

## CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2025 3:00 & 8:00 P.M.

# LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA) KENNEWICK, WA

"Shepherds" by John August Swanson, "I wanted to capture the surprise of the shepherds as they were awakened by the angels. Some of the shepherds are sleeping, others are startled and look up at the beautiful angels. Even some of the sheep look up at the angels." The Shepherds, 2023, joins Nativity, 2022, and The Annunciation, 2017, to complete the new Nativity Triptych, printed in vibrant, archival inks. About the Author: John August Swanson was born January 11, 1938 in El Monte, California, and died September 23, 2021, in Los Angeles. He painted in oil, watercolor, acrylic, and mixed media, and was an independent printmaker of limited edition serigraphs, lithographs, etchings, and giclée print editions. His art reflected his strong heritage of storytelling, inherited from his Mexican mother and Swedish father. Mr. Swanson's art is represented in the permanent collections of many museums, including three museums of the Smithsonian Institution. He is also included in the print collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, Harvard University's Fogg Museum, the Tate Gallery and Victoria and Albert Museum in London, and the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris. His painting THE PROCESSION is one of relatively few works by contemporary artists to be selected for the Vatican Museums' Collection of Modern Religious Art. Used with permission. Swanson, John August. Shepherds, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=58575 [retrieved December 18, 2024]. Original source: Estate of John August Swanson, <a href="https://www.johnaugustswanson.com/">https://www.johnaugustswanson.com/</a>.

## WELCOME TO LORD OF LIFE!

Merry Christmas! All are welcome here. We'd like to extend a special welcome to visitors. We're glad you joined us! This information may help you in your worship experience.

**Communal words** spoken and sung will be on the screen and/or in this bulletin. The bold text is spoken together. **Songs/hymns** can also be found (with music) in either *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) cranberry hymnal or *All Creation Sings* (ACS) purple hymnal. Both can be found under a chair near you.

For your convenience, almost everything is printed in your bulletin for Christmas Eve.

**Holy Communion** is the Lord's Table and all are welcome, regardless of age. We celebrate the Eucharist (literally "thanksgiving") during worship every Sunday. Our bread is dairy, nut, and gluten-free; wine and juice are both available.

**Children are welcome in this place!** At baptism, we welcome people into God's family and the community of Lord of Life. Children of all ages are integral members of the Body of Christ, and have a place in our community that includes worship. Children learn by seeing, hearing, and experiencing worship with adults who care about them (not just their parents). We embrace the sounds and activity that accompany them.

We have a few resources for parents:

- *PrayGround:* Table up front with coloring supplies. Go with your child, sit near the table, or send them independently.
- Activity Bags: things to occupy busy hands during worship, located in the shelves just outside the sanctuary; ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- \* Nursery (for children 0-5, 5-7 by exception): Our nursery is staffed by a capable young adult who is kind and has been background checked. There is a sign-in sheet for security.
- "Narthex (Gathering/Entrance space): Rocking chairs, gliders, benches, space to move

**Offering** is an act of worship and a privilege to return to God a portion of what God has given us. If you are a guest, do not feel obligated to give. Offerings given today are joyfully used for outreach to the greater church/community and for the work and ministry of Lord of Life. You may donate electronically using the QR code that leads you to the website (www.lordoflife.org), by mail, using direct deposit with your bank, or RMD / QCD / or stock gift (in consultation with your financial advisor), or in the offering box at the font.

If at anytime you are uncomfortable standing, you are free to remain seated.

**If you are worshiping from home**, you are invited to participate, not just observe. Please prepare your own sacred space for worship. You might include some candles, a cross, water for remembering your baptism, and, if you will be participating in Communion, bread and wine or suitable substitutes.

Lord of Life is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). You can learn more at www.elca.org.

## **GATHERING**

#### **PRELUDE**

The people gather for worship. Take a few moments to breathe and center yourself to be present. Please put your device on silent so you can be present and participate.

#### HYMN OF ANTICIPATION: ELW #257 O Come, O Come Emmanuel

During the last four weeks (the church season of Advent), we've marked our waiting for Christ's arrival in all aspects of time: past, present, and future. This hymn leans into the paradoxes of Advent: Christ is to come, but was and is. Our Christmas celebration should be the same: we don't only mark Christ's arrival once upon a time in Bethlehem, but we look for and celebrate the ways God is present to us today, and for Christ's coming again. This quintessential Advent hymn has been in use since at least the 7th or 8th centuries, where monasteries would sing the "O antiphons" for seven days to anticipate Christmas Eve.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain (twice)

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Text: Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. Composite Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

#### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

One of the best-known customs for the season is the Advent wreath. The wreath and winter candle-lighting in the midst of growing darkness strengthen some of the Advent images found in the Bible. The four candles mark the progress of the four weeks of Advent and the growth of light. In many homes, the family gathers for prayers around the wreath, just as we do today as a family of faith.

*Reader:* Because injustice and despair threaten to overwhelm us, we pray for hope. (*The first candle is lit for hope.*)

*Reader:* Because so many swords have not yet been remade into ploughshares, we pray for peace. (*The second candle is lit for peace.*)

*Reader:* Because grief and loss weigh so heavily, we pray for joy. *(The third candle is lit for joy.)* 

Reader: Because there is so much hatred and conflict, and because people all over the world are suffering, we pray for love. (The fourth candle is lit for love.)

*Reader:* God has come to us as a child, to dwell with us, and to walk with us. (*The final center candle, the Christ candle, is lit.*)

*Reader:* May the light and the fire from these candles burn away whatever would prevent the God of hope and peace and joy and love from being born among us. Friends, be not afraid, even now — even now — the light of Christ is illuminating the world, on earth as it is in heaven!

#### GATHERING HYMN: ELW #283 O Come, All Ye Faithful

This is one of the best known Christmas hymns! It greets the Word made flesh with adoration and in the second stanza you can hear the Nicene Creed: "light of light eternal." It dates back to as early as 1743.

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him, born the king of angels:

#### Refrain

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal, born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God in the highest: Refrain

Text: attr. John Francis Wade, 1711-1786; tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802-1880, sts. 1, 3-4; tr. unknown, st. 2

#### WORDS OF WELCOME

#### **CHRISTMAS DIALOGUE AND GREETING**

This dialogue puts Isaiah 9 in conversation with John 1, both texts we have heard in the last six weeks.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

May the grace and truth of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your son into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of despair, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

## WORD

#### FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

We end with this refrain:

All: You are a dearly loved child of God!

Children: And so are you!

#### **HYMN FOR THE CHILDREN:** ELW #278 Away in a Manger (3:00 – Verse 1 only)

This hymn has been attributed to Martin Luther, but it is not his. It was written four centuries after, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Today we sing the alternate tune. The lyrics have become quite sentimental, even if they are unrealistic, portraying a baby who does not cry.

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.

The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

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.

Text: North American, 19th cent. Music: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1838-1921; arr. David Willcocks, b. 1919

#### GOSPEL: LUKE 2:1-20

Tonight we hear the Christmas Gospel interspersed with Christmas carols.

The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

#### Luke 2:1-5

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.

Hymn: O Little Town of Bethlehem, v. 1-2, 4 (ELW #279) (3:00 - Verse 1 only)

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.

For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth.

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; Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893, Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

#### Luke 2:6-14

<sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, v. 1, 3 (ELW #270) (3:00 – Verse 1 only)

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled." Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies; with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king!"

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt., Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915

#### Luke 2:15-20

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

#### **HOMILY (8:00)**

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

#### HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW #282 It Came upon the Midnight Clear

This well-known Christmas carol was first published in 1849. The author was a Unitarian minister in Massachusetts. Interestingly, it does not refer to Jesus' birth at all, rather it focuses on the angels. No single Christmas hymn tells the whole story. Each one unpacks part of it, so we add to the story when we sing each one.

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav'n's all-gracious king." The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled, and still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world.

Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov'ring wing, and ever o'er its babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low, who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow: look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing; oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!

For lo! The days are hast'ning on, by prophets seen of old, when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold, when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling, and all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876, Music: Richard S. Willis, 1819-1900

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

As a community we offer prayer for the church, the well-being of creation, for peace among, the poor and all in need, local needs and special concerns, and in thanks for the faithful departed. At Lord of Life these petitions are voiced by the congregation. You are invited to bring voice to one of these petitions as they call upon your heart.

Assisting Minister: Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Gathering God, you bring your people from every corner of the earth together before the manger that you have made a throne. Unite the church in love as we rejoice in the news of your coming. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Creating God, you brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Join our voices with the roaring seas, the exulting fields, and the trees of the forest singing for joy on this holy night. Hear us, O God.

#### Your mercy is great.

Transforming God, the world trembles amid violence and war. Empower our hands, feet, and hearts with your Spirit to shatter the rod of the oppressor and turn swords into plowshares, especially in places of conflict and violence, including the Middle East, Ukraine, and Sudan, and the U.S. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Shepherding God, you lead us to your love in the face of our neighbor. Send us into the world to find your Word made flesh in one another, especially those who are sick or struggling. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Nurturing God, you dwell with us in humble places. Sustain housing and clothing ministries in this community, including St. Vincent's and Union Gospel Mission, that all find shelter and warmth. We pray especially for youth seeking safety and care, and organizations that seek to serve them like My Friend's Place and Snipes H3. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Abiding God, you remain at the side of all the departed. Grant all who mourn hope in the resurrection and peace in Christ Jesus. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Assisting Minister: With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

#### PEACE

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

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words. The peace we share is a sign of God's mission of reconciliation among us and the reconciliation we have with one another in Christ Jesus. Please be aware that we all have different comfort levels for this. In this cold and flu season, you might choose to use hand signals, a wave, a bow, a smile, or a fist bump.

## MEAL

#### OFFERING

A collection of material goods for the church's mission, including the care of those in need, is a sign of the giving of our whole selves in grateful response for all God's gifts. We offer to God what God has first given us: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Your financial gifts for LoL can be placed in the plate, made electronically through our website (www.thelordoflife.org), sent in the mail, using direct deposit with your bank, or RMD / QCD / or stock gift (in consultation with your financial advisor). Please contact the Financial Secretary with questions.

Musical Offering: Were You There on That Christmas Night?

Women's Trio: Lindy Anderson, Anne Crotty, Pastor Kirsten
Words and Music by Natalie Sleeth.
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#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

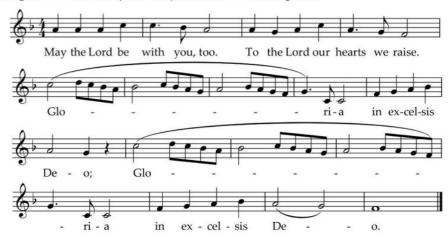
Let us pray.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. Let these gifts to us be blessed. Blessed be God who is our bread. May all the world be clothed and fed. Amen.

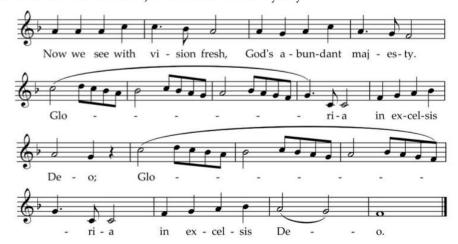
#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

CHRISTMAS EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (sung to the tune of "Angels We Have Heard on High" ELW #289)

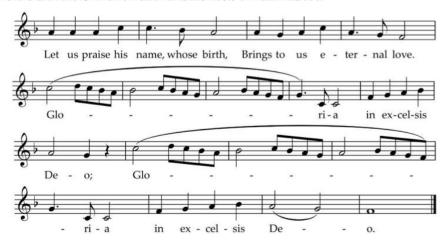
May the good Lord be with you. Lift your hearts to God in praise.



In the Word of God made flesh, Great and wondrous mystery.



Therefore with the Church on earth and the hosts of heav'n above.



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...

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.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, in the version or language of your heart:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

#### COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's table, as we receive the presence of Christ for us in bread and wine. This meal is for all regardless of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, criminal record, or list of offenses.

The ushers will guide you to make your way to the front using the side aisle. There will be bread, wine, and grape juice. A basket to collect used cups is in the center. After receiving the elements, return to your seat by the center aisle. If you have questions when you get up front, it is okay to ask. The bread is gluten-free, nut-free, dairy-free, and full of grace! There is hand sanitizer on the chair at the front if you would like to use it.

The elements can be brought to your seat if making your way to the front is difficult. Simply let the ushers know.

#### **MUSIC DURING COMMUNION**

ELW #296 What Child Is This ELW #292 Love Has Come FLW #290 Go Tell It on the Mountain

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

## **SENDING**

#### **DISTRIBUTION OF THE LIGHT**

A reading from the Gospel of John: (John 1:1-5)

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

Let us receive the light of Christ as we remember his miraculous birth, celebrate his presence with us now, and anticipate his coming again.

(As you pass the candlelight to each other, the person with the lit candle should keep their candle held upright, while the person with the unlit candle tips their candle to receive the flame.)

ELW #281 Silent Night

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.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord at your birth.

Text: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1849; tr. John F. Young, 1820-1885, Music: Franz Gruber, 1787-1863

Let us pray.

God of light and of the darkness, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but knowing that your hand is leading us and your love is supporting us. Send us into the world in peace, keep us faithful and alert for signs of Christ's coming, and lead us to live lives marked by your truth of hope, peace, joy and love. **Amen.** 

#### BLESSING

God the Creator who delights in you,
Jesus the Savior who is born for you,
and the lifegiving Spirit who shines on you,
H bless you and keep you in hope and peace.

Amen.

#### Extinguish candles

#### **Sending Hymn:** ELW #267 Joy to the World

This beloved Christmas hymn is a paraphrase of Psalm 98, written by Isaac Watts in 1719. It serves as both an Advent hymn and a Christmas hymn. Watts gave it the heading: "The Messiah's coming and kingdom."

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, Music: English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

#### DISMISSAL

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Savior. **Thanks be to God.** 

#### Postlude

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#### **Lord of Life Lutheran Church Mission Statement**

As Lutheran Christians, Lord of Life invites all people, wherever they are on their spiritual journey, to worship God, serve others, and build community, in order to transform individuals, the Tri-Cities, and the world.

#### **Lord of Life Lutheran Church Values**

The spirit by which we go about living our mission and doing ministry.

#### **ACCEPTANCE**

We welcome all without exception, as modeled by Jesus.

#### **GENEROSITY**

We share our time, abilities, and resources in serving all God's people.

#### **SERVICE**

We meet the needs of others without recognition or expectation.

#### **GROW in FAITH**

We recognize that faith is a journey with intellectual and spiritual challenges along the way.

### LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

640 N Columbia Center Blvd www.thelordoflife.org

Kennewick, WA 99336 (509) 783-5222 www.facebook.com/lordoflife www.youtube.com/@LordofLifeKennewick

#### **Our Worship Services and Upcoming Events**

Sunday Morning Worship 10 a.m.; Faith Formation for all ages 9 a.m. (not 12/28 or 1/4)

Check us out online (worship with us or follow us): www.facebook.com/LordofLifeKennewick Find Us on YouTube at: Lord of Life Lutheran Church - Kennewick, WA

**December 28** (next Sunday) - Cozy Comfy Sunday! Wear your pjs or comfy clothes and join us for a lessons and carols service.

January 4 - 11th Day of Christmas and Epiphany observance Join us for a Christmas / Epiphany Pageant as we mark the end of the 12 days of Christmas!

LoL Communications: To receive the weekly email in your inbox on Wednesdays, please contact Ana in the office(office@thelordoflife.org).

End of Year Gifts: Did you know that 35% of all giving to non-profits, including churches, happens in the last quarter of the year with 12% in the last three days of the year alone? It's the American way! If you are in that category and have extra to share this year, please consider giving to Lord of Life's Endowment Fund. Now is the right time to contribute and make a difference in Lord of Life's future. Earnings from the fund can be used for scholarships, expanded community outreach, special LoL ministries, and LoL capital improvements. For more information, see the bulletin board in the Gathering Space / Narthex, or contact a member of the Endowment Team (if you need contact info, ask the office).

> The church office will be closed from Dec. 25—Jan. 1, 2026. For urgent pastoral care needs, please call or text Pastor Kirsten, 509-492-2145.

#### Staff

Kirsten Sauey Hofmann, Pastor Karleigh Crepin, **Deacon** Ana Arias, Office Administrator Abby Hays, **Preschool Director** Brian Swearingen, Musician David Baldwin, **Choir Director** 

pastor@thelordoflife.org deacon@thelordoflife.org office@thelordoflife.org youngyears@thelordoflife.org (509) 554-9735 dlbaldwinbiker@gmail.com

**Prayer Requests**: Please send all prayer requests to LordofLifePrays640@gmail.com. This address is monitored and requests are shared regularly.