



*With the birth of Jesus in our hearts
We carry light and love to the world.*

*Sunday, July 14, 2024
8th Sunday after Pentecost*



NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, July 14, 2024

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

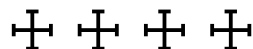
OUR VALUES STATEMENT: We recognize that we are not here by chance but are gathered together to be the church of God in Christ.

We recognize that God is making us, through grace, into a fellowship that embodies and expresses the spirit of Christ.

In this fellowship, there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female, for all of us are one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:28). We, therefore, welcome equally all people, regardless of religious office, position, possessions, education, race, age, gender, sexual orientation, mental ability, physical ability or other distinctions. (Adopted 9/7/07)

VISION STATEMENT: We seek to become people who live the nativity by...

Working as a supportive family of faith to extend God's gracious welcome through worship, community service, and spiritual growth opportunities.



The Liturgy is from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* Setting Eight.

Are you hearing impaired? If you are having difficulty hearing our worship service, try using our Assisted Hearing System, which is available from an usher.

Today's worship service is being live-streamed beginning at 9:25am and will be replayed next Sunday at 6pm on FM radio station 102.9.

The service is available to view anytime on the home page of our website: www.nlcww.org.

In-person attendance for last Sunday: 110

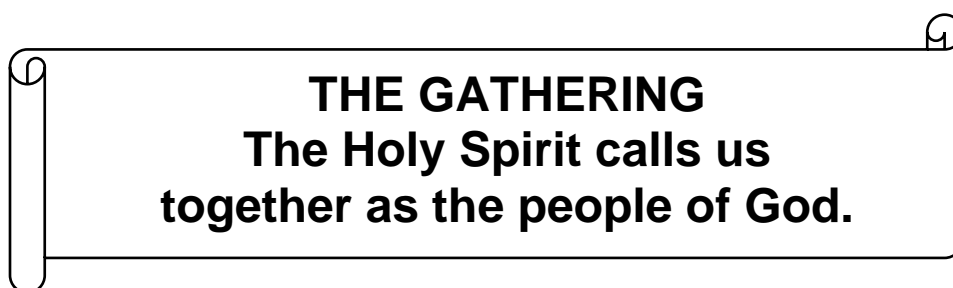
CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Give Me Jesus

Douglas Wagner



Please stand as you are able and turn toward the baptismal font.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Your magnificent splendor and the miracles of your majesty are my constant meditation.

Your awe-inspiring acts of power have everyone talking! I'm telling people everywhere about your excellent greatness!

Our hearts bubble over as we celebrate the fame of your marvelous beauty, bringing bliss to our hearts. We shout with ecstatic joy over your breakthrough for us.

You're kind and tenderhearted to those who don't deserve it and very patient with people who fail You. Your love is like a flooding river overflowing its banks with kindness.

(Psalm 145:5-8 – The Passion Translation)

Please look toward the cross as it processes toward the altar.



1 All crea-tures, wor-ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and
 2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and
 3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth - ful, strong; drive far the shad-ows, join the
 4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor
 grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,
 throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in
 grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:
 clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -
 care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:
 fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

GREETING

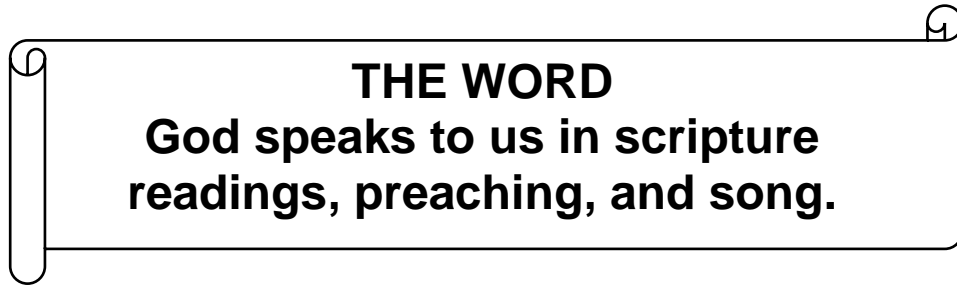
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God... through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.



SPECIAL MUSIC

He

Mullan/Richards
Soloist: David Vanhorn

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE EPHESIANS

1:3-14

Reader: Sharon Schroeder

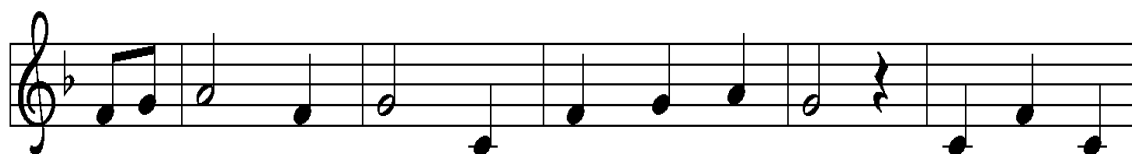
³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also

obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.


GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴King Herod heard of the disciples' preaching, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him."

¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John,

whom I beheaded, has been raised." ¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her.

¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But

an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his

daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom."

²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave

it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

A moment of silence for reflection.

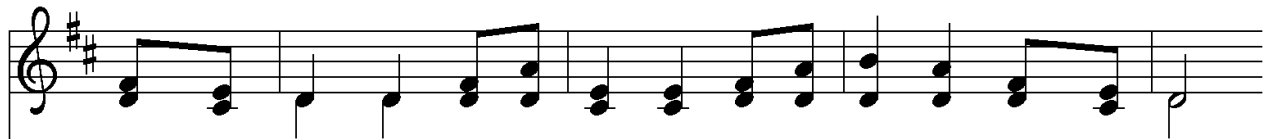
God, our Provider, **help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in You. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to You. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the Manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the Worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✝ the Bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

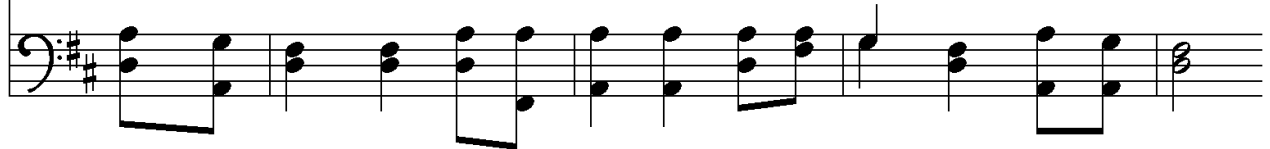
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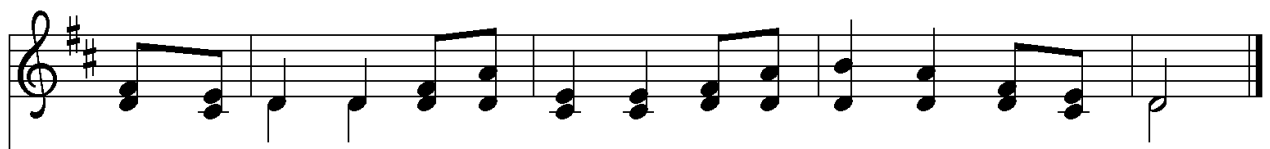
1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.
 let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
 Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan - d'ring from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
 he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.
 Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.



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.

Stand or sit as you desire.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

After each petition: In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the One who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

Please be seated.

THE MEAL

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

OFFERING

You may drop your offering in the basket by the exit door or at the office during the week. You may also donate on-line at <https://www.nlcww.org>, or on our Facebook page. Now you may also contribute using Venmo or Zelle if you have an account or using the QR code below. For more information about these methods see today's Weekly Announcement Sheet.



Assisting Minister unveils the chalice and paten.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, You have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

REMEMBERING GOD'S ACTS OF GRACE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: You we praise and glorify, You we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos; You encircled the globe with air; You created fire for warmth and light; You nourish the lands with water.

You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, You blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, You called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

WORDS OF CONSECRATION

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more. **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, holy and merciful One, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world. **Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to You in love, we feast forever in the triumph of

the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray the prayer Christ himself taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

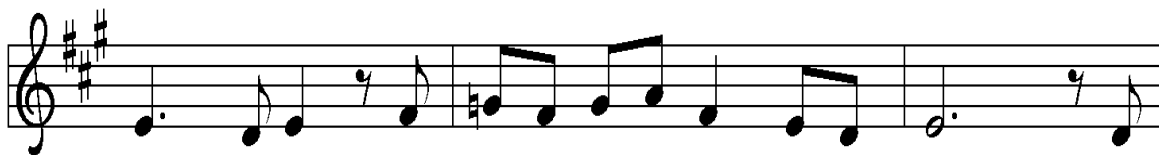
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Guests and friends of any age and background, come and eat at God's table!

You may be seated. The ushers will invite each row to come to the altar. You may stand or kneel at the communion rail and receive bread and wine (or request a gluten free host and/or grape juice). Please let an usher know if you cannot come to the altar to receive communion. We will have communion brought to you.

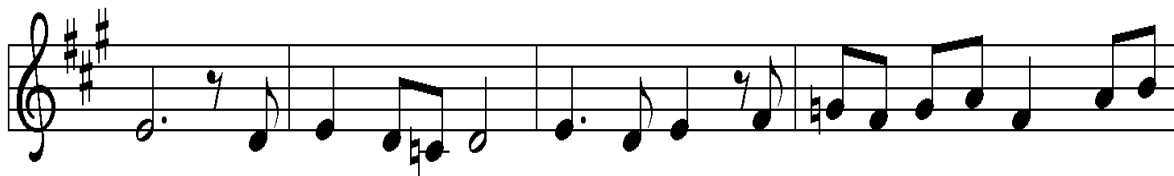
Lamb of God



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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

COMMUNION HYMNS

414, 697, 817, 771

Please stand as you are able.

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As You have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

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

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ✝ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Let Justice Flow like Streams

717

1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,
2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,
3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,

en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

SENDING

People of Nativity, what is our mission?

With the birth of Jesus in our hearts we carry light and love to the world.

DISMISSAL

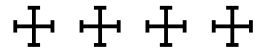
Go in peace! You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Joyous Morning

Gerald Peterson



NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 23:1-6	Psalm 23
Ephesians 2:11-22	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

COFFEE HOUR – Please join us for fellowship in Winemiller Hall after today's worship service.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

New this week: Kat Crawford, Benjamin McDowall, Roger & Lynn, Torres family

Continue to pray for: Tina Anderson, Rob Anthony, Maryanne B., Matthew Barthle, Herb Baynon, Carlos Bayron family, Stephen Benner, Marlene Biachin, Windy and Bill Binns, Paul Todd Brown, Iris Brunner, Agnes Burkart, Roger Cawley, Joyce Colombo, Patrick Cotter, Barb and Jim Cox, Denise Crawford, Judy Dietz, Annie Douglas, Deanne Dullea, Charlton Ewell, David Farmer, Tracy Flanders and family, Irene

Froehlich, Janis & Ryan Geiger, Rich Geiser, Terry & Judie Gibson, Courtney Groetsch, Donald Haig, Irma Haig, Terry Halgren, Ron and Linda Hansen, Emmet Heideman, Carol Heinecke, June Heinecke, Gary and Mary Heinecke, Glenn Heinecke, Kay Hill, Barbara Hofving, Janet Holly, Klaus Horstmann, Joel Jensen, Rainer Jenss, Beth Johanssen, Brian Johnson, John Johnson, June Johnston, Willy K., Kevin Kehoe, Sandi Krol, Kerry & Lynn Krol, Rachel-niece of Mary Krol, Sandra Lee, Lofgren family, Elaine Malone, Antonio Mattei, Raina McDannold, Bradford Allan McWilliams, Sally Miller, Sharelle Miller, Mark and Wayne Musarra, Susan Nordstrom, Sheryl O'Conner, Kim Ohlhauser, Oliver family, Lisa Overs-Morton, Noel Prettyman, Daniel Raines, Judy Reid, Dennis Rogers, Rocco family, Janet Rosario, Angela S, Mary Sandvik, Patrick Sandvik, Rhonda Schadler, Carole Schaefer, Judi Schreiner, Erlinda Sheridan, Tyler Shirey, Sirmenis family, Debbie, Dan & Buddy Smith, Eileen Smith, Sally Spray, Barbara Strohl, John Sunnuto, Jessica Swan, Alan & Jackie Sweet, Mary Ann & Tom Szmanski, Mike Thrasher, Alice Totten, Jim Viereck, family of Chad and Katy Waldorf, West family, Luke Williams, Brian Yoos, Christopher Younger, Laretta Z.

PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY

Nic Baker, Brandi Culpepper, Private Tony D'Angelo, Areil Dietz, Tyler A. Germann, 1st Lt. Robert M. Heinecke, Maj. Matthew Henry, Colton Hill, Andria T. Hook, Jonathan Hudson, Maj. USAF Will Lawlor, Cullen McDannold, Zachary McGuire, CTT1 William Pause, Brandon Pierce, Clinton Pierce, Isaac Redmond, Andrea Roache, Joel Roberts, Cpl. Timothy Spruytte, Cameron James Thompson-Airman 3rd Class, LCpl. Erich Timm, Chief Warrant Officer 3-Adam Timmerman, Airman Bob Totten, Kesley Underwood, Kyle Underwood, Maj. Chad Waldorf - Airforce.

PRAYERS: *The list will be cleared every four weeks. If you wish to remain on the list for longer than four weeks, please call the office and request a long-term prayer. In case of emergency, contact the office at 352-597-1456 and leave a detailed message. Messages are checked daily.*

Altar flowers are given by:



Candice Kochounian In memory of her niece,
Abigail, and brother, Jebb.

Altar Flowers: *If you would like to order flowers in honor or in memory of someone, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, or you can call the office at 352-597-1456. Donation is \$25.00 per vase. Flowers can be picked up after the 9:30AM Sunday service, or you can schedule a pick-up time with the office if you are not attending service.*

Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister	Pastor Giuseppe Mattei
Assisting Minister	Pat Squires
Scripture Reader	Sharon Schroeder
Ushers	Gwen Mahon & Lou Prettyman
Acolyte/Crucifer	Lou Prettyman
Greeters	Evelyn Galli
Music Director	Donna Olsen
Bell Choir Directors	Janet & Todd Holly
Altar Guild	Gayle Howland & Gwen Mahon
Sanctuary	Connie Chase & Beryl Clements
AV Director	Art Alt
Audio	Pat Squires
Cameras	Tim Cotter & Mark Major
Graphics	Diane Alt, Ed Lewis & Linda Rizzo
Video Production	Vicki Page
Head Counter	Karen Crawford
Data Entry	Barbara Crisanti

**NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEEKI WACHEE
A CONGREGATION OF THE FLORIDA-BAHAMAS SYNOD OF
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

Phone (352) 597-1456

Email: Nativitylutheran63@gmail.com, Website: nlcww.org

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

Deacon Charlotte Downing

Deacon Clyde Rosten

Music Director: Donna Olsen

Audio/Visual Director: Art Alt

Bell Choir Directors: Janet & Todd Holly

Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.