

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

Sunday, January 19, 2025 Second Sunday after Epíphany



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:

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

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The Liturgy is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

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: 151

PLEASE MAKE SURE CELL PHONES ARE SILENCED.

CHIMES

Indicates the start of worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Aria

James Pethel

Organist: Kathy Hackemer

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

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you and praise Your name forever and ever. The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

The Lord is faithful and gracious.

The Lord upholds all who fall and raises up all who are bowed down. (Psalm 145)

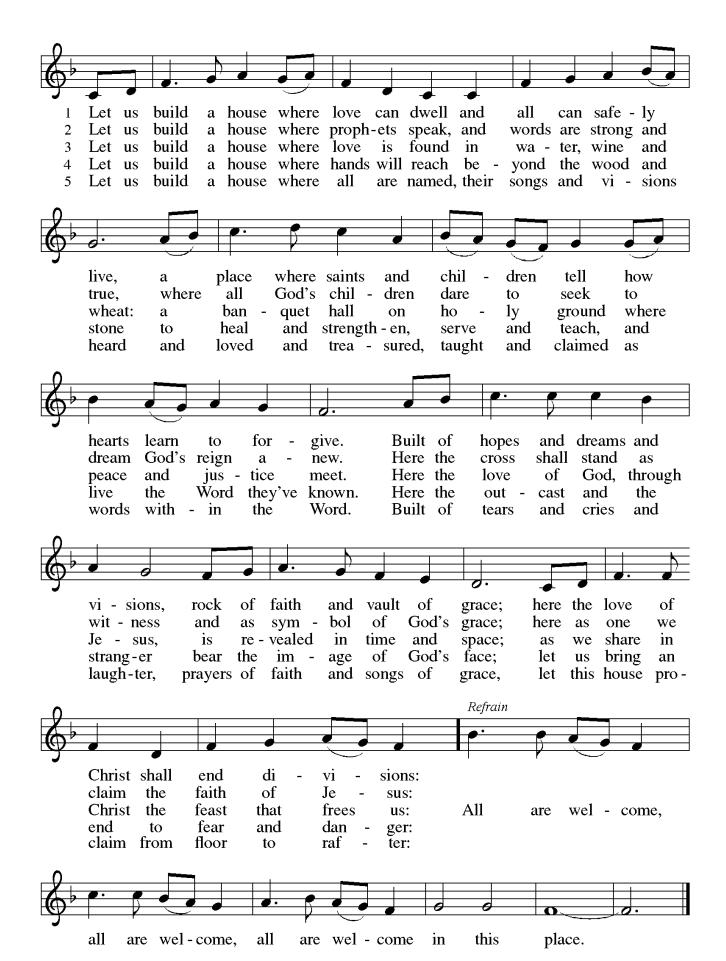
Please look toward the cross as it processes toward the altar.

GATHERING HYMN

All Are Welcome

641

vv. 1,3,4



GATHERING BLESSING

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our Creator, our Protector, our Wellspring of life. **Amen.**

PASTORAL 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. Lord God, source of every blessing, You showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

THE WORD
God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching, and song.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Just Beyond the Manger

Joseph Martin Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children may depart for Sunday School.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET ISAIAH

62:1-5

Reader: Steve Miller

¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. ² The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. ³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married. ⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 2:1-11

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. 8 He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. 9 When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom 10 and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." 11 Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FOREGIVENESS

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, You speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

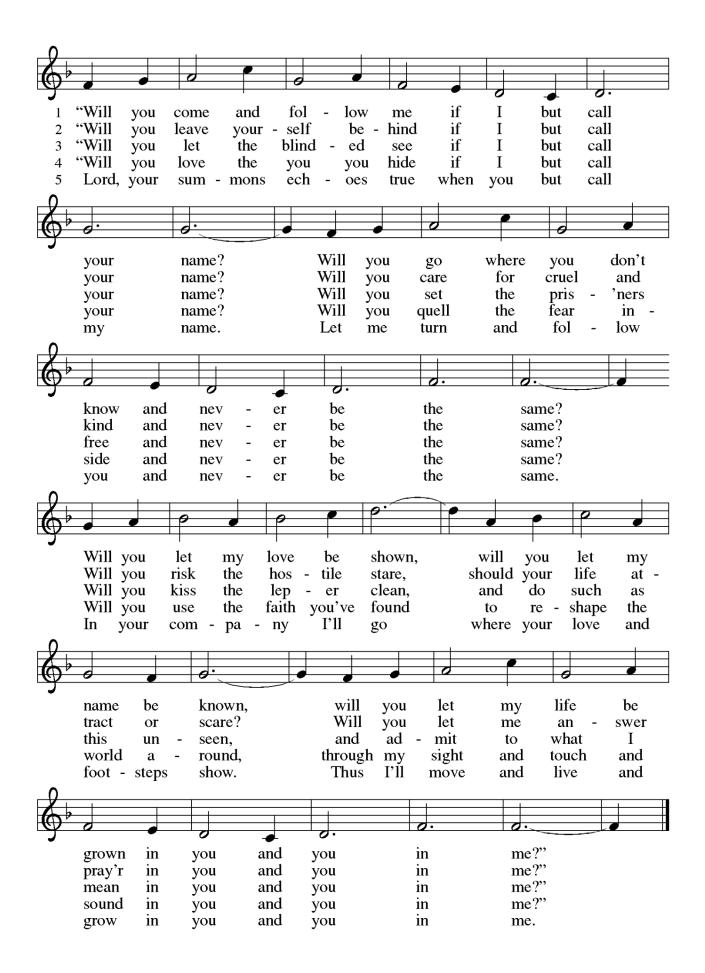
God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

Will You Come and Follow Me

798

vv. 1,2,4



INSTALLATION OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

See Handout

Stand or sit as you desire.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

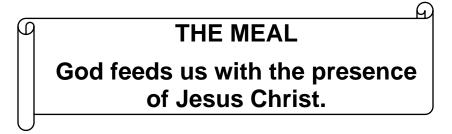
After each petition: God of grace, hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to You, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

Please be seated.



OFFERTORY

Gifts of bread and wine are brought to the altar. You may drop your monetary 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. God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

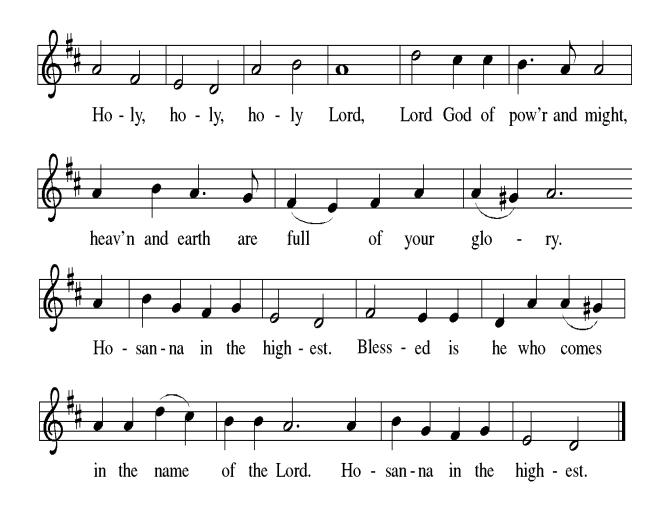
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh You have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant

vision of your glory, that, beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. 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:



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: 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. **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. **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. Amen.

Let us pray the prayer Christ himself taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

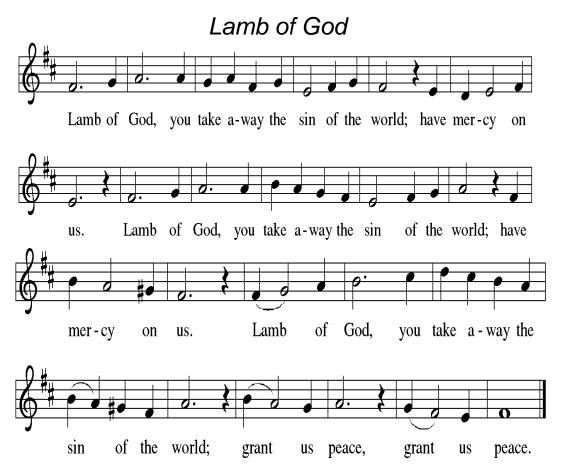
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day

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

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness. Guests and friends of any age and background, take your place at the 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.



MEDITATIVE MUSIC

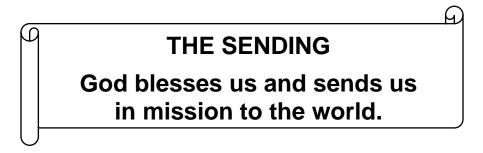
Please stand as you are able.

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. Nourishing God, at this table You have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.



BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God + bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

We All Are One in Mission

576



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! Live in hope!

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Overture: Royal Fireworks G.F. Handel

Organist: Kathy Hackemer

+ + + +

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Luke 4:14-21

COFFEE HOUR - Please join us in the narthex for limited coffee time due to the congregational meeting.

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.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

New this week: Vivian Deon, Joel Jensen, Brenda Klavanian, Irene Sardone, Ann Wright

Continue to pray for: Tracy Baker, Larry & Frani Barnes, Robert Bonesteel, Stephen Benner, Windy and Bill Binns, Ruth Brellenthin, Iris Brunner, Agnes Burkart, Libby & John Capell, Roger Cawley, Karen Chipko, Jim Christensen, Joyce Colombo, Ginny Dempsey, Judy Dietz, Zoe Fernandez, Irene Froehlich, Donald Haig, Irma Haig, Terry Halgren, June Heinecke, Gary and Mary Heinecke, Glenn Heinecke, Marilyn Henkel, Kay Hill, Barbara Hofving, Klaus Horstmann, Brian Johnson, June Johnston, Tina Jones, Nancy Jung, Hillary Kanea, Karen family, Finn Katona and family, Stephanie Krepshaw, Anthony Laviano & family, Debra Leinenger, Virginia Lucas, Bob Maday, Elaine Malone, Antonio Mattei, Raina McDannold, Dennis McKenna, Mark and Wayne Musarra, Oliver family, Lou Prettyman, Katherine Rizzo, Rocco family, Dennis Rogers, Angela Russell, John Sannuto, Carole & Dick Schaefer, Eileen Smith, Barbara Strohl, Alice Totten, Antonio Vaznelis, West family, WK, Christopher Younger

PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY

Nic Baker, Brandi Culpepper, Private Tony D'Angelo, Areil Dietz, Tyler A. Germann, Maj. Matthew Henry, Colton Hill, Andria T. Hook, Jonathan Hudson, Maj. USAF Will Lawlor, Cullen McDannold, Zachary McGuire, CTT2 William Pause, Brandon Pierce, Clinton Pierce, Isaac Redmond, Andrea Roache, Joel Roberts, Cpl. Timothy Spruytte, Cameron James Thompson-Airman 3rd Class, LCpl. Erich Timm, Airman Bob Totten, Kesley Underwood, Kyle Underwood, Maj. Chad Waldorf - Airforce.



Altar flowers are given by:

Linda Rizzo In memory of her dad, Ted Bailey, and her brother, Ron Bailey. May they be resting in peace.

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. 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 Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

Assisting Minister Marylou Bonesteel

Scripture Reader Steve Miller

Ushers Gwen Mahon & Robert Rios

Music Director Donna Olsen

Guest Organist Kathy Hackemer

Bell Choir Directors Janet & Todd Holly

Altar Guild Connie Chase, Gwen Mahon & Robert Rios

Greeter Evelyn Galli

Sanctuary Connie Chase & Beryl Clements

AV Director Art Alt

Audio Pat Squires

Cameras Tim Cotter & Mark Major

Graphics Diane Alt, Francesca Bugini,

Ed Lewis & Linda Rizzo

Video Production Vicki Page

Head counter this week Pat Squires

Data Entry Linda Wagner

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

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

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei
Deacon Charlotte Downing
Music Director: Donna Olsen
Audio/Visual Director: Art Alt
Bell Choir Directors: Janet & Todd Holly
Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.