

Baptism of our Lord  
January 16, 2022

## GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Making Christ Known to all Through Grace*

2225 Washington Street, Lincoln NE 68502 + 402-474-1505 + [www.egrace.org](http://www.egrace.org)

Network: GLC-Balcony

Password: AlphaOmega

### WELCOME to worship

Grace Lutheran Church, a church of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has been at the heart of the faith community in Lincoln since 1889.

- We follow our mission: "Making Christ known to all through Grace."
- We celebrate our purpose: "That by God's grace we have been gathered to worship, called to witness, and sent to serve."
- We seek our vision: "To become a church with a passion for fostering a welcoming community that strives for peace and a sense of belonging."

Thank you for worshipping with us today and join our community at any time!

### WORSHIP notes

Remember your response is marked in **BOLD** font.

**Hearing enhancement devices** are available near the welcome table. Ask an usher to assist you.

**Restrooms** are located next to our chapel on the other side of the courtyard.

**Masks** are required for everyone during worship.

### INTRODUCTION to worship

Today's festival rejoices in God's blessings. We recall and celebrate our adoption as God's children, the gift of the Holy Spirit, and the promised company of almighty God when we "pass through the waters . . . the rivers . . . fire." On this day the heavens open again for this assembly, and we receive the gift of God's Beloved, Jesus, in bread and wine.

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### GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

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### WELCOME

**PRELUDE** "Light Shone in Darkness", *Lux in Tenebris*, Mark Sedio, b. 1954, arr. A. Melang-Thoren, 2019

*Light shone in darkness at the world's creation,  
bathing in beauty, nature's revelation.*

*All that has being, cry in adoration,  
"Praise for the light. Amen!"*

*Light shone in darkness at the new creation,  
Christ rose in glory, won for us salvation.  
sing, earth and heaven, hymns of jubilation,  
praise for the light. Amen!*

*Light shines in darkness till the full creation,  
Christ's body groaning, suffers tribulation,  
longs for God's justice, global transformation,  
prays for the light. Amen!*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*STAND*

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.**

Rejoice in this good news: In ☩ Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN** ELW 311 (Congregation sings verses 1-2, trumpet solo, congregation sings verses 3-4.)

# Hail to the Lord's Anointed



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!  
 2 You come with res - cue speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,  
 3 You shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;  
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore you, and gold and in - cense bring;



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, your reign on earth be - gun!  
 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;  
 love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, spring in your path to birth;  
 all na - tions shall a - dore you, your praise all peo - ple sing.



You come to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive  
 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to  
 Be - fore you on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald,  
 To you shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as -



free, to take a - way trans - gres - sion and  
 light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, are  
 go; and righ - teous - ness in foun - tains from  
 cend; your king - dom still in - creas - ing, a



rule in eq - ui - ty.  
 pre - cious in your sight.  
 hill to val - ley flow.  
 king - dom with out end.

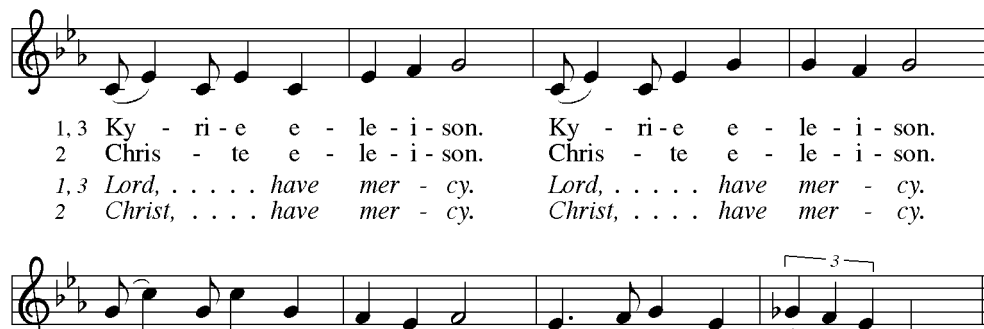
Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.  
 Music: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

**KYRIE** (next page)

## Kyrie



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
2 Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.  
1, 3 Lord, . . . . have mer - cy. Lord, . . . . have mer - cy.  
2 Christ, . . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . . have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.  
Chris - te e - le - i - son. Chris - te e - le - i - son.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy. Lord, . . . . have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . . have mer - cy.

Music: Dinah Reindorf, b. c. 1927  
Music © 1987 Dinah Reindorf, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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### WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture, preaching and song.*

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*SIT*

First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-3a

*Near the end of Israel's exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who created and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies.*

A reading from Isaiah:

<sup>1</sup>But now thus says the LORD,

he who created you, O Jacob,

he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;

I have called you by name, you are mine.

<sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;

and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;

when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

and the flame shall not consume you.

<sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 29:1-4

A responsive reading from Psalm 29:

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;  
worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>**The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.**

Second Reading: Acts 8:14-17

*Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.*

A reading from Acts:

<sup>14</sup>Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup>The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup>(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). <sup>17</sup>Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*STAND*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -

- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -

lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

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

*SIT*  
**SERMON**

*STAND*

**HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 249** (Congregation sings verses 1-3, bass solo, congregation sings verses 4-5.)

ELW 249

# On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Puer Nobis

European tune,  
adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621  
arr. A. Melang-Thoren, 2022

Voice

On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es that the  
Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the way for  
We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge and our  
Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us rise to  
All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent has — our

Lord is nigh; a - wake and hark - en, for he brings glad tid - ings of the  
God with - in, and let us all our hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and  
great re - ward; with - out your grace we waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er  
fall no more; oh, let your face up - on us shine and fill the world with  
free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it,

King of kings!  
en - ter there.  
and de - cay.  
love di - vine.  
ev - er - more.

## NICENE CREED

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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic 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.

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made. *A brief silence.*

By the Holy Spirit, you gather your church and send it out in mission to share the good news of Jesus. Inspire your faithful people to be fervent in prayer and service, that all people know they are precious in God's sight. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You reveal your love and power through water and the Spirit. Guard rivers, seas, and all bodies of water from destruction and pollution. Secure access to clean water for all, and protect the land from drought and flood. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Establish among the nations the blessings of peace. Raise up leaders who will protect vulnerable people in their care. Strengthen advocates who risk reputation or retaliation for the sake of mercy and justice. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You protect us through the fires and troubled waters of this life. Assure us that we will not be cut off from you by illness or despair, anxiety or pain, confusion or weakness. Comfort all who are in need, especially those we remember now.... God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We are joined in baptism to Christ and to one another. Bless those who are newly baptized and those who are preparing for baptism. Help us to be faithful in fellowship, worship, evangelism, service, and justice-seeking. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You created each of your saints for your glory. We give thanks for those you have called by name into your eternal embrace. Comfort us in grief and release us from fear. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

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## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Christ.*

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*SIT*

**MUSIC OFFERING** "Baptism of Jesus", Irish tune, arr. Austin C. Lovelace, text: F. P. Green, 1903-2000

*When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptized by John,  
He did not come for pardon, but as the sinless one.  
He came to share repentance with all who mourn their sins,  
to speak the vital sentence with which good news begins.*

*He came to share temptation, our utmost woe and loss;  
for us and our salvation to die upon the cross.  
So when the Dove descended on him, the Son of Man,  
the hidden years had ended, the age of grace began.*

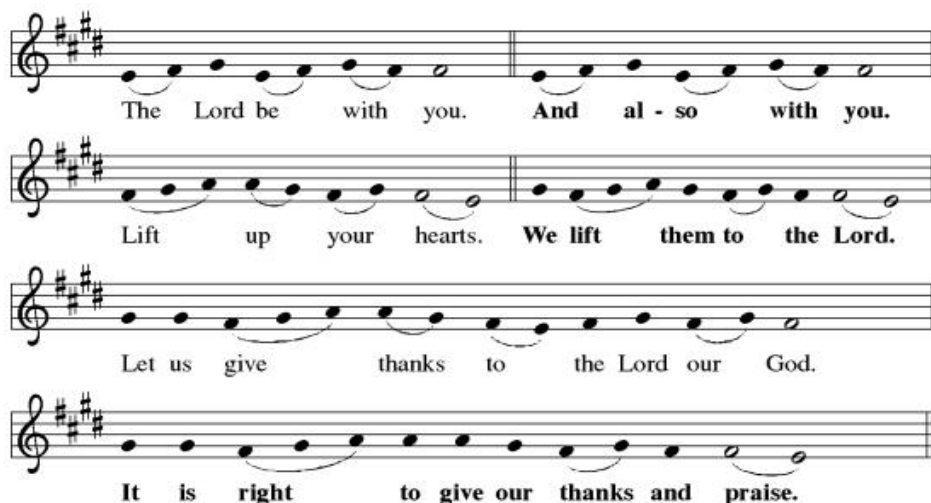
*Come, Holy Spirit aid us to keep the vows we make;  
this very day invade us, and every bondage break.  
Come, give our lives direction, the gift we covet most:  
to share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost.*

*STAND*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. **Amen.**

**DIALOG**



## PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Amen.

## SANCTUS

### You Are Holy *Du är helig*

1\*



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer  
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.  
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,  
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.  
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2



Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,  
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!  
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,  
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.  
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

\* May be sung in canon.

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÄR HELIG, Per Harling

Text and music © 1990 Ton Vis Produktion AB, admin. Augsburg Fortress in North America,  
South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

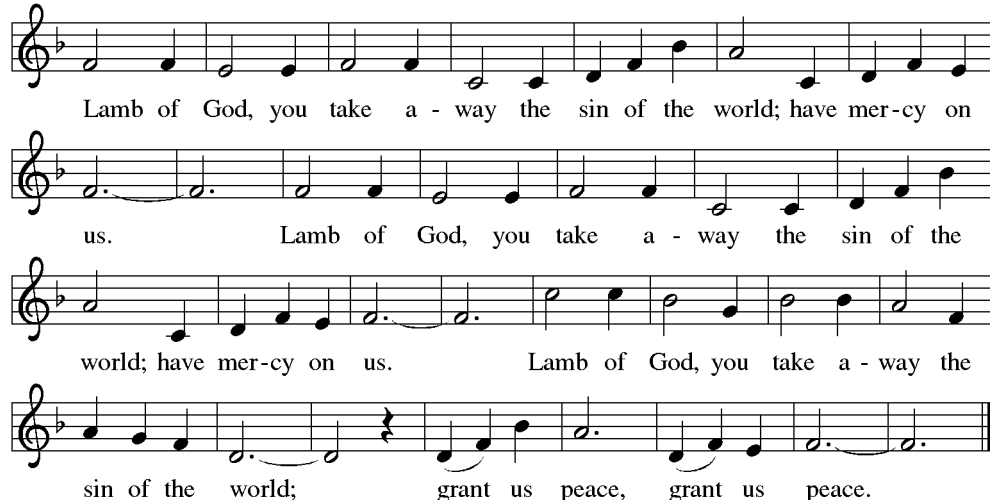
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to God's table. There is a place for you and enough for all.

## AGNUS DEI ELW 195

### Lamb of God



Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948  
Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

## COMMUNION

*All are welcome. Come forward by way of the center aisle to receive the wafer (Body of Christ). Gluten free is available upon request. Move to the next station to receive the cup (Blood of Christ). Grape juice is available upon request. Return to your pew by way of the side aisle. Please dispose your used cup into the basket at the head of the side aisle.*

## COMMUNION HYMN ELW 715

### Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



*Refrain*  
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

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## STAND

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

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## SENDING

*God sends us in mission to the world.*

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**SENDING HYMN ELW 310** (Congregation sings verses 1-2, bass solo, congregation sings verses 3-4.)

### Songs of Thankfulness and Praise



1 Songs of thank-ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to thee we raise;  
2 Man - i - fest at Jor - dan's stream, proph-et, priest, and king su - preme;  
3 Man - i - fest in mak - ing whole weak-ened bod - y, faint - ing soul;  
4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, pres - ent in thy ho - ly word;



man - i - fest - ed by the star to the sa - ges from a - far,  
and at Ca - na wed - ding guest in thy God-head man - i - fest;  
man - i - fest in val - iant fight, quell-ing all the dev - il's might;  
grace to im - i - tate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;



branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in thy birth at Beth - le - hem:  
man - i - fest in pow'r di - vine, chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
man - i - fest in gra - cious will, ev - er bring-ing good from ill:  
that we might be - come like thee at thy great e - piph - a - ny,



an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,  
an - thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man - i - fest.  
an - thems be to thee ad-dressed,  
and may praise thee, ev - er blest,

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt.  
Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702

## BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, ✠ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. **Amen.**

## DISMISSAL

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”, *Houston*, Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1944, arr. A. Melang-Thoren, 2019

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### WORSHIP SERVANTS:

Worship Leader:	Eric Leshar
Organist/Pianist:	Anne Melang-Thoren
Jazz Musicians:	Maddie Pressler, vocalist Damain David, trumpet Jonah Bennett, bass Erik Skoog, drums
Choir:	Maddie Pressler, Julene Leshar, Madeleine and Miles Melang-Thoren, Wendy and Chris Apple, Bev Madsen, Peter Schnake, Brendan Elam, Dave Rathjen
Reader:	Neil Larson
Communion Assistants:	Roger and Ginny Potts
Bread:	Chris and Wendy Apple
Altar Guild:	Doug and Sarah Krueger
Ushers:	Lynette and Mike Lewis, John and Beth Johnson
Wine Donors:	Dean and Beth Dumler, Cara and Dan Spitser, Jane Brown

### WORSHIP RESTRICTIONS

The following temporary changes will occur for the foreseeable future:

- As always, if you are ill or at risk, please stay at home and watch the service online.
- **Masks are required** for everyone during worship.
- We will enter the building through the **Atrium doors**. These doors will be locked at fifteen minutes past the hour. All other **doors will be locked**.
- There will **hand sanitizers** at the doorways. If you wish you can sanitize your hands prior to entering the worship space.
- There will be no offering. There will be an **offering basket** located at both entrance doors to the sanctuary.
- There will be **no sharing** of the peace.
- There will be **no acolyte or assisting minister**.
- There will be **no nursery** available.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Coffee Hour

Suspended until further notice.

#### Adult Class

Begins at 10:15 in Leshar Lounge. Masks required.

**Green attendance cards** can be filled out and returned to the Offering basket in the front of the church after worship or the Welcome Table basket on the top of the atrium stairs.

## Semi-Annual Meeting

Meeting of Reports to be held January 30th in the gym after worship. This will be both an online meeting and in-person meeting. Here is the online meeting information for those attending via Zoom:

Web address: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89961168229?pwd=VE52SXc0bXFOcjd1ZVFwZzh5TXV6dz09>

Meeting ID: 899 6116 8229

Passcode: 065087

## Worship Helpers

If you would like to assist with worship services by reading the lessons or helping distribute communion, please contact Charlyne Berens, chair of the Worship and Music Committee, at [cberens1@unl.edu](mailto:cberens1@unl.edu). We will provide any instructions or training you may request.

**Prayers of healing** for Adam, son of Connie Whyrick, as he undergoes surgery for rectal cancer in Omaha on February 9.

**The Lutheran** magazine and **Daily Devotionals** are available in the narthex after worship or in the atrium during the week.

**Flower chart** is available in the atrium. You can sign up for flowers there and leave through the east main entrance.

## 2022 Offering Envelopes

Available in the atrium for you to pick up today or during the week.

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

### January 17:

Office Closed

Lessons 4:00 pm

Gathering Place 5:00 pm

Scouts BSA 7:00 pm

### January 18:

Al-Anon 9:30 am

Lessons 4:00 pm

Cub Scouts 6:30 pm

WELCA Group 6 7:00 pm

### January 19:

Lincoln Literacy 9:15 am

WELCA Group 3 1:00 pm

Bell Choir A practice 6:00 pm

Bell Choir B practice 7:00 pm

Confirmation 7:00 pm

### January 21:

BNRR 4:00 pm

Scout Pinewood Derby 6:30 pm

### January 22:

Scout Pinewood Derby 8:00 am

Worship 5:30 pm

### January 23:

Worship 9:00 am

Adult Class 10:15 am

Chancel Choir 10:15 am

LLC Practice 3:00 pm