

The Journey March 30, 2025 9am

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



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God. **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

GATHERING PRAYER

C Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and we shall be created and you shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, Grant that in the same Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever enjoy your consolations. AMEN

GATHERING SONG

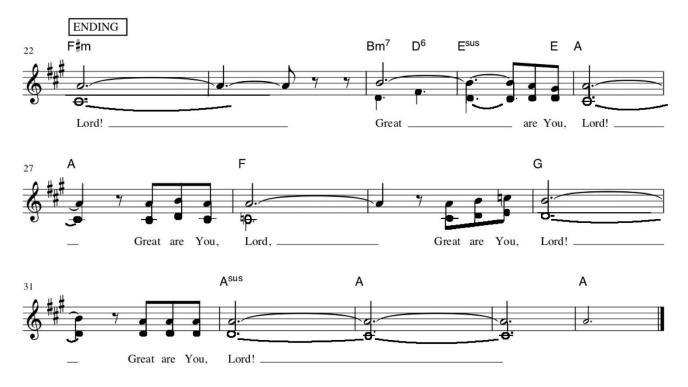
Lamb Of God



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OPENING PRAYER

FIRST READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

GOSPEL SONG

Give Thanks

Words and music by Henry Smith



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GOSPEL READING: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

A reading from Luke.

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

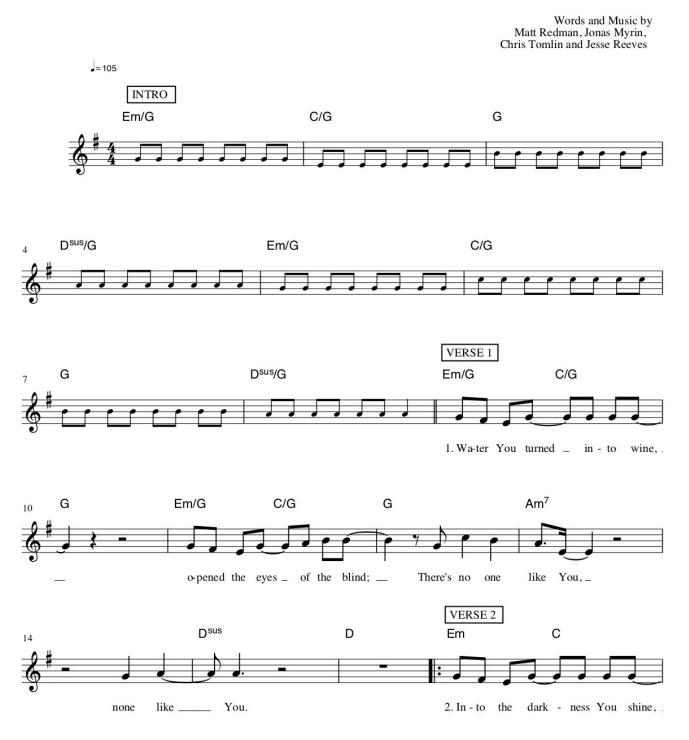
³So he told them this parable: ¹¹Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe — the best one — and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. ²⁵Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.""

Trash into Treasure

MESSAGE

MESSAGE SONG

Our God



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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love.

God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may again support life.

God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all.

God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of compassion *especially* those who have asked for our prayers, those most dear to us whom we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts (pause)...Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness.

God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnic-specific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died. We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found. Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. **Amen.**

OFFERING

Let us give thanks to God for our many blessings as we offer our monetary gifts for the mission and ministry of this community of faith. For those who are online, you can offer your financial support for our mission and ministries by going to our website livinglordfl.org and clicking on the give button at the top of the home page.

OFFERING MUSIC

Sonata, K. 380

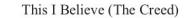
Domenico Scarlatti

SONG BEFORE THE MEAL This I Believe (The Creed)

Words and music by Matt Crocker and Ben Fielding



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THE MEAL

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

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread; Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory, are yours now and forever. Amen.

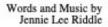
MEAL INSTRUCTIONS

Holy Communion here is just this simple: All are welcome because this is the Lord's table. It is Jesus who invites us to share in this meal. So, it doesn't matter who you are or how you are but that you simply come because God's gifts are... **C** Free

Shall We Gather at the River



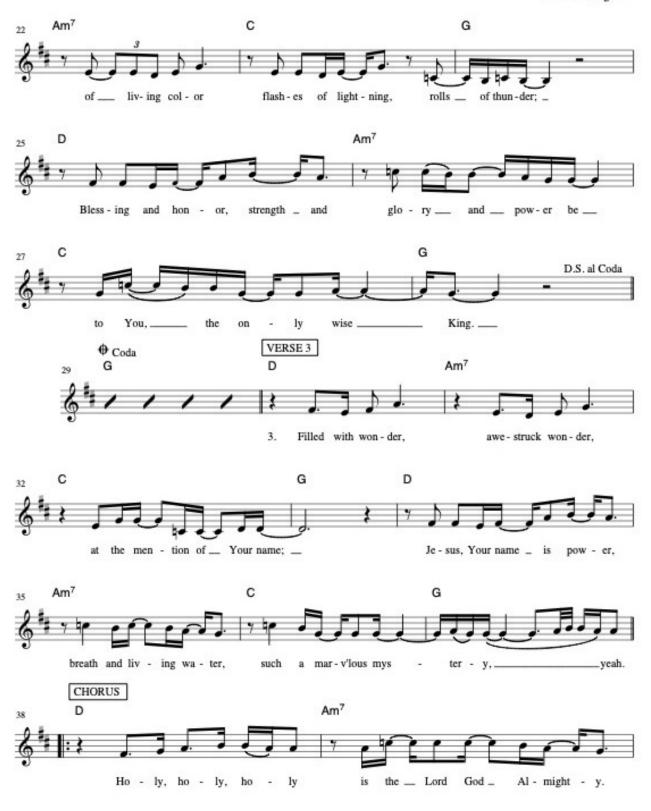
Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899 Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry **Revelation Song**





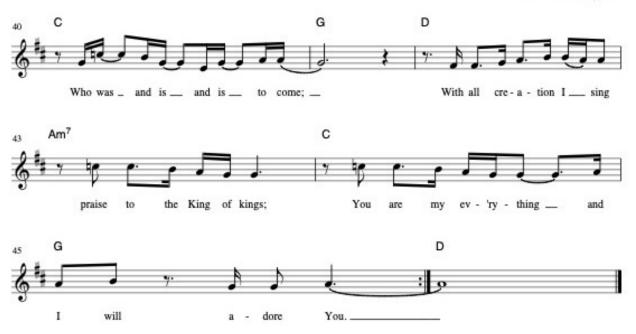
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Revelation Song - 2



18

Revelation Song - 3



BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

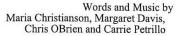
May this body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace now and forevermore.

C Amen

SENDING SONG

me.

Shine Down On Me





2. When bur-dens are - heav

me.

DISMISSAL

DISMISSAL SONG

JOY IN THE JOURNEY

SWING J=168



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The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God.

The Eternal Candle for the month of March is given by Sandy Coffman, Thanking God for life, love and family vísíts.

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** – www.livinglordfl.org. 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 www.livinglordfl.org or scan this QR code, click Menu, Give, scroll down to give now.

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.

Week of Apr. 31 – Apr. 6

<u>Monday</u>

Faith Talks 10am AA Meeting 11:30am Boy Scouts 6pm GA Meeting 7pm

<u>Tuesday</u>

AA & Al-Anon Meeting 11:30 am Cub Scouts 6pm AA Meeting 7pm

<u>Wednesday</u>

AA Meeting 9:30am, 11:30am Pastor's Bible Study 1pm Evangelism Meeting 2:30pm Soup Supper 5:30pm Girl Scouts 6pm Lenten Service 6:30pm

<u>Thursday</u>

Parish Life Meeting 10am AA Meeting 11:30am Campus Improvement Meeting 3pm Choir 6pm By Grace 7:15pm

<u>Friday</u>

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

<u>Saturday</u>

AA Meeting 4pm Al-Anon Meeting 4pm

<u>Sunday</u>

9am The Journey Parish Life Meeting 10am 7:45am, 11am Traditional Service Concert 2pm AA Meeting 6:30, 8pm **SCRIP** After each service. An ongoing fundraiser designated towards Campus Improvement. Purchase gift cards at the table. Orders are placed every week for pick-up the following week.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Ages 3 thru 3rd grade, available during both 9am and 11am Services, following Pastor's Children's Sermon. <u>FAITH</u> <u>FORMATION</u> for older children and teenagers 10:05 to 10:55.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:05-

10:50am in the Activities Hall. Dig deeper into the message of the Old Testament and Epistle lessons with other adults. Bring your snack, coffee, questions and insights as we explore and connections to our lives today.

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS Preceding

Lenten services at 5:30. We would appreciate your help in providing a time of fellowship prior to the services. Details are available on the sign-up sheet in the narthex or contact Pam Lange at 404-358-1124. **LENTEN SERVICES** Wed., 6:30pm.

April 2, and 9.

PALM CROSS MAKING WORKSHOP

- Join Us! B As we prepare for Palm Sunday. We invite you to come and be part of a special tradition: **making Palm Crosses**! Saturday April 12, 10AM, Activities Hall of Living Lord Lutheran. This hands-on workshop is open to all ages, and no experience is necessary!

GENERAL OFFERING #4010 YEAR-TO-DATE 2025 BUDGET 2024 ACTUAL February 28, 2025 February 28, 2025 February 28, 2024 \$58,668.38 \$57,088.40 \$55,324.57

CHRISTIANITY

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

On, Mondays, IN ACTIVITIES HALL 10:00-11:30 AM. Learn and experience Jesus, who transcended humble origins, showed us God's love, paid the price for our forgiveness, and transformed his followers forever.

FREE Bring a friend! Because God's gifts are FREE!

- Now 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"* Come and see this very spiritual movie with our Monday Adult Class. Christopher Plummer narrates the Good News Bible word-for-word. Carefully researching the biblical time of Christ, every aspect of the production—from costume design to ancient architecture and historic music—shows what it was like when the Son of God walked on earth. Henry Ian Cusick portrays Jesus in complex and emotional situations with clarity and insight.

Observe your Holy Week with us at Living Lord.

- Easter Monday April 21, 2025 NO CLASS
- April 28 and May 5, 2025 TO BE ANNOUNCED (**SaCred Journeys?**)

Easy to see videos on 85 inch TV. Ruth McConnell 941-751-8053

PARISH LIFE All Parish Life members are requested to attend a social meeting on April 3rd from 10-12 in the Activities Hall. Please bring your ideas and suggestions so we can plan Parish Life events and discuss needs for the year. We will also be updating each team's description in the LLLC Constitution. For some groups, it will mean creating a description for their team since there isn't a write up. A beverage and light lunch will be served.

ANNUAL FLORIDA BAHAMAS SYNOD ASSEMBLY Will be held June 12-14, 2025 in Kissimmee, FL. Delegates from each congregation are encouraged to attend. If you would like to participate this year, reach out to Pastor Ed at 941-753-9365.

LUTHER SPRINGS' GOD SPA FOR WOMEN Join other women of faith on April 4-6. A weekend retreat for women of faith to be restored, renewed, and refreshed in the beauty of God's creation at Luther Springs. \$210 for double, \$270 for single, and \$185 to share cabin bunk room. Activities may include faith filled conversation, devotions, music, relaxing and spa-type activities. Come with a group or come alone. For more information or to register, visit luthersprings.org or call Deacon Sue Mendenhall at 352-358-1440

BENEFIT CONCERT at LLL - Sarasota-Manatee Alumnae Chapter -SIGMA ALPHA IOTA Music Fraternity. Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. Will feature the following: The Gulf Coast Flute Choir, Carole Cornman Fetterman, soprano; Brooke Palmtag, soprano; Lily Grigsby, soprano; and Thomas Pizzi, piano/accompanist. Tickets sales between services over the next several Sundays \$15. Proceeds go to music organizations in the community that specialize in creating programs for music education. Such programs include Perlman Music Program of Sarasota, Venice Chorale Young Artists, AMICCO, Sarasota Orchestra and more! Come and learn more about SAI and how we keep the music playing for the community and around the world! For more info call: 941-350-7489.

LUNCH BUNCH INVITATION - The second Thursday of the month, the LLL Lunch Bunch meets. Our next luncheon however, will be on April 10, at <u>11:30.</u> We will meet at the Anna Marie Oyster Bar off 301 in Ellenton. The restaurant is located at 1525 51^{st} Ave. E., Ellenton. This luncheon is open to <u>all</u> 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.

DAYTIME CHRISTIAN LIFE GROUP will meet again in October.

CAMPUS SURVEILLANCE The new surveillance cameras have been installed and are working. There is a monitor in the church office. Thank you to the church family that made a donation for the cost.



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

Web Site: <u>www.LivingLordFL.org</u> 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	Nancy Taylor	717-542-9426	mimitay@comcast.net
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 Brockschmidt	352-464-1177	bsbrockschmidt@gmail.com
Parish Life	Stephney Rose	782-8005	stephneyr@yahoo.com
Education	Scott Smith	215-480-5359	phlgss@yahoo.com
Worship & Music	Rhoda Olson	201-6304	r <u>hodarose100@gmail.com</u>
Evangelism	Patty Kunkel	748-6669	pattykunkel@verizon.net

Special Teams Leaders Bill Hoth 914-523-8425 Property whothjr@aol.com Stewardship Karen Symos 410-370-8666 ksymos@hotmail.com Mary Hunter mehretired5@gmail.com AGC Liaison 746-3757 mimitay@comcast.net Nancy Taylor Altar Guild 717-891-8791 Faith Comm. Nurses Karen Hansing riseuprnk@gmail.com 748-5806 Fellowship Pam Lange 404-358-1124 pamlangemobile@gmail.com Stephen Ministry Randy Hanson 981-9048 randley.hanson@verizon.net New Members Coord. Patty Kunkel pattykunkel@verizon.net 748-6669 Outreach Mary Torke 941-356-5510 mtorke@comcast.net copelandfamily1992@gmail.com Sue Copeland 941-243-5329 Karen Symos ksymos@hotmail.com Bookkeeper 410-370-8666 j42hcir@gmail.com Campus Improvement **Rich Jones** 614-570-6540