



LAKE OF THE ISLES LUTHERAN CHURCH

✠ FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS ✠

FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN

DECEMBER 26, 2021

Stephen was a deacon and the first martyr of the church. He was one of the seven upon whom the apostles laid hands after they had been chosen to serve widows and others in need.

His life and martyrdom have traditionally been celebrated on the Second Day of Christmas, hence the day is often referred to as St. Stephen's Day.

✠ 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

Prelude and Fugue on Tempus Adest Floridum

Richard Shephard (1948-2021)

Welcome



Call to Worship

Psalm 148

*Please stand
as you are able.*

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights.

Praise the Lord, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.

Praise the Lord, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.

Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;

mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;

sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

Let them praise the name of the Lord, who commanded, and they were created. Hallelujah.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit

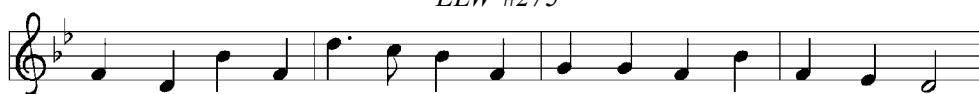
As it was in the beginning is now and will be forever. Amen



Gathering Hymn

Angels from the Realms of Glory

ELW #275



1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla - tions, bright-cr vi - sions beam a - far;
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
 Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

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.

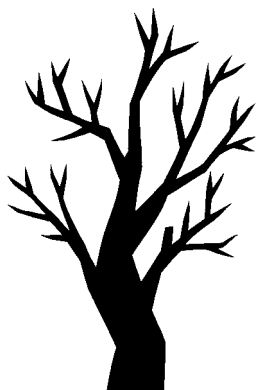
C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Message
Please be seated.

Dismissal Song



✠ **Word** ✠

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



In the Bleak Midwinter

ELW #294



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;
3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go,
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830–1894
Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934



Lesson

Acts of the Apostles 6:8-7:2a, 51c-60

The story from Acts tells of the Church's first martyr. It is the traditional reading for the Feast of St. Stephen.

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

Then the high priest asked him, "Are these things so?"

And Stephen replied: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me. You are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it."

When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen. But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

R: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

Sermon
Please be seated

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

Hymn of the Day



Good King Wenceslas

♩ = 175

1. Good King Wen - ces - las looked out on the Feast of Ste - phen,
2. "Hi - ther, page, and stand by me, if you know it, tell - ing,
3. "Bring me food and bring me wine, bring me pine logs hi - ther,
4. "Sire, the night is dark - er now, and the wind blows strong - er,
5. In his mas - ter's steps he trod, where the snow lay dint - ed;

When the snow lay round a - bout, deep and crisp and e - ven.
Yon - der pea - sant, who is he? Where and what his dwell - ing?"
You and I will see him dine, when we bear them thi - ther."
Fails my heart, I know not how; I can go no long - er."
Heat was in the ver - y sod, which the saint had print - ed.

Bright - ly shone the moon that night, though the frost was cru - el,
"Sire, he lives a good league hence, un - der - neath the mount - ain,
Page and mon - arch, forth they went, forth they went to - ge - ther,
"Mark my foot - steps, my good page, tread now in them bold - ly,
There - fore, Christ - ian men, be sure, wealth or rank pos - sess - ing,

When a poor man came in sight, ga - thering win - ter fu - el.
Right a - gainst the for - est fence, by Saint Ag - nes' fount - ain."
Through the cold wind's wild la - ment and the bil - ter wea - ther.
You shall find the wint - er's rage freeze your blood less cold - ly."
You who now will bless the poor shall your - selves find bless - ing.

Prayers of the Church

*Please stand as
you are able.*

P: Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: You come to us in gatherings of your church across the globe. Unite us with those...

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.

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.

Anthem

Please be seated.

The Holly and the Ivy

arr Richard Shephard

*The holly and the ivy, now both are full well grown,
Of all the trees that are in the wood, the holly bears the crown.*

Refrain:

*Oh, the rising of the sun and the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.*

*The holly bears a blossom as white as lily flower,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to be our sweet saviour.*

Refrain

*The holly bears a berry as red as any blood,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to do poor sinners good.*

Refrain

*The holly bears a bark as bitter as any gall,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ for to redeem us all.*

Refrain

Offertory Response

*Please stand as
you are able.*



Create In Me a Clean Heart

WOV #732

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

Offertory Prayer

A: Gracious God, your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



✠ 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.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

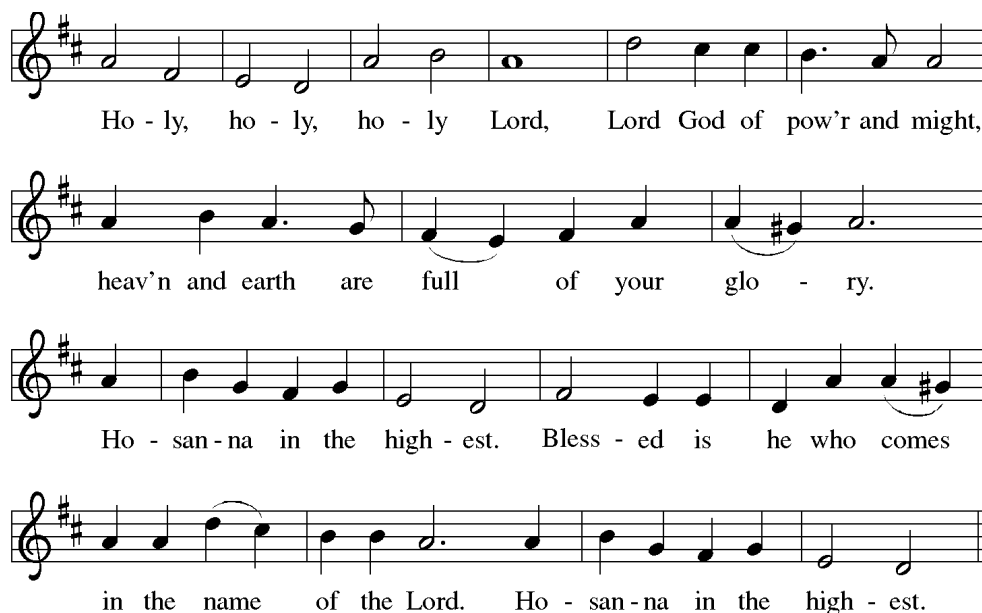
P: Lift up your hearts.

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



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.



O Christ Thou Lamb of God

LBW #103

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: CHRISTI, DU LAMM GOTTI:S. *Kirchenordnung*, Braunschweig, 1528

Distribution

Please be seated.

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.

Distribution Music

Est ist ein Ros

John Leavitt (b. 1956)

Quem Pastores

Helmut Walcha (1907-1991)

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: Most High God, you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn



✠ 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.

Cold December Flies Away

ELW #299



1 Cold De - cem - ber flies a - way at the rose - red splen - dor.
2 In the hope - less time of sin shad - ows deep had fall - en.
3 Now the bud has come to bloom, and the world a - wak - ens.



A - pril's crown-ing glo - ry breaks while the whole world won - ders
All the world lay un - der death. Eyes were closed in sleep - ing.
In the lil - y's pur - est flow'r dwells a won - drous fra - grance.



at the ho - ly un - seen pow'r of the tree which bears the
But, when all seemed lost in night, came the sun whose gold - en
And it spreads to all the earth from the mo - ment of its



flow'r. On the bless - ed tree blooms the red - dest flow'r. On the tree blooms the
light brings un - end - ing joy, brings the end - less joy of our hope, high - est
birth; and its beau - ty lives. In the flow'r it lives, in the flow'r, and it



rose here in love's own gar - den, full and strong in glo - ry.
hope, of our hope's bright dawn - ing, Son be - lov'd of heav - en.
spreads in its heav'n - ly bright - ness sweet per - fume de - light - ful.

Text: Catalanian carol; tr. Howard Hawhee, b. 1953
Music: EL DESEMBRE CONGELAT, Catalanian carol
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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.

Dismissal

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

C: Thanks be to God.



Postlude

Noël X. Quand Dieu naquit à Noël (When God was born on Christmas)

Louis-Claude D'Aquin (1694-1772)

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. 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.*

YOUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY	Pastor	Rev. Dr. Arden D. Haug
	Organist.....	Dr. Kris Rizzotto
	Worship Assistant.....	Mark Duff
	Communion Assistant	Michelle McCreery
	Altar Servers	Mary & Dave Goplen
	Reader	Mary Sabatke
	Usher	Linda Nelson
	Coffee Hosts.....	Linda Nelson
CHURCH OFFICERS	President	Chanda Olson
	Vice President	Marty Carlson
	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
	Worship Technical Director	Joseph LaMere
	Office Manager	Linda Nelson
	Design & Communication Director	Michelle McCreery
	Custodian/Caretakers	Sarah & Trevor Skorborg

***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 [YouTube channel](#)***

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26	9:30 AM	<i>Worship with Holy Communion</i>	Sanctuary & YouTube
	10:30 AM	<i>Coffee Hour</i>	Fellowship Hall
MONDAY, DECEMBER 27	7:00 PM	<i>AA</i>	Fellowship Hall
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28	9:15 AM	<i>Prayer Ministry</i>	Christy Room/Sanctuary
	5:15 PM	<i>Women's SA Group</i>	Christy Room
	7:00 PM	<i>Men's AA</i>	Patio/Fellowship Hall
	7:00 PM	<i>AA/Spiritual Recovery</i>	Christy Room/Sanctuary
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29	9:30 AM	<i>Bible Study</i>	Library/Zoom
	12:00 PM	<i>Staff Meeting</i>	Christy Room /Zoom
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30	12:00 PM	<i>Al Anon</i>	Fellowship Hall
SUNDAY, JANUARY 2	9:30 AM	<i>Worship with Holy Communion</i>	Sanctuary & YouTube
	10:30 AM	<i>Coffee Hour</i>	Sanctuary

SCAN TO GIVE



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; **Tom Been**, friend of the Kuehn family; **Colin Mason**, friend of the Amann family; **Evangeline Hagfors**, cousin of David Hagford; **Bill Schouviller**, friend of Phyllis Dahl; **Sam Pederson**, nephew of Jennifer Cook; **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.

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

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.

Thanks to everyone who contributed in 2021!

Mary & Dave have donated for **January 2022**.

Consider providing in **2022** on:

FEB 4 MAR 4 APR 1 MAY 6 JUN 3
JUL 1 AUG 5 SEP 2 OCT 7 NOV 4 DEC 2

For information, contact [Cheri Moe](mailto:Cheri.Moe@oscs-mn.org) or (952) 431-5226.
oscs-mn.org

~HAPPY BIRTHDAY!~

Jorgen Olson 12/28 Mary Flynn 12/28
Remi Pizarro 12/29 Jon Zachman 12/29
Chris Hovda 12/30 Pauline Haug 12/30
Allyson Sprain 12/30

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 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.

Poinsettias

If you ordered a poinsettias, you may take them home any time the church is open beginning, today, **Sunday, December 26th.**

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 **Friday, December 31st.**

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 **January 20, February 3, March 3, April 7, May 5 & June 2.** Contact [Debra Gilroy](#), or visit [LOTI Groups](#).

LOTI Book Club

This month's gathering is **January 28** at the home of *Debra Gilroy* at **5:00 PM**. The book is *Just Mercy*, by *Bryan Stevenson*

Please bring your book, a light snack to share and a willingness to laugh, love and learn.

[LOTI Book Club](#)



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:

