

Reader A reading from Micah.

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel,

whose origin is from of old,

from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth;

then the rest of his kindred shall return

to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;

<sup>5a</sup> and he shall be the one of peace.

Reader The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## **SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10**

Reader A reading from Hebrews.

<sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,

but a body you have prepared for me;

<sup>6</sup> in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure.

<sup>7</sup> Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

<sup>8</sup> When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup> then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader The word of the Lord.

## C Thanks be to God.

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

ELW p. 205



## GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

## C Glory to you, O Lord.

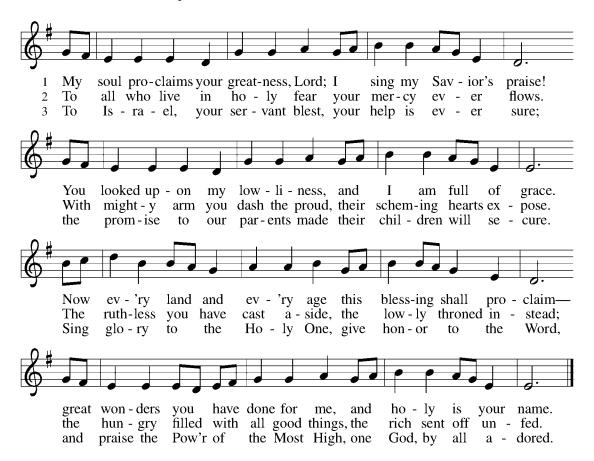
- <sup>39</sup> In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, <sup>40</sup> where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit <sup>42</sup> and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. <sup>43</sup> And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? <sup>44</sup> For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." [
  - <sup>46</sup> And Mary said,
  - "My soul magnifies the Lord,
    - <sup>47</sup> and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
  - <sup>48</sup> for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
  - <sup>49</sup> for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
  - <sup>50</sup> His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.
  - <sup>51</sup> He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
  - <sup>52</sup> He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;
  - <sup>53</sup> he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.
  - <sup>54</sup> He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,
  - <sup>55</sup> according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."]
- P The gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON** 

The Path to Favor

**ELW p. 206** 

## My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness



Text: With One Voice, 1995, based on the Magnificat

Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

CREED ELW p. 206

P Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles Creed.

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

A As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

## A brief silence.

- A God our uniter, increase communication and cooperation in our relationships with those of other traditions and religions. Root your church in the radical message of your incarnation, and enable us to pursue your justice in the world. Lord, in your mercy,
- C receive our prayer.
- A God our creator, we praise you for the beauty that surrounds us.

  Awaken in us a renewed sense of care for the wildlife in our
  communities. Form us into faithful stewards of what you have made.

  Lord, in your mercy,
- C receive our prayer.

A God our sovereign, Mary proclaims a new way of life that lifts up the lowly and fills the hungry with good things. Nurture in local governments and municipalities a desire to care for all who are overlooked and ignored. Lord, in your mercy,

## C receive our prayer.

A God our beacon, as the northern hemisphere begins its slow turn toward more daylight, remind us that even in the deepest nights, you are there. Comfort the lonely and bereaved. Hold closely the frightened, anxious, depressed, and ill *We pray especially for* Josh, Theo, Chris and Marty; for Angie, Lori, Barbara and Barb; for Glenn, Lon, Kelly and Berniece; for Kyle and Cathy Rosentreter; for the Call committee, and the families of Sandy Siguardson and Malcolm John Doyle; and for those on our long-term prayer list; and those most dear to us whom we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts (pause)...Lord, in your mercy,

## C receive our prayer.

A God our guide, shepherd the leadership of this congregation. Bless the council and staff in discerning future ministry and open their hearts to the voices of the community. Lord, in your mercy,

## C receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A God our life, you remember the promises you have made to your people. In gratitude for those who have died..., we praise you for your faithfulness throughout history. Lord, in your mercy,

## C receive our prayer.

P Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

PEACE ELW p. 206

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

**MEAL** God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### **OFFERING MUSIC**

(11:00 ONLY)

For Unto Us a Child Is Born

G.F. Handel/Hayes

OFFERING ELW p. 206





Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 2004 Augsburg Fortress.

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## OFFERING PRAYER

**ELW p. 206** 

P Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C** Amen.

7:45 CONTINUES WITH THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE ON PG 12

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

DIALOGUE ELW p. 206

- 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 ELW p. 207

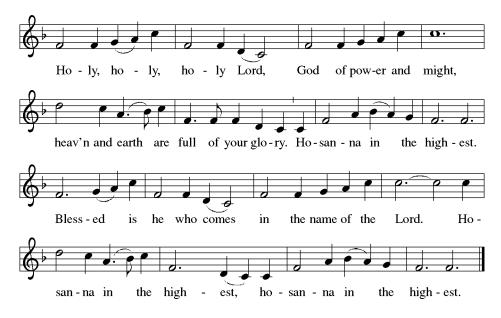
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

**ELW p. 207** 



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

**ELW p. 207** 

P 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

**ELW p. 208** 

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

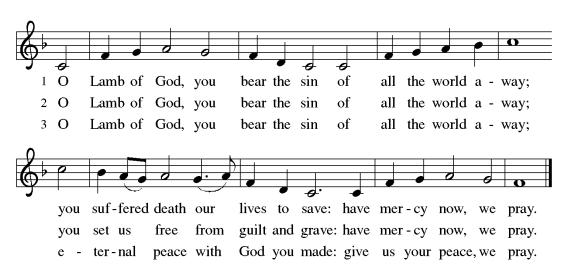
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

#### COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

**ELW p. 208** 

P The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. **C Amen.** 

7:45 CONTINUES WITH POST COMMUNION BLESSING ON PG. 15



## MEAL SONG 1 (VS. 1, 4) ELW 300

## The First Noel

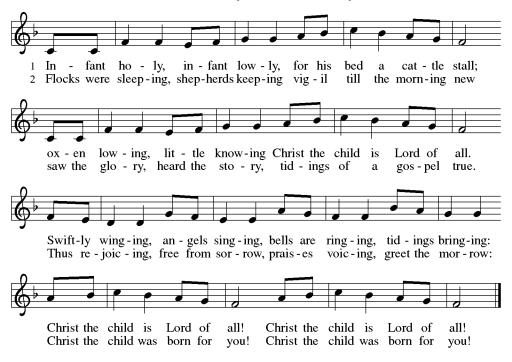


Text: English traditional

Music: THE FIRST NOWELL, English traditional

MEAL SONG 2 ELW 276

## Infant Holy, Infant Lowly



Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt. Music: W ZŁOBIE LEŻY. Polish carol

## **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

P May this body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace now and forevermore.

C Amen

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

#### SENDING OF COMMUNION

ELW p. 209

P Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick*, *homebound*, *and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## C Amen.

BLESSING ELW p. 209

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

## **SENDING SONG**

(7:45 - 1,3) **ELW p. 209** 



DISMISSAL ELW p. 209

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE** Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

Martin & Blane



**The Altar Flowers** are given by Jeff and Nancy Taylor in memory of their son Scott and son-in-law Chris.

**The Eternal Candle for the month of December** is given by Bob and Carolyn Scott. Happy Birthday, Jesus.

The Altar Guild Beverly Brockschmidt and Margi Furey

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION** All who have faith in the words, "given for you" and "shed for you for the forgiveness of sin" is really worthy and well prepared to receive this sacrament. Communion is by individual cup (wine or white grape juice and gluten free wafers are available). Let an usher know if you need communion brought to you.

The **Sunday bulletin** focuses on the what, when, and where of announcements and ministry opportunities for the upcoming week. Detailed information is available on our **Facebook** page, in the **Link**, which is published weekly, and in the **Voice**, our monthly newsletter, and on our **website** – <u>www.livinglordfl.org</u>. Extra copies of the **VOICE** are available in the Narthex in the mail bins on the south wall.

**Financial Support** Thank you for your continued support for our ministry and mission. Offerings can be mailed to the church or online giving with banking or credit card payments at <a href="https://www.livinglordfl.org">www.livinglordfl.org</a> (Give Tab).

**Attendance Pads** Please fill out the attendance register and pass it down the aisle and let us know you were here. Add your name and if you are communing place a "C" in the member or visitor column. Otherwise, simply place a checkmark ( $\sqrt{}$ ) in that column. This is a change to satisfy our constitutional requirement to maintain a record of those who have communed. Thank you for helping us with this detail.

## **Covid-19 Guidelines Update:**

The Worship Team's current guidelines include: Optional masks. Each individual should choose what is right for them and the use of the common cup during communion distribution is suspended until further notice.

**SCRIP** after each service. An ongoing fundraiser designated towards Building Improvement. Purchase gift cards at the table. Orders are placed every week for pick-up the following week.

## Week of Dec. 23 - Dec. 29

## **Monday**

No Faith Talks Tai Chi 10am AA Meeting 11:30am GA Meeting 7pm

## **Tuesday**

AA & Al-Anon Meeting 11:30 am Christmas Eve Services 4pm, 7pm AA Meeting 7pm

## **Wednesday**

AA Meeting 9:30am, 11:30am Christmas Day – Office Closed

## **Thursday**

AA Meeting 11:30am Bldg. Improvement Meeting 3pm

## **Friday**

GA Meeting 9:30am Crafting 10:30am AA Meeting 11:30am AA Meeting 6pm, 8pm

## **Saturday**

AA Meeting 4pm
Al-Anon Meeting 4pm

## **Sunday**

7:45am Traditional Service 9am The Journey 11am Traditional Service AA Meeting 6:30pm **FULLY PARTICIPATE** In the mission and ministries here at Living Lord by helping, Currently Available:

- > Livestream > Sound System
- > Celebration of Life volunteers
- > Life Group Coordinator. Contact the church office.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** K thru 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 4<sup>th</sup> grade thru 7<sup>th</sup> grade and Faith Formation for teens - every Sunday from 10:05 to 10:55. Confirmation class is still being determined.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:05-10:50am in the Activities Hall. Bible study of the Old testament and Epistle lessons read in Sunday worship is an opportunity to dig deeper into the message with other adults. Bring your cookie, coffee, questions and insights as we explore with friends the readings' connections to our lives today.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES will be at 4:00pm and 7:00pm.

<u>ANGEL TREE</u> – Thank you to everyone for the generosity. We made Christmas a lot merrier for 55 children in our community.

CHURCH COUNCIL Interested in being on our church council starting in January 2025? Talk to Pastor Ed or Maggie to make us aware of your interest. Our council meets once a month to discuss the business of LLLC.

LUNCH BUNCH INVITATION The second Thursday of most months, the Lunch Bunch meets. Our next gathering will be on January 9, 2025 at 11:30. We will meet at Rosedale Country Club located at 5100 87<sup>th</sup> St. E, Bradenton. The country club and restaurant is off SR 70. This luncheon is open to all who wish to attend. There is a signup sheet posted in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Deb Miller at 616-540-1745.

GENERAL OFFERING #4010			
YEAR-TO-DATE	2024 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL	
November 30, 2024	November 30, 2024	November 30, 2023	
\$289,391.95	\$326,998.47	\$325,393.48	

## **CHRISTIAN LIFE**

Our current small groups are starting up this fall. If you are interested in being a part of our existing small groups or being a part of a new group, talk to Deb Miller and sign up on the clipboard in the Narthex.

**PARISH LIFE TEAM** Is asking for volunteers to help on *Saturday January* 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am to take down and put away the Christmas decorations.

## Christianity

As Told by the Evangelists
Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

On Mondays starting in January. In Activities Hall 10:00-11:30 AM

In 18 weekly classes we will learn and experience Jesus, who transcended humble origins, showed us God's love, paid the price for our forgiveness, and transformed his followers forever.

This course is free. Because God's gifts are FREE!

January 6, 13, 20, 27, 2025:

## Peter and Paul and the Christian Revolution.

What happened to the disciples after the crucifixion of Jesus? Would Jesus disappear from history? Video and readings in Luke's book of Acts, where the church began.

## February 3 through April 7:

## Understanding New Testament Gospels

Lectures by professors of Christian theology and history to enhance your reading of Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John. Discussion of texts.

April 14: MOVIE **The Gospel of John**, read by Christopher Plummer, 2 hours Easter Monday April 21, 2025 NO CLASS

April 28 and May 5, 2025 TO BE ANNOUNCED (Sacred Journeys?)

Documentaries, Bible Readings, Instructional Videos, Lesson Summaries, Discussions, and your Questions. *Just like college!* <u>Videos easy to see on 85 inch TV.</u> Ruth McConnell, leader



# Living Lord Lutheran Church Phone: (941) 753-9365 Fax: (941) 758-9015

Web Site: <a href="www.LivingLordFL.org">www.LivingLordFL.org</a>
Information: Info@LivingLordFL.org
Monthly Newsletter: Voice@LivingLordFL.org

All God's Children Preschool Phone: (941) 739-2776

Interim Pastor	Ed Holloway	753-9365	revelholloway@gmail.com
Parish Administrator	Maggie Hammond	753-9365	maggie@livinglordfl.org
Minister of Music	Thomas Pizzi	753-9365	tompno3@gmail.com
All God's Children Director	Erin Bonifate	739-2776	agcerin@gmail.com
Office Clerk	Marianne Strimer	753-9365	marianne@livinglordfl.org

#### **Church Council Officers**

President	Rebecca Powers	913-306-5415	Illcpresident@gmail.com
Vice President	Rich Jones	614-570-6540	j42hcir@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mike Gutzler	978-857-7172	mjdj4togo@yahoo.com
Secretary	Rae Dowling	741-8335	raedowling@yahoo.com

## **Church Council - Team Leaders**

Member-At-Large	Beverly	352-464-1177	bsbrockschmidt@gmail.com
	Brockschmidt		
Parish Life	Stephney Rose	782-8005	stephneyr@yahoo.com
Education	Open		
Worship & Music	Rhoda Olson	201-6304	rhodarose100@gmail.com
Evangelism	Patty Kunkel	748-6669	pattykunkel@verizon.net
Youth Representative	Brooke Palmtag	252-646-8801	brookepalmtag@icould.com

## **Special Teams Leaders**

Property	Bill Hoth	914-523-8425	whothjr@aol.com
Stewardship	Karen Symos	410-370-8666	ksymos@hotmail.com
AGC Liaison	Mary Hunter	746-3757	mehretired5@gmail.com
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Fellowship	Pam Lange	404-358-1124	pamlangemobile@gmail.com
Stephen Ministry	Randy Hanson	981-9048	randley.hanson@verizon.net
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Outreach	Mary Torke		mtorke@comcast.net
	Sue Copeland		copelandfamily1992@gmail.com
Bookkeeper	Karen Symos	410-370-8666	ksymos@hotmail.com