

LORD, PREPARE US FOR YOUR RETURN



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS

www.dulutheran.org

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

Office Phone (218) 722-4364 | Email contact@dulutheran.org | www.dulutheran.org

WELCOME

We are glad that you have chosen to spend time with us in worship. In our worship, we gather, before Jesus, our Good Shepherd, to offer him our love and praise. Our Lord builds us up in faith through his Word and equips us for living now and in eternity. Our prayer is that the good news of Christ's love touches your heart and transforms your life. Whether you're worshipping with us here today or watching online, we are happy you have joined us.

WORSHIP SERVICE

The goal of our worship is to praise God and enrich your faith through his Word. To make your experience today easier, the worship folder you're holding has the entire order of service. The pieces marked [P] are spoken by the pastor, and the parts marked [C] are to be spoken or sung by the congregation.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Our congregation enjoys the "worshiping family." Each service includes a children's message which teaches God's truth to your kids. Parents with small children are an essential part of God's kingdom. That's why children are never considered an inconvenience to our worship. We also want your family to be comfortable. There is a cry room outside the main doors to the right if you need a moment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

For more announcements and event information visit the church website at www.dulutheran.org/events or sign up for our weekly email at www.dulutheran.org/subscribe. You can also view the church calendar at www.dulutheran.org/church-calendar.

New Hymnal Fund Update: Through a combination of many generous contributions, and one large gift to the New Hymnal Fund, we have met and exceeded our fundraising goal! We will be purchasing the new hymnal soon and will begin to phase them in. Questions? Speak with Brandon Benzer

Decorating for Christmas: Everyone is welcome to come help decorate on **Tuesday, December 3rd, from 6-8PM.**

Advent Services: Advent services start this **Thursday, December 5th at 7:00 PM.** A potluck meal will be held prior to the service, starting at **6:00 PM.**

Giving Tree for Women's Care Center: We're collecting items for the Women's Care Center again this year. All are welcome to visit the Giving Tree and select an item to donate. We ask that all items be brought to church by **December 15th.** Please speak with Kim Kirkland if you have any questions.

Preschool Christmas Program: We are looking for volunteers to help support our Little Lambs by assisting with their upcoming Christmas Program on **Wednesday, December 18th at 6 p.m.** We are in need of food items, help with set-up, or assistance with clean-up after the event. Watch for more details coming soon, or speak with Shawna Doblak if you are able to assist.

Lunches for Called Workers/Preschool Staff: Our Care Committee has been providing a monthly lunch to the preschool called workers and staff. They would like to invite the congregation to help with this by taking turns providing a 2nd monthly lunch! You can sign up for which month you'd like to provide lunch via the QR code or this link: <https://bit.ly/4eGYxYL>. Questions? Speak with Diane Schlossin or any member of the Care Committee.



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Vir - gin's
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the
 3 Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child Of the
 4 From the Fa - ther's throne he came And as -

Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, O
 Spir - it of our God Was the Word of
 vir - gin un - de - filed, Though by all the
 cend - ed to the same, Cap - tive lead - ing

heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.
 God made flesh, Wo - man's off - spring, pure and fresh.
 world dis - owned, Yet to be in heav'n en - throned!
 death and hell — High the song of tri - umph swell!

5 Praise to God the Father sing,
 Praise to God the Son, our King,
 Praise to God the Spirit be
 Ever and eternally.

INVOCATION

P: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SIN

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: **Christ, have mercy.**

P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

C: **Amen.**

P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

RESPONSE OF FORGIVENESS

“O Lord, Our Lord”
pg. 28 in front of Hymnal

Please sing at the beginning of the music...

**O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.
Almight-y God, mer-ci-ful Fa-ther, you crown our life with your love.
You take a-way our sin; you com-fort our spir-it;
You make us pure and ho-ly in your sight.
You did not spare your on-ly Son, but gave him up for us all.**

O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.
O Son of God, e-ter-nal Word of the Fa-ther,
You came to live with us; you made your Fa-ther known;
You washed us from our sins in your own blood.
You are the King of glo-ry; you are the Lord!
O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. [*minister says the Prayer of the Day*]

C: Amen.

✠ READINGS FROM GOD'S WORD ✠

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴“The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah.

¹⁵“In those days and at that time
I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David’s line;
he will do what is just and right in the land.

¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved
and Jerusalem will live in safety.
This is the name by which it will be called:
The LORD Our Righteous Savior.’

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹²May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

VERSE OF THE DAY

pg. 30 in front of Hymnal

Sing after a brief introduction...

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
These words are writ-ten that we may be-lieve
that Je-sus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

GOSPEL READING

Luke 19:28-40

²⁸ After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.²⁹ As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, ³⁰ “Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it.’”

³² Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them.³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ They replied, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵ They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

³⁷ When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

³⁸ “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”
“Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!” ⁴⁰ “I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Children in attendance today may come up to the altar steps and sit for a special devotion with Pastor Warskow. This service segment is intended to be more interactive and engage the children to help them understand today’s message. They will return to their seats afterward.

HYMN

“How Lovely Shines the Morning Star”

CW 79

Printed on the front side of the insert.

✠ THE MESSAGE ✠

Lord, Prepare Us for Your Return

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true
God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were
made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy
Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in
accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the
Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have
no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is
worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy
Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We
look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

WORSHIPING THE LORD WITH OUR OFFERINGS



Members of Shepherd of the Hills respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully and freely according to how the Lord has blessed them. If you are a guest today, please know that there are no expectations for you to make a donation. If you wish to support us by making an online offering, scan the QR code here or visit our website: www.duluth Lutheran.org and click on the "GIVE" tab.

✠ PRAYERS ✠

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Prayer and petitions offered on behalf of the Church

- P:** Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.
- C:** **Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.**
- P:** Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day and with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: **Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.**

P: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: **Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer

P: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

✠ SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER ✠

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. Through his holy prophets, he promised a King to bring light to those living in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Please sing at the beginning of the music...

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.
You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.
I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -
va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

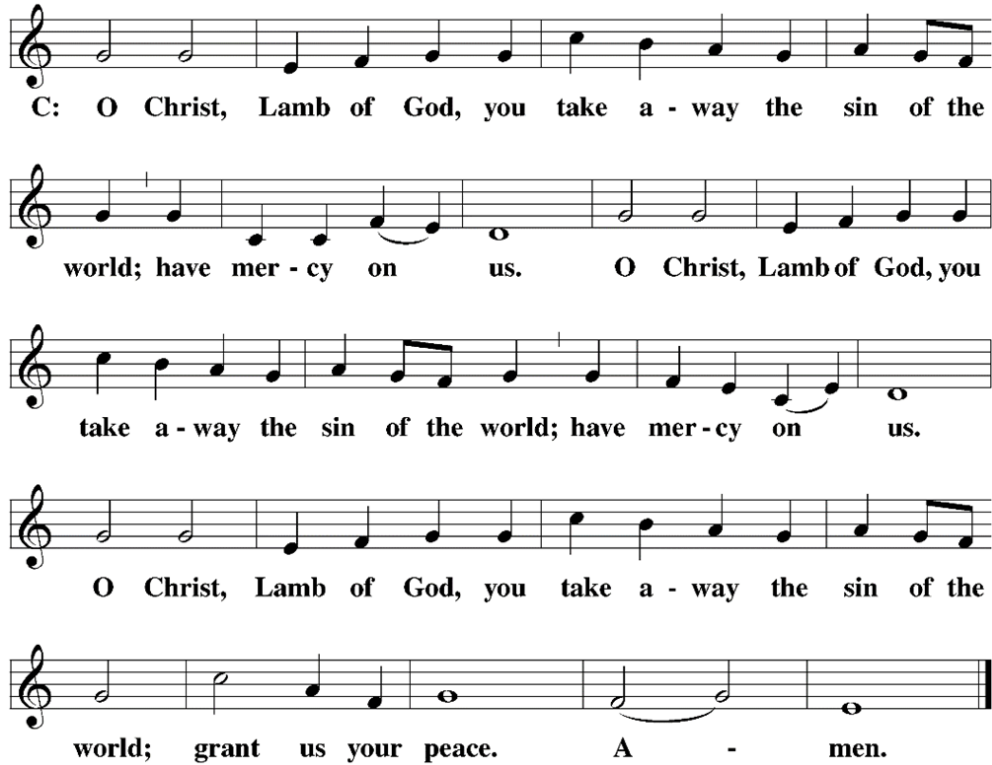
P: Our Lord Jesus Christ on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Please sing at the beginning of the music...



C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

The Lord's Supper is a wonderful gift in which we receive Christ's true body and blood for our forgiveness and the strengthening of our faith. It is our practice that only those who are members of Shepherd of the Hills or members of another WELS congregation come forward to receive Holy Communion. If you are a visitor from another Christian church, we kindly ask that you refrain from participating in the Lord's Supper this morning. If you are interested in learning more about becoming part of our fellowship, please speak to Pastor Warskow after the service.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior”

CW 313

Printed on the next page.

1 Je - sus Christ, our bless - ed Sav - ior, Turned a - way
 2 As his pledge of love un - dy - ing, He, this pre -
 3 Je - sus here him - self is shar - ing; Take heed how
 4 Use - less would be Je - sus' pas - sion If sal - va -

God's wrath for - ev - er; By his bit - ter grief and woe
 cious food sup - ply - ing, Gives his bod - y with the bread
 you are pre - par - ing, For if you do not be - lieve,
 tion you could fash - ion. Do not come if you sup - pose

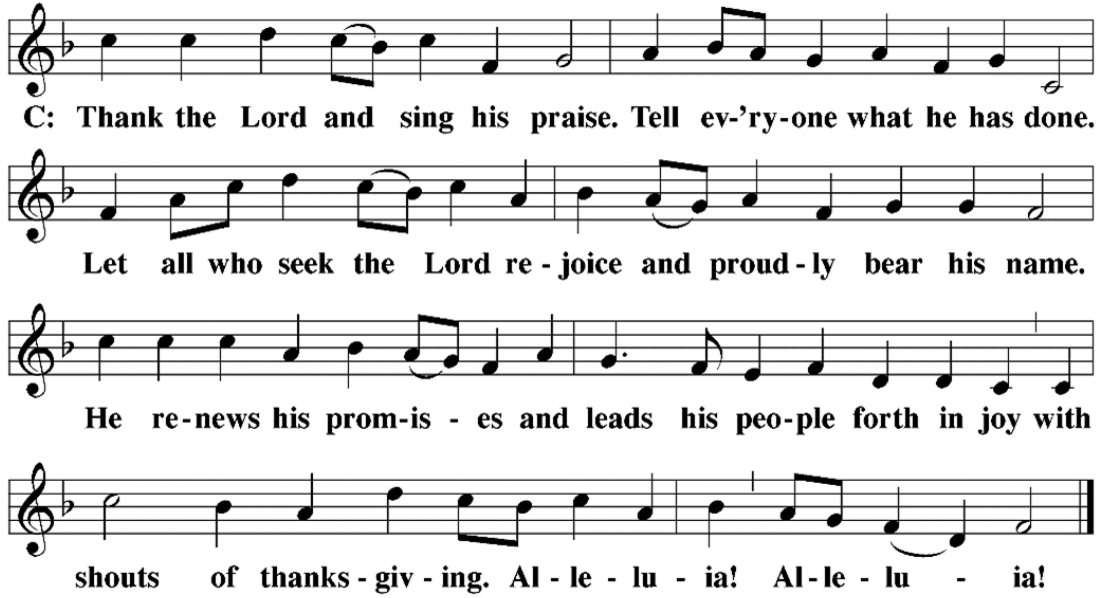
He saved us from the e - vil foe.
 And with the wine the blood he shed.
 Judg - ment in - stead you shall re - ceive.
 You need not him who died and rose.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>5 Christ says, “Come, all you that labor,
 And receive my grace and favor;
 Those who feel no pain or ill
 Need no physician’s help or skill.”</p> | <p>7 Praise the Father, who from heaven
 Unto us such food has given
 And, to mend what we have done,
 Gave into death his only Son.</p> |
| <p>6 Then hold fast with faith unshaken
 That this food is to be taken
 By the souls who are distressed,
 By hearts that long for peace and rest.</p> | <p>8 If your heart this truth professes
 And your mouth your sin confesses,
 Surely you will be his guest
 And at his banquet ever blest.</p> |

THANKSGIVING

“Thank the Lord”
pg. 36 in front of Hymnal

Sing after a brief introduction...



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.
He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

CLOSING PRAYER & BLESSING

P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes”
CW 12

Printed on the backside of the insert.