

LAKE OF THE ISLES LUTHERAN CHURCH

✠ Third Sunday of Advent ✠

December 13, 2020



God keeps the promise made to David, to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord;"

✠ 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.

Prelude

Nu är det jul igen (It is Christmas Time Again)

Skanklåt

Welcome

Penitential Rite

Please stand as you are able.

✠ Confession & 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.

Kyrie

1,3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.

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.)

Confession

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.

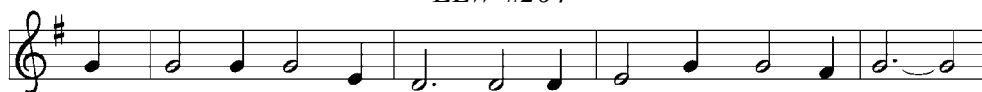
Words of Absolution

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.**

Gathering Hymn

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW #264



- 1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
- 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
- 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
- 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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Apostolic Greeting

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

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle



Advent Song

Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Paul concludes his letter to the Thessalonians by encouraging them to live lives of continual joy, prayer, and thanksgiving. The closing blessing is grounded in the hope of Christ's coming.

Violin Solo

✠ Word ✠

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

On the First Sunday of Advent we lit 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.
Our 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.*

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil.

²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

P: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

När det lider mot Jul (When We Draw Closer to Christmas)

Ruben Liljefors

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 Lussinatt, 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.

Lucia Processional

Sancta Lucia

Sicilian Melody

*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 day,
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.*

St. Stephen's Song

*Stephen was a stable boy, We honor him most dearly.
He watered his fine horses five Beneath the heavens lonely.
Dawn was not yet to be seen, There the star of Bethlehem was shining.
Quickly was the saddling done. We honor him most dearly.
He rode his horse from Herod's gate Beneath the heavens lowly.
Dawn was not yet to be seen, There the star of Bethlehem was shining.
Stephen saw the star that night. We honor him most dearly.
The star he knew would change his life. Beneath the heavens lowly.
Dawn was not yet to be seen, There the star of Bethlehem was shining.*

Advent Verse

Gospel

*Please stand
as you are able*

Luke 1:26-38

*In this annunciation,
Luke makes clear that
God comes with good
news for ordinary
people (Mary) from
little known places
(Nazareth). This king
will not be born to
royalty in a palace,
but to common folk
in a stall. Here Luke
highlights the role of
the Spirit, a special
emphasis in his gospel.*

Lucia Recessional

Sermon

Please be seated.

Hosianna

Georg Joseph Vogler (1749 – 1814)

*Sing Hosanna, David's Son! O, welcome him with song!
Sing Hosanna David's Son, who comes in the name of the Lord!
Sing Hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna in the highest.
Sing Hosanna David's Son, who comes in the name of the Lord.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

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

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God." ³⁸Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**



Hymn of the Day

*Please stand
as you are able.*



Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW #244



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

Prayers of the Church

P: God of power and might, shine your radiance and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

(A brief silence.)

A: God of preachers and messengers, you have entrusted your church with the work...Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

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

C: 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 those around you.*

✠ 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.

Special Music

Please be seated.

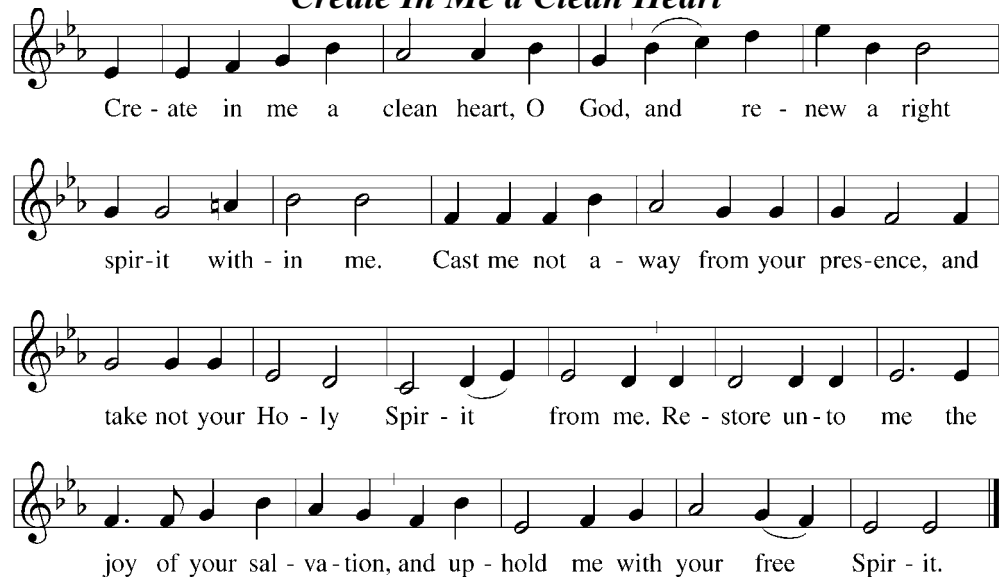
Julottan Polska (Christmas Morning Turning Dance)

Mats Wallman

Offertory

*Please stand
as you are able.*

Create In Me a Clean Heart



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

Offertory Prayer

A: Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray.

C: Amen.



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...

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

*In the night in which he was betrayed,
Our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks...*

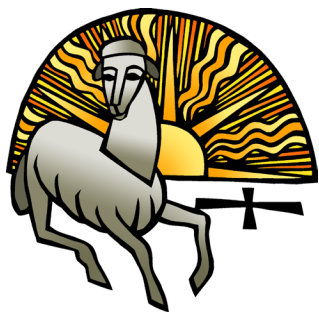
The Lord's Prayer

*During the season of
Advent and Christmas,
we will use the
traditional words for
the 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

Please be seated.



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

O Christ, Thou 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

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.

✠ 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.*

Sending Hymn

*Please stand
as you are able*



When Christmas Morn is Dawning

LBW #59



1 When Christ-mas morn is dawn - ing I wish that I could be
2 How kind of you, our Sav - ior, for us to come to earth.
3 We need you, O Lord Je - sus, to be our dear-est friend.



there by the man - ger - cra - dle God's Son, new-born, to see,
Oh, may we not by sin - ning de - spise your low - ly birth.
Your love will guard and guide us and keep us to life's end.



there by the man - ger - cra - dle God's Son, new-born, to see.
Oh, may we not by sin - ning de - spise your low - ly birth.
Your love will guard and guide us and keep us to life's end.

Text: Elisabeth Ehrenborg-Posse, Barnsänger, 19th cent.; tr. Joel W. Lundeen, 1918–1990
Music: WIR HATTEN GEBAUET, German folk tune, 1823

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Benediction

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

C: Amen.

Announcements

Please be seated.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Koppången

Py Bäckman /Per-Erik Moreaus

*There is silence around me in this peaceful winter night.
From the church down in the valley I can see the candlelight.
And I stopped for a moment in this winter paradise,
When I heard a choir singing through the darkness and the ice.
And the rays of lights behind the window's vaulted frames
Have united the souls in hope that something great is waiting.
And I know that those who have left us here had the same thoughts as I,
We're like flames in the darkness and stars up in the sky.
And I see how they sparkle and they fade before my eyes
And the truth is coming closer like a wonder in disguise.
We are caught here for a moment like an imprint of a hand
On an old and frosted window or a footprint in the sand.
For a while I'm eternal - that's the only thing I know,
I am here and we share our dreams about our destination.
It is cold out here, the snow is white but I'm warm deep inside.
I am warm 'cause I know that my faith will be my guide.*

*You are free to leave during the Postlude or remain to enjoy the offering of music and praise.
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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

Preacher..... Rev. Dr. Arden D. Haug
Organist..... Dr. Kris Rizzoto
Worship Assistant..... Michelle McCreery
Violin..... Nanette Godling
Swedish Folk Music..... Paul & Mary Kay Dahlin
Santa Lucia..... Tory Reisberg
Star Boy Spencer Reisberg
Usher Linda Nelson

CHURCH OFFICERS

President..... Chanda Olson
Vice President Jennifer Cook
Treasurer Ross Bartels
Secretary Jon Sprain

STAFF

Pastor..... Rev. Dr. Arden D. Haug
Director of Music..... Dr. Kris Rizzotto
Children's Ministry Director..... Diane LaMere
Seminarian Al Aakre
Office Manager Linda Nelson
Design & Communication Michelle McCreery
Caretakers Sarah and Trevor Skorburg
Custodian Fernando Fierros

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13	9:30 AM	<i>Worship with Holy Communion</i>..... Sanctuary
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14	7:00 PM	<i>AA</i> Patio/Fellowship Hall
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15	9:15 AM	<i>Prayer Ministry</i> Zoom
	7:00 PM	<i>Men's AA Group</i> Sunday School Rooms
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16	10:00 AM	<i>Bible Study</i> Zoom
	12:00 PM	<i>Staff Meeting</i> Zoom
	4:00 PM	<i>Confirmation</i> Christy Room
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17	7:00 PM	<i>Women's Bible Study</i> Fellowship Hall
	7:00 PM	<i>Church Council Meeting</i> Zoom
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20	9:30 AM	<i>Worship with Holy Communion</i>..... Sanctuary
		<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>

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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:



the family of **Delores Aagaard**, mother of Jim Aagaard **Brian Krinke**, son of Jean Krinke, **Duane Behrens**, father of Diane LaMere, **Jim Jodie**, cousin of Carolyn Hagford; **Sam Pederson**, nephew of Jennifer Cook; **Jim Peterson**, brother-in-law of Rick and Suzanne Pepin; **Bruce Payne & Mike Payne**, cousins of Michelle McCreery; the family of **Lynn Williamson**, **Heluza Ramos**, grandmother of Rebecca Morell, **Deb Benson**, mother of Kayla Hoel; **Trevor Daniel**, prayer request by Cheri Moe; Peggy Wagner, friend of the congregation; **Heidi Chadwick**, sister of Cindy Huttner.

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 **Thursday, December 31st**.

Readers Needed for December 20 Worship

We need readers for the Lessons and Carols service on **Sunday, December 20**. Please contact the church office by Wednesday afternoon of this week if you can be a reader.



1936-2020

God's Help, Our Hands

Loved Ones In The Military
Please keep all the members and families of the military in your prayers of thanksgiving and protection.



★ **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!** ★

*Nolan Vike 12.13 Emily Melbye 12.16
Gregory Sarles 12.17 Marty Carlson 12.18*

Julbord – Christmas Smorgasbord

for Curbside Pickup

December 23, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Prepared by Anna-Lena Skold



Julbord

*Hard Tack and Home Baked Vört Limpa & Butter
Matjes Herring topped with Sour Cream, Chives & Red Onion
Creamy Herring flavored with Herbs
Glasmästaresill - Traditional Pickled Herring
Eggs topped with Creamy Seafood Salad
Citrus Marinated Salmon served with Sweet Dill Mustard Sauce
Julskinka - Swedish Christmas Ham
Creamy Beet Salad flavored with Horseradish
Two kinds of Scandinavian Cheese and Olives
Swedish Pickled Cucumbers
Homemade Sweet & Sour Red Cabbage
Meatballs and Lingonberries
Swedish Potato Sausages
Jansson's Temptation
Dessert
*Ris a la Malta med Saftsås
(Creamy Swedish rice pudding flavored with Vanilla topped with
sweet sauce made of Swedish fruit punch) & Ginger Cookies*
Special Treat
*Lussekatter (Home Baked Swedish Saffron Buns)**

\$30 per meal

Contact the [church office](#) or [order online](#)

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

✂ 612 377-5095 ✂

✂ churchoffice@loti.org ✂ pastor@loti.org ✂
loti.org

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Friday 9:00 to 12:00 PM