

Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church

✦ **Third Sunday of Advent** ✦
December 15, 2019

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principle focus of the day, the prophet Malachi's word could as easily herald the coming Lord Jesus. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing, we prepare the way for the coming of the Lord and assist all flesh in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."



*Inspired by Christ,
living and growing in faith,
we are a loving and open community
of worship, witness, and service in God's world.*



Prelude

Welcome

Penitential Rite

Please stand as you are able.

Confession

Word of Absolution

Gathering Hymn

Apostolic Greeting

Prayer of the Day

Please be seated.

✠ Gathering ✠

Following the call of God's Spirit, the community of faith gathers, welcoming one another and praying for God's mercy to fill the church and the world.

We invite you to use the prelude time to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

✠ Confession and Forgiveness ✠

P: Throughout the season of Advent we prepare ourselves to receive the King of glory anew. Therefore, let us come before God with open hearts.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW #264, vs 1 All, vs 2 Women, vs 3, Men, vs 4 All

All voices sing the Refrain

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.**

P: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. **By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

✠ Word ✠

The Word of God comes alive for the gathered community
As God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung and preached.



Lighting of the Advent Wreath

On the First Sunday of Advent we light the candle for Hope. Last Sunday we lit the candle for Peace. Today we light the third candle of Advent. This is the candle of Joy. As the coming of Jesus, our Savior, draws nearer, our joy builds with our anticipation of his birth. From the Book of Isaiah we read the words of our Lord:

“But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight.”—Isaiah 65:18

Let us pray:

We joyfully praise you, O Lord, **for the fulfillment of your promise of a Savior and what that means in our lives. Thank you for the gift of salvation through the birth of your son, Jesus. Create us anew as we wait, and help us to see your glory as you fill our lives with your living Spirit. Amen.**

*Dear Jesus lead us to your bed, In Bethlehem we pray.
A candle we shall light, O Lord, To Guide us on our way.*

*O Father, you have sent your son From your unbounded grace.
A second candle we now light To honor you with praise.*

*O Holy Spirit, you appeared As fire and heav’nly dove,
Your prophet calls us to the light. Come fill us with your love.*

Dismissal Song

Story of Sancta Lucia

Sancta Lucia is celebrated throughout Scandinavia on December 13. As late as the mid-18th century, due to the continued use of the Julian calendar, this was the longest night of the year, coinciding with Winter Solstice. In pre-Christian Sweden the night was known as Lussinight, which was a night of particular fear and sacredness. Songs were often sung to ward off the darkness.

Christian missionaries arriving in Scandinavia used this day to evangelize the local population, by transferring the commemoration of Sancta Lucia, Lucia of Syracuse, to this day. According to tradition, Lucia was engaged to a pagan man who turned her over to the authorities when she chose to give her dowry away to the poor. She was martyred on December 13th in 304 AD.

In Sweden in the late 1700’s, there were legends of a woman appearing in times of great famine distributing food to the starving. Perhaps because the name “Lucia” means “light,” and since her feast day falls in December, these stories were in turn attributed to the goodness and generosity of Sancta Lucia.



Advent Verse

Isaiah 11

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

Please stand as you are able.

*Matthew 3:1-12
Just before Jesus*

Lucia Processional

(Sung by the Choir and repeated by congregation as a recessional)

*Into our hearts she walks, Telling her story,
Candles in shining crown, Lighting her story
Symbol of Love sublime Moving o'er space and time,
Santa Lucia, Santa Lucia.*

*Now in the winter night Good folk are waiting.
See now the maid of light, Darkness abating.
Into this winter night Come, maid of shining light,
Santa Lucia, Santa Lucia.*

*When on the earth she walked, Bravely confessing,
All to the poor she gave, All felt her blessing.
Symbol of love sublime, Moving o'er space and time,
Santa Lucia, Santa Lucia.*

Lucia C. B Agnestig & Johny Johansson

*In darkest night of this midwinter's deep,
We welcome you, fairest Lucia.
Draw near us with generous love for all,
Draw near us with greetings of Christmas' peace,
Draw near us with light in your crown.*

Reading

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

R: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Lucia Recessional

Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

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

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, the word of God came to John

begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

Please be seated.



Sunday School Christmas Program



son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

P: The Gospel of our Lord.
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sunday School Christmas Program

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Away in a manger

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

We Three Kings

We Three Kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, Moor and mountain, Following yonder Star.
O Star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with Royal Beauty bright,
Westward leading, Still proceeding, Guide us to Thy perfect Light.



Please be seated

Silent Night

(The Sunday School will present the verse first in sign language.

The congregation will join in singing on the 2nd time through.)

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Go Tell It on the Mountain:

Refrain

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. [Refrain]

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. [Refrain]

Prayers of the Church

P: Keeping awake as we watch for Christ, let us pray for the church, the world,
and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: God of promise, your reign has come near. Call your people to the
way...Lord in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, God of abundant grace, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

*After the greeting, please **share a word** of peace with your neighbors.*

✠ Offering ✠

*Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church is supported through the generous gifts of time,
talent and treasure of our friends and members. In order to fulfill our mission and
ministry, we need to receive approximately \$6,000 in offerings each week. We thank
you for your support and partnership in the proclamation of the good news.*

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

for Piano and Organ

Arrangement by Diane LaMere

Chip Davis

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres-ence, and
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Text: Psalm 51:10-12
Music: FRANCKE, J.A. Freylinghausen, 1670-1739

- A: Giver of every good thing, we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger.
- C: **Amen.**

✠ Meal ✠

We lift our hearts with praise and thanksgiving as the table is set, and we receive the bread and wine—the humble meal through which we are fed by the presence of Jesus the Christ and united as the body of Christ in the world.

Great Thanksgiving

- 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.**
- P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

Offertory

Offering

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Prayer



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

Music: Per Harling, b. 1948
 Music © 2004 Augsburg Fortress

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Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

C: **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: Come to me all who are tired and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. The table is ready. All are welcome.

Please be seated

(During the season of Advent and Christmas, we will use the traditional words for the Lord's Prayer.)

Lamb of God

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a-way the sin of the world,
have mer - cy up-on us! O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak -
est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up-on us!
O Christ, thou Lamb of God that tak - est a-way the sin of the world,
grant us thy peace! A - men

Text: German, 1528, based on the Agnus Dei; tr. unknown
Music: CHRISTE, DU LAMM GOTTES, *Kirchenordnung*, Braunschweig, 1528



Meditation

Distribution

Communion is by common cup or intinction: For the common cup, receive a piece of the bread, and drink from the white chalice. For intinction dip the bread into the brown cup with the wine (dark) or grape juice (light) as you prefer, then eat. At Lake of the Isles, we practice open communion. All who hunger for the presence of Christ in their life are welcome at this table. Gluten free wafers are available in the silver cup.

Post-Communion Blessing

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

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

A: We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Communion Music

Please stand as you are able.



✠ **SENDING** ✠

*We receive the blessing of God and leave in peace,
Sent out to live the way of Jesus for the sake of the world God loves.*

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW #244

**Sending
Hymn**

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

Announcements

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

*You are invited to remain for the Postlude to enjoy this musical offering of thanksgiving and
praise or leave quietly.*

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WELCOME

We thank you for celebrating the love of Jesus Christ with us this week, and we invite you back again—for prayer and worship and to any of the events our congregation has scheduled. We hope the message of God's grace will guide and strengthen you as you grow in love and faith in your daily life.

**YOUR WORSHIP
LEADERS TODAY**

Pastor	Rev. Arden D. Haug
Guest Organist	Samuel Long
Guest Choir Director	Debra Gilroy
Worship Assistant	Michelle McCreery
Santa Lucia	Stephanie Amann
Advent Wreath Candle Lighters	The Kappel Family
Ushers	Don Holzschuh and Mark Duff
Altar Servers	Carolyn and David Hagford
Reader	
Communion Assistants	Carolyn Hagford, Mary Sabatke, and Janna Haug
Coffee Hosts	Mary Knoblauch and Marty Carlson

CHURCH OFFICERS

President	Marty Carlson
Vice President	Ross Formell
Treasurer	Ross Bartels
Secretary	Jon Sprain

STAFF

Children's Ministry Director
Seminarian
Office Manager
Nursery Attendant

Diane LaMere
Al Aakre
Linda Nelson
Tori Reisberg

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15	9:30 am	Worship with Holy Communion	
		Sunday School Christmas Program	Sanctuary
	10:45 am	Coffee Hour	Sanctuary
	12:00 pm	Julbord	Fellowship Hall
	3:00 pm	Karelse Student Recital	Sanctuary
	6:30 pm	Mina Fischer Concert	Sanctuary
MONDAY, DECEMBER 16	7:00 pm	AA	Fellowship Hall
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17	9:15 am	Prayer Ministry	Christy Room
	5:15 pm	SA Support Group	Christy Room
	7:00 pm	AA Spiritual Recovery Group	Christy Room
	7:00 pm	Men's AA Group	Room 56
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18	10:00 am	Bible Study	Christy Room
	12:00 pm	Staff Meeting	Christy Room
	7:00 pm	Confirmation	Christy Room
	7:15 pm	Choir Practice	Fellowship Hall
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19	12:00 pm	Al-Anon	Fellowship Hall
	6:00 pm	Fitzgerald Student Recital	Sanctuary
	7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting	Library
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20	9:00 am	Poinsettias Delivered	Library
	7:00 pm	Christmas Caroling	Reisberg Home
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22	9:30 am	Worship with Holy Communion	Sanctuary
		No Sunday School	
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24	4:30 pm	Christmas Eve Family Service	Sanctuary
	10:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	Sanctuary
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25		CHURCH CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS DAY	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LIST



Please keep the following friends & members of our community of faith in your prayers of

thanksgiving or for comfort, peace, and healing:

Shirley Carlson, Dawn Allan, Gary Olson, father of Lars Olson; **David Cook**, brother of Jennifer Cook; **Sam Pederson**, nephew of Jennifer Cook; **Mary McCarthy**, friend of Nancy McCutcheon; **Lynn Williamson**, family of Bruce and Carol Kuehn; **Heluza Ramos**, grandmother of Rebecca Morell, **Deb Benson**, mother of Kayla Hoel.

Loved Ones In The Military

Please keep all the members and families of the military in your prayers of thanksgiving and protection.



*Emily Melbye 12/16
Marty Carlson 12/18*

*Gregory Sarles 12/17
Tommy Nesheim
12/20*

Lars Olson 12/21

STAFFED NURSERY AVAILABLE

Children are always welcome in worship, however, if the need arises, the Christy Room is staffed with a Nursery Attendant for your child. The Christy Room is located to the left of the sanctuary through the side door at the front of the church and across from the church office. There is an alternate route to take from the narthex—follow the signs. If you need assistance, please ask one of the ushers to help you. There is a baby changing table available in the unisex restroom between the pastor's office and the sacristy.

Families are always welcome to use the nursery but the nursery will not be staffed on Christmas Eve at the 4:30 p.m. Family service.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING! FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

You are invited to join the chorus caroling on Friday, December 20th at 7:00 p.m. We will gather at the home of Bernie and Michelle Reisberg, 2401 Kenwood Parkway, to sing Christmas carols around the neighborhood before returning to the *Mary Tyler Moore House* for refreshments. Please bring an appetizer to share. RSVP to Pastor Haug.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, CHRISTMAS EVE

We will offer two Christmas Eve services with Holy Communion.

The Family Service at 4:30 pm will be designed for families with younger children. The service will feature a "living nativity scene" at the manger. Guest trumpeter Jamie Gorski will perform at this worship service.

The Candle Light Service at 10:00 pm The LOTI Church Choir and ensemble will perform a pastoral mass for Christmas composed by Max Kempter. This was a beloved tradition in Central Europe where the songs of shepherds were woven into the music.

THE GIFT OF GENEROSITY

This holiday season, we thank everyone who has supported LOTI this past year with their time, talent and financial contributions and look forward to support from all of our members in the year ahead. If you need a convenient way to make regular offerings or if you plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, we encourage you to look into our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up, especially around the holidays, you may find electronic

giving a most welcome way to make contributions. Contact the church office for more information.

End of the year gifts to LOTI must be received by Tuesday, December 31st.

CHRISTMAS TEA THANKS

Thank you to everyone who helped with set-up, serving, providing food and clean-up for the Christmas Tea last Sunday.

EXTENDED CALENDAR OF LOTI CHURCH SERVICES & EVENTS



December 19

Church Council Meeting
7:00 p.m.

December 20

Christmas Caroling at 7:00
The Reisberg Home

December 24

Christmas Eve
Family Service at 4:30 p.m.
Candlelight Service at 10:00 p.m.

December 25

Church Office Closed

January 6

Sunday School Resumes

January 12

Faith Talk (for Parent/Tween)
with Pastor Haug (after worship)

January 19

No Sunday School (MLK Weekend)

January 26

Family Fun Day (after worship)

God's Help, Our Hands

2020 W. Lake of the Isles Parkway
Minneapolis, MN 55405

☎ 612 377-5095 ☎

Office Hours:

M-Th 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

churchoffice@loti.org ☎ pastor@loti.org

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