

Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church

▼ Third Sunday of Advent ▼ December 12, 2021

Christ's presence in our midst in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the God in prayer, in every circumstance, is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one more powerful than John, is good news—and cause for exultation—for us who are being saved.

Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

¥ 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.

Bourrée I

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)

Welcome

Prelude

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.

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.

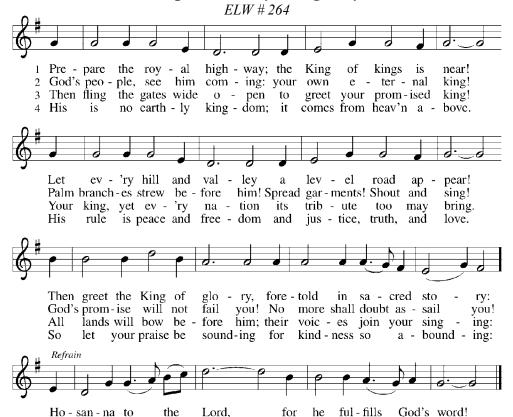
Words of Absolution

P: 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



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 Chrst, 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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father 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.

Children's Message
Please be seated.

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Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

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.

Advent Song

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 Mary, favored one of God, For us the Child you bore. With joyful light, we honor you, Blessed Mother of our Lord.

Gospel *Luke 1:39-45*

Elizabeth, John's mother, and Mary, the mother of Jesus, are two women filled with the Holy Spirit and with faith. In Elizabeth's inspired greeting and Mary's song of praise we hear of a saving God who remembers, scatters, lifts up, and fulfills all things.

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

P: The Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.



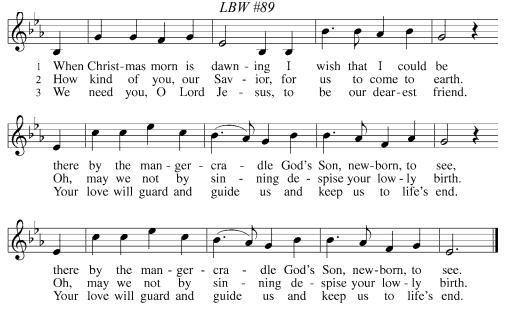
Sermon

Please be seated

Hymn of the Day

Following the sermon, we will take a moment of silence to reflect on today's gospel message.

When Christmas Morn is Dawning



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

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Presentation

Please be seated.

Profession of Faith

Please stand as you are able.



Thanksgiving at the Font

Please be seated.

Baptism

Baptism Song

Please join in singing the refrain.

▼ The Sacrament of Holy Baptism **▼**

Isabelle Marilyn Stenglein

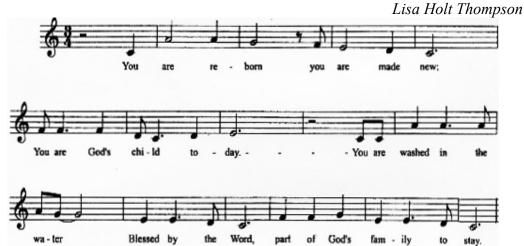
Parents: Brandon and Kelsey Stenglein Sponsors: Brian Finks and Katelyn Bruce

- P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?
- C: I renounce them.
- P: Do you believe in God the Father?
- C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
- P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
- C: 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.
- P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
- C: 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.

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C: We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God.

The Baptismal Song



Prayers of the Church

Greeting of Peace

Please stand as you are able.

P: In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

A brief silence.

A: Holy God, renew your church and raise up leaders who announce your good news. Grant peace...

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

C: Amen.

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.

Bourrée II

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)

Constant Mark Class Harri



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

Offertory Prayer

- A: God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.
- C: Amen.

Violin Solo

Offertory Response

Please stand as you are able.



₩ 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.

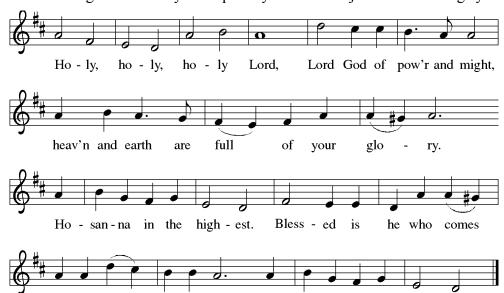
Great Thanksgiving

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.

in the

name

- 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 and salutary... we praise you name and join their unending hymn:





Words of Institution

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Ho - san - na in the

high - est.

of the Lord.

Lord's Prayer

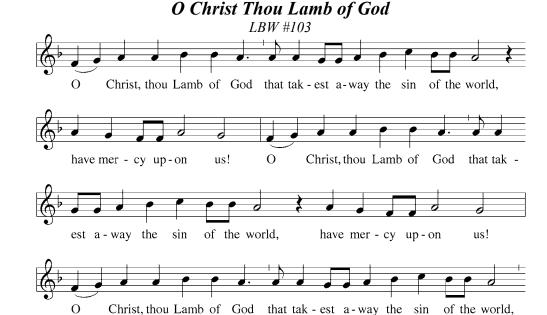
C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is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





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

peace!

thy

grant us

DistributionPlease be seated.

Distribution Music

Holy Communion will begin in the front of the church, nearest where the pastor and assisting minister will distribute the bread and wine. Please take either a glass of red wine or white grape juice from the full tray and place your emptied glass into the extra tray which is positioned in front of the first pew.

Your offerings will also be received as the usher directs you towards the front of the church for communion.

A

Koppången

Py Bäckman /Per-Erik Moreaus

men

There is silence around me on 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.

Post-Communion Blessing

Please stand as you are able.

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

C: Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

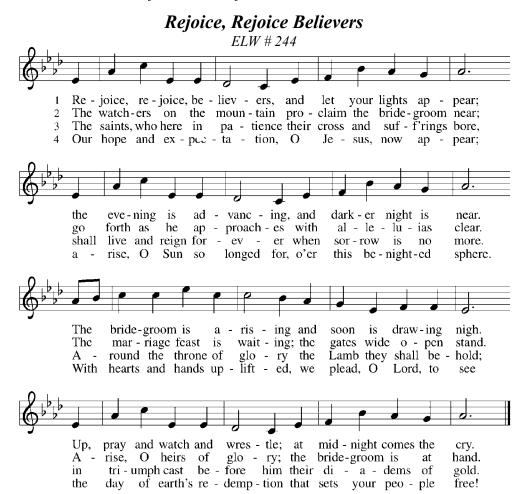
C: Amen.

№ 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

Vs 1 & 4



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

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord makes 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.

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Dismissal

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Sancta Lucia Processional



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 the 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.

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







Sancta Lucia

Sicilian Melody

Into our hearts she walks, telling her story, Candles in shining crown, lighting her glory. 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.

Jul, jul, strålande jul

Gustaf Nordqvist

Christmas, Christmas glorious Christmas Shine over white forests The crowns of heaven with sparkling lights Glistening bows in each of God's houses A hymn sung time and time again Eternal longing for light and peace Christmas, Christmas, glorious Christmas Shine over white forests Come, come holy Christmas Wrap your white wings Around the blood and turmoil of war Around all the people's sighs Around all the families who travel to peace Around the youth's daily lives Come, come, holy Christmas Bring your white wings down

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. We will continue to have Sunday services online.
We hope the message of God's grace will guide and strengthen you
as you grow in love and faith in your daily life.

Vous Wongum I sansag son w	Destan	Describer Andrew D. Herre
Your Worship Leaders today	Pastor	O
	Organist	
	Violin	•
	Soloist	Shay Behrends
	Baptism Song	Kathy Hering
	Worship Assistant	Michelle McCreery
	Communion Assistant	Mark Duff
	Altar Servers	Cathy Carlson & Kathy Hering
	Reader	
	Usher	
	Coffee Hosts	
Church Officers	President	Chanda Olson
	Vice President	
	Treasurer	•
	Secretary	
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Staff	Pastor	_
	Director of Music	
	Children's Ministry Director	Diane LaMere
	Worship Technical Director	Joseph LaMere
	Office Manager	Linda Nelson
	_	
	Custodian/Caretakers	-
	Design & Communication Director	Michelle McCreery
		8

Please note: If you are unable to attend in-person Worship, remember that our Service is live-streamed each week & remains available for subsequent viewing on our <u>YouTube channel</u>

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 12	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion	Sanctuary & YouTube
		Sunday School	Sunday School Rooms
	10:30 ам	Coffee Hour	Sanctuary
	12:00 рм	Julbord ~ Christmas Smörgåsbord	Fellowship Hall
	4:00 рм	Isles Ensemble Concert	Sanctuary
Monday, December 13	7:00 рм	AA	Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, December 14	9:15 ам	Prayer Ministry	Christy Room/Sanctuary
	5:15 рм	Women's SA Group	
	7:00 рм	Men's AA	Patio/Fellowship Hall
	7:00 рм	AA/Spiritual Recovery	Christy Room/Sanctuary
Wednesday, December 15	9:30 ам	Bible Study	Library/Zoom
	12:00 рм	Staff Meeting	Christy Room /Zoom
	4:00 рм	Confirmation	
	7:00 рм	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Thursday, December 16	6:00 рм	Punschklubben	Fellowship Hall
	7:00 рм	Church Council	
Friday, December 17	2:00 рм	Set Up for Christmas Tea	Fellowship Hall
Sunday, December 19	9:30 AM	Worship with Holy Communion	Sanctuary & YouTube
		Sunday School	Sunday School Rooms
	10:30 ам	Christmas Tea & Cookie Sale	Fellowship Hall
	7:00 рм	Cello Recital	Sanctuary



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:



Matthew Moen; Anna Lena Skold; **Trygve** Svard; Tom Been, friend of the Kuehn family; Gary Erickson, brother-in-law Carol Kuehn; Tom Been, friend of the Kuehn family; Colin Mason, friend of the Amann family; Evangeline Hagfors, cousin of David Hagford; Sam Pederson, nephew of Jennifer Cook; David Beebe, brother-inlaw of Rick and Suzanne Pepin and John Fitch; Tom Friend, brother-in-law of Mark and Kathy Hering; Graham Rawle, friend of Michelle McCreery & Mark Duff; Beth Addington; Howard Thorsheim, friend of John Bergford.

Meditation

LOTI is available during office hours for a time of quiet meditation. You can use the sanctuary to spend time in prayer, light a candle, listen to recorded sacred music, and/or use a guided meditation tool. Please call the church office to reserve a time.

Kid Worship Materials

Kid worship materials are available in the **Narthex** (back of **Sanctuary**). Crayon packets and a variety of coloring pages and activity sheets are available for your children to enjoy during worship.

Visiting Sunday School Age Children

Children age 3 through 6th Grade are welcome to visit Sunday School. We do ask that you are able to adhere to our safety guidelines currently in place (masks, physical distancing etc) and that a parent/guardian accompany your child to Sunday School so that we can explain guidelines etc.

Loved Ones In The Military

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



Our Saviour's Housing Meals in 2021

For many years, *Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church* has provided a meal for 40 on the first Friday of every month. Due to COVID-19, our monthly meals are provided by donation. The shelter orders and serves the meal. The cost to provide the meal is \$250.

Cherie Moe donated for DEC 3. Thank you! For information, contact Cheri Moe or (952) 431-5226. oscs-mn.org

"HAPPY BIRTHDAY!"

Natalya Haug 12/12 Emily Melbye 12/16 Gregory Sarles 12/17 Marty Carlson 12/18

Staffed Nursery Available in Christy Room

Welcome to our youngest friends in the congregation! We know that you sometimes need another space to be in during worship to get your wiggles and giggles out. Our **Nursery** is staffed and available for your little one to use. *Ushers* can help you with directions or follow the signs provided in the back of the **Sanctuary**. We currently have a capacity of **3** children in the **Christy Room**, on a first come, first served basis.

Women's Bible Study

We are studying is *Children of the Day*, by *Beth Moore* which can be purchased through Amazon or your favorite bookstore. Our sessions are at 7:00 PM in the Library on December 16, January 20, February 3, March 3, April 7, May 5 & June 2. Contact Debra Gilroy, or visit LOTI Groups.

Christmas Tea

On **December 19**, we will have a down-sized Christmas Tea & Cookie Sale following Lessons and Carols. We are asking for donations of cookies which can be brought to the church on Sunday, December 12th through Friday, December 17th. Volunteers will be needed to set up and decorate tables in Fellowship Hall and to help bag cookies that afternoon. Please call or email the church office at linda.nelson@loti.org if you can help. Proceeds from the cookie sale will be used to purchase additional silverware for the kitchen.



1936-2021 God's Help, Our Hands

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

Follow us:







