

God *Names*  
*the Source of*  
Faith's Certainty



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS

[www.dulutheran.org](http://www.dulutheran.org)

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## Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

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### 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

**Alter Flowers:** This morning's alter flowers were given by Pat and Lorene Fleming to the glory of God in celebration of their granddaughter's birthday.

#### Women's Book Club Updates:

- ◆ **Current Book:** Our last meeting for "M is for Mama" will be this **Thursday (1/9) at 6 PM**. We will meet in the church kitchen and share a dinner while we review the book.
- ◆ **New Book:** Please join us as we begin our next book "Elijah: Faith and Fire" by Priscilla Shirer on **Monday, January 27th**. We will have one book club meeting on **Monday, March 31st**. Please let Kely Dunsmoor ([kjdunsmoor@gmail.com](mailto:kjdunsmoor@gmail.com)) know if you would like to participate. You can scan the QR code here to learn more about the book or order a copy.



**New Hymnals Update:** Our new hymnals have arrived! Please watch for updates coming soon as we begin to incorporate them into our worship services. We'll be looking for help with learning/introducing the new liturgy.

**Envelopes:** Offering envelopes for 2025 are available by the mailboxes. Please take the envelopes that match your mailbox number.

*For more announcements and event information, visit the church website at [www.dulutheran.org/events](http://www.dulutheran.org/events) or sign up for our weekly email at [www.dulutheran.org/subscribe](http://www.dulutheran.org/subscribe). You can also view the church calendar at [www.dulutheran.org/church-calendar](http://www.dulutheran.org/church-calendar).*

1 Come, your hearts and voices raising, Christ the  
 2 See how God, for us providing, Gave his  
 3 Christ, from heav'n to us descending And in  
 4 Ja - cob's Star in all its splen - dor Beams with

Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing his love a -  
 Son and life a - bid - ing; He our wea - ry steps is  
 love our race be - friend - ing, In our need his help ex -  
 com - fort sweet and ten - der, Forc - ing Sa - tan to sur -

maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.  
 guid - ing From earth's woe to heav'n - ly joy.  
 tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.  
 ren - der, Break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.

5 Gracious Child, we pray you, hear us;  
 From your lowly manger cheer us.  
 Gently lead us and be near us  
 Till we join th' angelic choir.

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

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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

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

C: **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Genesis 17:1–7

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers.”

<sup>3</sup>Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>“As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. <sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

## SECOND READING

Galatians 4:4–7

<sup>4</sup>But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup>to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. <sup>6</sup>Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, “Abba, Father.” <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

## 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 1:68–79

<sup>68</sup>“Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them. <sup>69</sup>He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David <sup>70</sup>(as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), <sup>71</sup>salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us—<sup>72</sup>to show mercy to our ancestors and to remember his holy covenant, <sup>73</sup>the oath he swore to our father Abraham: <sup>74</sup>to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear <sup>75</sup>in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

<sup>76</sup>And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, <sup>77</sup>to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, <sup>78</sup>because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven <sup>79</sup>to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace.”

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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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

"The Only Son from Heaven"

CW 86



1 The on - ly Son from heav - en, fore - told by an - cient seers,  
2 O time of God ap - point - ed, O bright and ho - ly morn!  
3 O Lord, our hearts a - wak - en to know and love you more,  
4 O Fa - ther, here be - fore you with God the Ho - ly Ghost



by God the Fa - ther giv - en, in hu - man form ap - pears.  
He comes, the King a - noint - ed, the Christ, the vir - gin - born,  
in faith to stand un - shak - en, in spir - it to a - dore,  
and Je - sus, we a - dore you, O Pride of an - gel host.



No sphere his light con - fin - ing, no star so  
grim death to con - quer for us, to o - pen  
that we, through this world mov - ing, each glimpse of  
Be - fore you mor - tals low - ly cry, "Ho - ly,



bright - ly shin - ing as he, our Morn - ing Star.  
heav'n be - fore us and bring us life a - gain.  
heav - en prov - ing, may reap its full - ness there.  
ho - ly, ho - ly, O bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

## God Names The Source of Faith's Certainty

Genesis 17:1-7

### CONFESSION OF CHRISTIAN FAITH

(THE NICENE CREED)

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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

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*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](http://www.duluth.lutheran.org) and click on the "GIVE" tab.*

### ✘ PRAYERS ✘

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#### 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 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 ✠

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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.

## RESPONSE

**"Holy, Holy, Holy"**  
pg. 34 in front of Hymnal  
*Printed on the next page.*



## RESPONSE

“Holy, Holy, Holy”  
pg. 34 in front of Hymnal

*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.

## RESPONSE

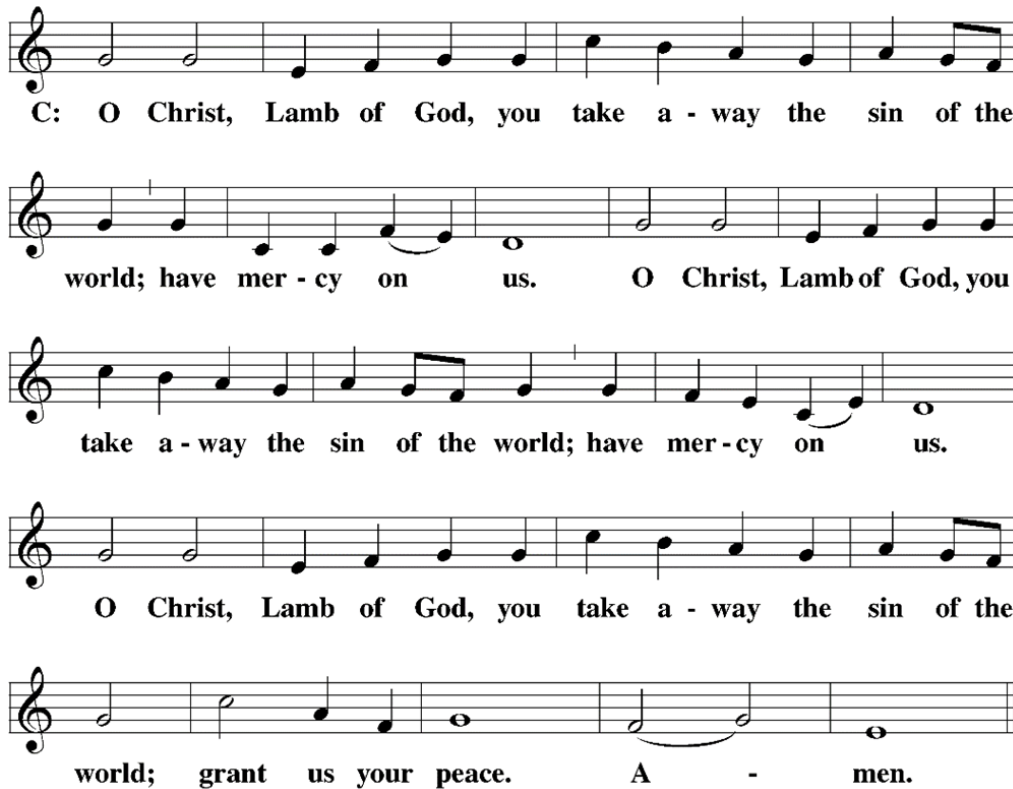
“O Christ, Lamb of God”  
pg. 23 in front of Hymnal  
*Printed on the next page.*

## RESPONSE

“O Christ, Lamb of God”

pg. 23 in front of Hymnal

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”

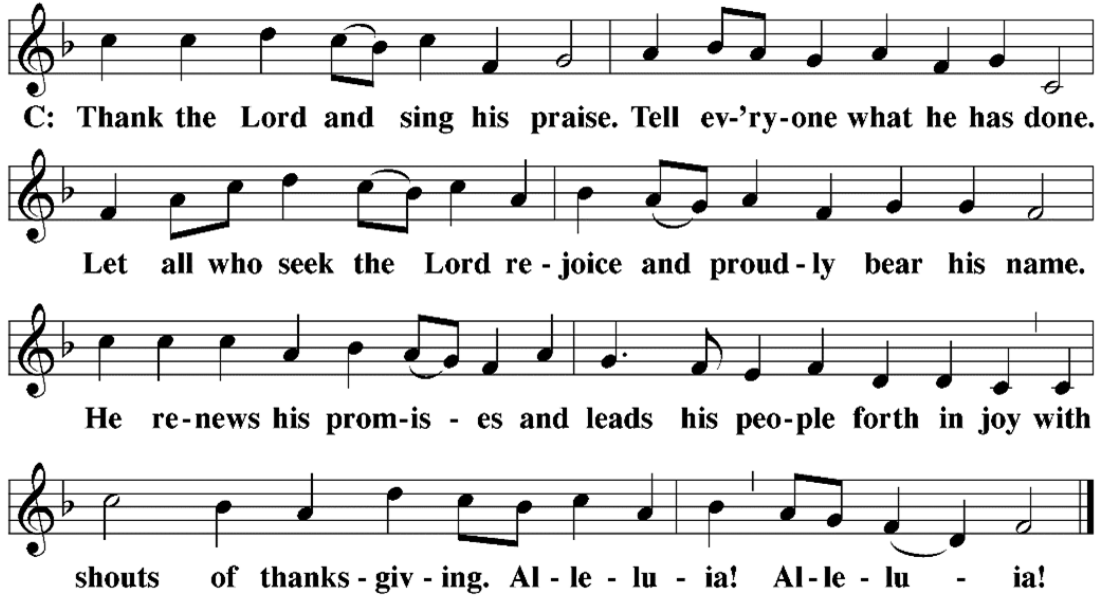
CW 313

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# 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


“May the Grace of Christ Our Savior”  
CW 326  
*Printed on the next page.*



1 May the grace of Christ our Sav - ior And the  
 2 So may we a - bide in un - ion With each  
 3 Now with all the saints in heav - en Thanks and



Fa - ther's bound - less love With the Ho - ly Spir - it's  
 oth - er and the Lord, Gath - ered here in blest com -  
 praise to you we sing, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



fa - vor Rest up - on us from a - bove.  
 mun - ion By the pow - er of his Word.  
 Spir - it, Three in One, our tri - une King.