



Nativity of Our Lord

December 24, 2025 3:00 PM

Calvary Lutheran Church

*We give thanks to God for all those who helped beautify our worship space!
Dedications are listed at the rear of this bulletin.*



PRELUDE

GATHERING HYMN **ELW 270** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*
The assembly stands.

GREETING AND WELCOME

Blessed be God, the + Word made flesh.

Blessed be God, whose glory is full of grace and truth.

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.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

As we begin worship, we offer confession
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

Forgive our lack of faith and trust.

Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

Forgive our neglect of the poor.

The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

Forgive our selfishness and complacency.

With great joy the angels proclaimed,

“Do not fear, for we bring you good news of great joy.”

In + Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sin is forgiven.

May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens.

Indeed, God’s forgiveness is good news of great joy!

Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE **ELW 289** *Angels We Have Heard on High*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, 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.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 9:2-7

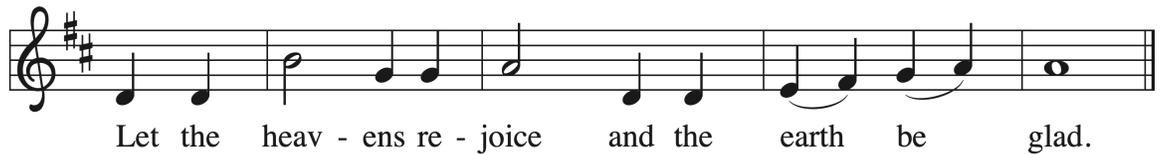
²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.
³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.
⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.
⁵For all the boots of the tramping warriors
and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
⁷His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96

The assembly sings the refrain. The cantor sings it first.



1Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

*2Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.*

3Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.

4For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.

Refrain

*5As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.*

*6Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.*

*7Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.*

*8Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.*

Refrain

9Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; tremble before the Lord, all the earth.

10Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is king!

*The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved
will judge the peoples with equity."*

11Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.

12Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming,

O Lord, for you come to judge the earth.

13You will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with your truth.

Refrain

SECOND READING: TITUS 3:4-7

⁴ When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. ⁶ This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly stands.



GOSPEL: LUKE 2:1-14

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

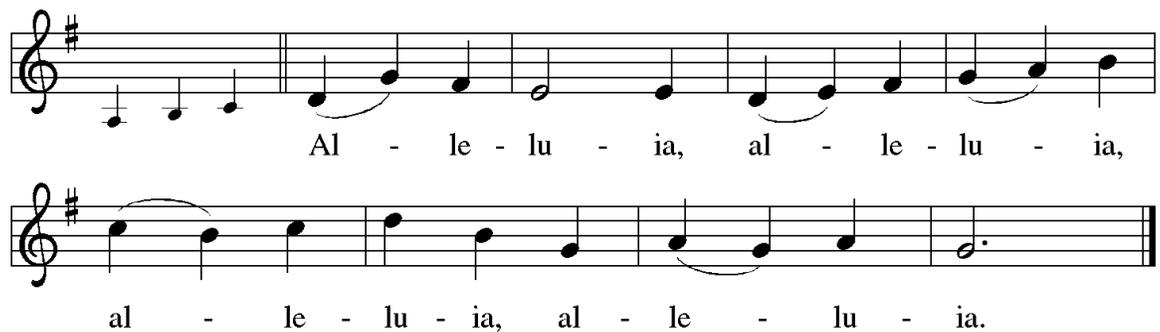
¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ 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 in the guest room.

8 Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 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: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

14 “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SERMON

The assembly is seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY ACS 908 *In a Far-Off Place, Jesus Comes*

The assembly stands.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

The Word becomes flesh, bringing life to a weary world.
Gracious God, use our lips and our lives to proclaim your good news.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The earth rejoices and the coastlands are glad on the day of your birth.
Bring life to barren wastelands, healing where we have caused harm,
and bold hearts to respond to creation's call for justice.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Righteousness and justice are your foundation, O Holy One.
Fill world leaders with your zeal for righteousness
and your love for any who are marginalized and oppressed.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The heavens announce that we have been made your own people.
Keep watch over all who are spending this holy day alone, alienated, or ill.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Light dawns for the righteous and joy visits the upright in heart.
Fortify us with your grace and fill us with zeal
to proclaim the news of your birth to those who long for love.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Throughout our lives, you enfold us in your love.
We remember those who have died and who now rest in your embrace.
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With joy at the birth of Christ, we commend our prayers to you, O God,
trusting in your eternal mercy and love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

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

The assembly exchanges signs of peace then is seated.



GATHERING OF GIFTS

*Gifts of bread, wine, music, and money are offered in thanks to God.
Monetary gifts may be made with the QR code.*

Safe in Mary's Arms, Sally DeFord

Then, the assembly stands.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
 crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
 heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

PRAYER

Good and loving God,
we rejoice in the birth of Jesus,
who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace.
As you have blessed us with your gifts,
let them be a blessing for others.
With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven,
we shout for joy at the coming of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est."

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,
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.

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.

**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.**

COMMUNION

The assembly is seated.

All are welcome! In Holy Communion, we meet a gracious God at a table where all are welcome and Jesus is host. The words “given and shed for you” are a proclamation of good news, sustaining us in our baptized life.

Music accompanies communion. The assembly is invited to sing.

ELW 272 *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

ELW 279 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ELW 477 *I Received the Living God*

PRAYER

The assembly stands.

Radiant God,

with our eyes we have seen your salvation,

and in this meal we have feasted on your grace.

May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people,

revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ,

our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

HYMN OF LIGHT **ELW 281** *Silent Night*



Stil - le Nacht, hei - li - ge Nacht! Al - les schläft,
 1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm,
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God,



ein - sam wacht nur das trau - te, hoch - hei - li - ge Paar.
 all is bright round yon vir - gin moth - er and child.
 at the sight; glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far,
 love's pure light ra - diant beams from your ho - ly face,



Hold - er Kna - be im lok - ki - gen Haar, schlaf in himm - li - scher
 Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly
 heav'n - ly hosts . . . sing, al - le - lu - ia! Christ, the Sav - ior, is
 with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord, at your



Ruh, schlaf in himm - li - scher Ruh.
 peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 born! Christ, the Sav - ior, is born!
 birth, Je - sus, Lord, at your birth.

BLESSING

The Lord God,
who has called you out of darkness to be servants of light,
grant you the joy of the angels,
the eagerness of the shepherds,
and the peace of the Christ Child.
In the name of Almighty God, the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN **ELW 267** *Joy to the World*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Please take this paper with you or place it in the basket at the exit.



2025 Christmas Dedications



Bulletins Given by:

Laura Aupperle
 Deacon Tanya Lee Behnke
 Mr. & Mrs. Martin Carrano
 Mr. & Mrs. Martin Carrano
 Mr. & Mrs. Martin Carrano
 Paula DePaul
 Paul Elsener
 Eileen Hausle
 The Kearns Family
 Deacon Bob & Denise Lewis
 Bob & Eileen Walter

In Memory of My Parents – MaryAnn & Charles J. Welch
 In Loving Memory of Sean Egan
 In Memory of Roma Fierro
 In Memory of Bill Bessman
 In Memory of Sonny Hock
 In Memory of Marie & Svend Hansen
 In Loving Memory of Frances Elsener
 In Memory of Husband – James S. Hausle and Loved Ones
 In Memory of Adele Schroeder
 In Memory of Our Parents
 In Memory of Loved Ones

Candles Given by:

Laura Aupperle
 Deacon Tanya Lee Behnke
 Dianne Davis
 Paula DePaul
 Paul Elsener
 Eileen Hausle
 The Kearns Family
 Charlie & Liz Lauber
 Deacon Bob & Denise Lewis
 The Read Family
 Ingrid Trommer
 Bob & Eileen Walter

In Memory of My Parents – MaryAnn & Charles J. Welch
 In Loving Memory of Grandparents Behnke & Scharwachter
 In Memory of McCarthy Family, Allen Family Mary Fernandez
 In Memory of William DePaul
 In Loving Memory of Frances Elsener
 In Memory of Husband – James S. Hausle and Loved Ones
 In Memory of Adele & Bernard Gray
 In Memory of Loved Ones
 In Memory of Our Parents
 In Memory of Loved Ones
 In Memory of Rudi Trommer
 In Memory of Loved Ones

Christmas Tree and Wreaths Given by:

Laura Aupperle
 Deacon Tanya Lee Behnke
 Jeannine Comito
 Jeannine Comito
 Dianne Davis
 Eva & Michael Decker
 Paula DePaul
 Eileen Hausle
 Ellen Hoffman
 The Kearns Family
 Robert LaRocco
 Robert LaRocco
 Robert LaRocco
 Robert Larocco
 Charlie & Liz Lauber
 Deacon Bob & Denise Lewis
 O'Haire Family
 Kathy & Erich Schwarz
 Ingrid Trommer
 Bob & Eileen Walter

In Memory of My Parents – MaryAnn & Charles J. Welch
 In Honor of family near and far
 In Memory of Billy Policke, Anthony Mongeluzzi
 In Memory of Carleen & John Greco, Vincent & Josephine Comito
 In Memory of Keith Fields, Ethel Svendsen
 In Gratitude of Blessings
 In Memory of William DePaul
 In Memory of Husband – James S. Hausle and Loved Ones
 In Memory of Loved Ones
 In Memory of Peter Kearns, Derek Kearns
 In Memory of Mom & Dad – Anna & Arthur LaRocco
 In Memory of Brother – John LaRocco
 In Memory of In-Laws – Joe & Sylvia Iacovino
 In Memory of In-Law Friend – Gino Turicchi
 In Memory of Loved Ones
 In Memory of Our Parents
 In Memory of Loved Ones
 In Memory of Loved Ones
 In Memory of Rudi Trommer
 In Memory of Loved Ones



2025 Christmas Dedications



Poinsettias Given by:

Laura Aupperle (2)
Deacon Tanya Lee Behnke (3)
Lori Boyle
Pastor Zach & Ana (2)
Eva & Michael Decker
Eva & Michael Decker
Eva & Michael Decker
Paula DePaul
Paula DePaul
Dyer Family
Dyer Family
Melanie Einsfeld
Melanie Einsfeld
Melanie Einsfeld
The Hafner Family (2)
Jane Hafner (2)
Robert LaRocco
Robert LaRocco
Deacon Bob & Denise Lewis (2)
O'Haire Family
Donna Painter
The Read Family
The Read Family
Madeline Riedell & Bob Munder
Kathy & Erich Schwarz
Bob & Eileen Walter (2)

In Memory of My Parents – MaryAnn & Charles J. Welch
In Loving Memory of Roy Peter Schwachter
In Memory of Elizabeth, Maurice, & Sheri
In Memory of Donna Portanova
In Loving Memory of Aage & Aud Dahl
In Loving Memory of Roger & Christa Decker
In Loving Memory of Ed & Ruth Decker
In Memory of William DePaul
In Memory of Marie & Svend Hansen
In Memory of Loved Ones
In Memory of Our Friend Norman
In Memory of Parents – Frieda & Garret Jannen
In Memory of Baby John Downey
In Memory of George Einsfeld
In Memory of Robert Hafner
In Memory of Doris & John Apelskog
In Memory of Grandparents – Gesche & Johanne Klopper
In Memory of In-Law, Angie Turicchi
In Memory of Our Parents
In Memory of Loved Ones
In Memory of Milton Combs and Theresa Combs
In Loving Memory of Teresa & John Read, Sr.
In Loving Memory of Edward & Mae Hastedt
In Memory of Parents – Madeline & Louis Riedell
In Memory of Parents – Elizabeth & Charles Munder
In Memory of Our Grandparents
For Blessings Received
In Memory of Loved Ones
In Memory of Loved Ones



A Reconciling in Christ congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
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Today's Worship Leadership

Ellen Hoffman & Mady Riedell *altar guild*
Vivian & Joe Pentecoste *ushers*
Paul Elsener *organ & piano*
Patrick Silk *vocalist*
AnaSophie Mansfield *acolyte*
Eric Pentecoste, Dcn. Tanya Behnke, & Dcn. Bob Lewis *assisting ministers*
The Rev. Zachary Dean *presiding minister & preacher*

Calvary Staff

Members of Calvary, *Witnesses to the Gospel*
Synodical Deacon Tanya Behnke, she/her, *Christian Education*
The Rev. Zachary Dean, he/him, *Pastor*
Paul Elsener, he/him, *Minister of Music*
Synodical Deacon Bob Lewis, he/him, *Worship & Visitation*
Arianna O'Connell, she/they, *Cantor*
Earl Thomas, he/him, *Custodian*

Acknowledgements

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