



**Welcome to Worship  
at Adoration!**

*If you're visiting with us or new to our congregation, please sign the welcome book at the entrance to the church. Please introduce yourself to someone! We'd love to share more about our faith community with you.*

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**Introduction**

*Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.*

**Worship with Holy Communion  
The 4th Sunday after Epiphany**

Our worship service uses *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, the cranberry hymnal in your pew.

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Ringling of the Chimes**

**Gathering**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.  
You are invited to stand in body or spirit.*

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen**

We bless you, almighty God, for the gift of water—for the oceans that surround the earth, for the rivers that nurture the land, for the waters of Lake Michigan and the Milwaukee River system that you provide for our community—we bless you, O God, for the waters of earth:

**We bless you, O God, for the waters of earth.**

We glorify you, gracious God, for the waters of baptism—for the water of the Jordan that washed our Lord Jesus, for the water that baptized the believers on Pentecost, for the water that illumines us with your Word, for the water that pours out the gifts of the Spirit, for the water that bathes the church universal—the Orthodox, Roman Catholics, Protestants, Pentecostals, Evangelicals, independents—

we glorify you, O God, for the waters of baptism:

**We glorify you, O God, for the waters of baptism.**

We worship you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, almighty, merciful, and gracious. Well of forgiveness, you revive us, Cup of cold water, you refresh us, Pool of rebirth, you renew us. To you comes the worship of all your people, now and forever:

**To you comes the worship of all your people, now and forever. Amen**

*You may be seated.*

Children are invited forward for an age-specific message focused on the day's reading and the lesson they will study in Sunday School. The children will be dismissed for their own Sunday School learning time after their time in front and return with their leaders in time for Communion.



## Children's Time

You are invited to stand in body or spirit.

### Gathering Hymn: *Just a Closer Walk With Thee*

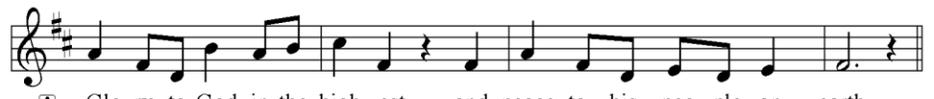
**ELW #697**

## 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.**

## Hymn of Praise: *Glory to God*



Ⓐ Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



Ⓑ Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



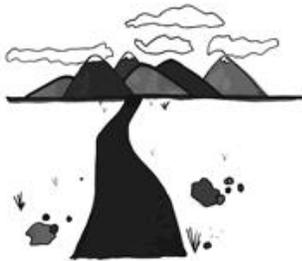
you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men



*With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has “wearied” Israel with a long history of saving acts. God does not want or expect lavish sacrifices to attempt to earn divine favor. Rather God empowers the people to do justice, to love loyalty to God, and to walk shrewdly in God’s service.*



## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. **Disruptive God, with your loving power, you empower the margins to permeate the center with your mission of love and justice for all. In our daily pursuits of greed and comfort, we have lost the way of your love. Give us hearts to embrace the cosmic proclamation that reunites us with our neighbor so that we may have true peace in The Christ. Amen**

*Please be seated.*

## Word

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

### First Lesson: Micah 6:1-8

A reading from the Book of Micah.

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the Lord has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>“O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;  
and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

<sup>6</sup>“With what shall I come before the Lord,  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”



*According to the world's standards of power and might, the message of the cross seems stupid and offensive. Yet this word reveals the paradoxical way God has chosen to work power and salvation through weakness, rejection, and suffering. Hence the message of the cross becomes true wisdom and power for believers.*

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**Special Music: "Peace Be With You" Chancel Choir**

**Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

A reading from Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians

<sup>18</sup>The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might boast in the presence of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**



*Jesus opens the Sermon on the Mount by naming those who are blessed in the reign of God.*



*You are invited to stand in body or spirit.*

**Gospel Acclamation: Listen to the Word that God Has Spoken**

Lis - ten to the word that God has spo - ken; lis - ten to the One who is  
 close at hand; lis - ten to the voice that be - gan cre - a - tion;  
 lis - ten e - ven if you don't un - der - stand.

Text: Anonymous, Canada  
 Music: LISTEN TO THE WORD, Anonymous, Canada; adapt. *Church Hymnary*, 4th Edition, 2005

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.

<sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: <sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

<sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” every disease and every sickness among the people.

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

**Sermon****Hymn of the Day: *Blest Are They****ELW #728**You are invited to stand in body or spirit.***Apostles' Creed**

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Thus, called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.



***We pray for those in need:***

For the family and loved ones grieving the death of Marcie Herlache;  
Tom Nowakowski;  
Donna Babilius;  
Dick Voegeli;  
Joani Bettin;  
Carol Glisch;  
Mary, Sandy Young's sister;  
Jackie, recovering from back surgery (Deanna Posig's relative);  
Lorraine, recovering from pneumonia (Jan Rinderle's sister);  
Cecilia, friend of Jill Lindberg, who is battling aggressive breast cancer;  
Bruce, husband of Debra Ratzlow and brother-in-law of the Regents;  
Kenny, brother of Joyce Weinert, who is hospitalized with a brain tumor;  
Doug Hamilton (spouse of Lori Hamilton);  
Jerry (Bruce Crueger's brother);  
Bob (friend of Bob & Connie Yersin);  
Karen (Sandy Ringwall's sister);  
Joy Braun (friend of Sue Clark);  
Amy & Family (friends of Kathy Wakefield);  
Eric (Crystal's brother)

***We continue to pray for strength and recovery for:***

Betty Wing;  
Kathy and John Imp;  
Marylee Dye;  
Ruth & Bob Bauer;  
Pat Koch;  
Wally Stasiewski;  
Mary Anne Markiewicz;  
Jeff & Kelly Faltersack for a continued healthy pregnancy



**Prayers of Intercession**

Cultivate humility in your church. In gatherings of every size, teach us to boast only in the cross. Shape your church to be people of kindness, generosity, and justice.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You make foolish the wisdom of the world. Raise up honorable leaders who seek justice, love mercy, and pursue peace. Frustrate plans that are corrupt, wicked, and self-seeking. Prosper the work of peacemakers around the globe.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Bless all whom the world rejects. Accompany those who have chaos swirling with them. We pray especially for those who have been told they are “less than,” “wrong,” or an outcast for being who they are. We pray for your love and healing to care for them. reveal your power and presence at work where it is least expected. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

As with your people Israel, remind this congregation of your saving acts. Remind us how your faithfulness brought us through difficulties and sustained us despite our weaknesses. Establish the cross as the center of our life together. We pray for those we name before you now (*Names may be shared aloud or in your hearts*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Praise to you for your blessed saints in every time and place. Trusting you accompanied them in poverty, persecution, and in every trial, we trust you abide with your people always.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

**Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**  
*Please share signs of peace with those in your vicinity.*

***We keep in our prayers:***

The Lindahl/Lazaris Family;  
 Dawn (friend of Sandy and  
 Bob Young);  
 Pat (Cousin of Donna  
 Babilius);  
 Scott and Debbie (family of  
 Margaret Duris);  
 Keith (Sandy Eigner's  
 brother-in-law);  
 Susan (Darlene Witkowiak's  
 daughter);  
 Jeremy (Tom Nowakowski's  
 nephew);  
 Caroline (Jill Lindberg's  
 daughter);  
 Shelby and the family of  
 Taylor Daniels (friends of  
 Crystal Januchowski)

***We pray for the following  
 with our siblings across the  
 ELCA:***

For the continued influx of  
 asylum seekers entering the  
 United States ...  
 For the victims of shootings in  
 California and Georgia, and  
 for all victims of mass  
 shootings and gun violence...  
 For all grieving amidst  
 celebrations of the Lunar New  
 Year...  
 For all affected by blackouts  
 in South Africa...  
 For those suffering acute or  
 long infections with Covid-19,  
 especially as cases surge in  
 China...  
 For those grieving victims of  
 a worship bombing in the  
 Democratic Republic of  
 Congo ...  
 For protesters in South  
 America

***Lord, in your mercy,  
 Receive Our Prayer.***

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*Today we give our tithes and offerings by bringing them forth as we  
 come to receive Communion.*

***Meal***

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**Preparation Prayer**

Let us pray. **Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice  
 and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in  
 thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape  
 us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify  
 and adore, through Jesus our Savior. Amen**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

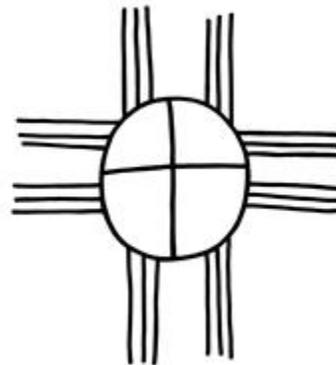
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**The Proper Preface**

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.

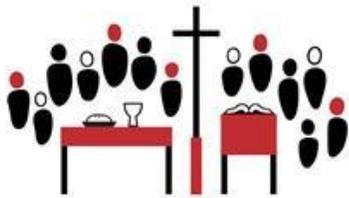
By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the  
 waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and  
 in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

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:



**ON RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION**

You are invited to the Lord's Table by the Lord Jesus Christ himself. Therefore, Adoration Lutheran Church practices "Open Communion," which means we do not restrict anyone from receiving this grace-filled gift of God. Jesus loves everyone and welcomes everyone to his table of grace and peace.



**Holy, Holy, Holy**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Eucharistic Prayer**

Almighty Lord, we praise your shining light, your glowing grace. From before the earth's foundation, you loved us and promised us life forever. Within the earth's deep sadness, we laud your great and glorious might. Despite our tears and sinning, we sing of the gladness of your mercy.

We praise your Son, our Morning Star. Christ is our diamond bright, our treasure dear. He is our living Savior who, preaching and healing, dying and rising, and promising to come again, blesses us with steadfast love. He keeps us yours and fails us never— today, tomorrow, and every day.

**Words of Institution**

**Epiklesis (Come, Holy Spirit)**

With joy we tell our story: **Alleluia!**

We call for your Spirit on us and this meal. Refresh our souls with this heavenly food, the body and blood of your Son. Nourish us as branches of your tree, and enlighten us with your undying flame. We sing out to the Father, we ring out to the Son, we exult in the Spirit. **Alleluia! Amen!**

*We come forward to share in Holy Communion today. You may choose to receive a wafer and a poured cup of wine or juice or a pre-sealed packet containing both a wafer and juice. Gluten-free wafers available by indicating your need to the server.*

*Consecrated Goldfish crackers are available for children.*

*All are welcome to come forth and receive a blessing.*

*Please place used cups in the baskets on the end of the front pews.*



## **The Lord's Prayer**

Remember us, O Christ, and teach us to pray:

**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**

*Please be seated.*

## **Invitation to Communion**

**Lamb of God: *Your Only Son* ELW #336**

## **Communion**

**Hymn During Communion: *Let Us Break Bread Together* ELW #471**

*You are invited to stand in body or spirit.*

## **Post-Communion Blessing**

## **Prayer After Communion**

Let us pray. **Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table.**

**Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen.**

## ***Sending***

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## **Blessing**

Awaking this morning, you rise out of the waters of Creation.

Today you walk across the Red Sea. You will drown and come to in a new place.

The heavens are torn open forever. You can get there from here: Heaven has spilled out into this world. Live this day as if you are in heaven.



*Adoration is a Reconciling  
in Christ congregation, open  
and affirming to people of  
“all sexual orientations,  
gender identities, and gender  
expressions” or  
“LGBTQIA+.”  
We believe that God values  
and embraces each person  
as a beloved child, that the  
Spirit gives a diversity of  
gifts for the common good,  
and that Jesus Christ calls  
us to work for justice.*



You are God’s Beloved, radiant with the image of God.  
You belong, and have no power to remove yourself.  
You are immersed in Christ, who heals you,  
who accompanies you, who dies and rises in you.  
You brim with Spirit, humming within.  
Let her live in you. Let her sing. Let her fly.  
Let her love in her infinite way.  
You can give, for you have abundantly received.

Christ will go about the world now, healing and teaching,  
blessing and serving, in your hands and ears and eyes.  
The fire with which God will change the world  
glows within you. Tend it.

**Sending Hymn:** *Christ Be Our Light* **ELW #715**

**Dismissal**

Go in peace, Follow the way of Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

***Adoration Lutheran Church***

*A Congregation of the*

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

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Barbara Regent, Worship Coordinator

Crystal A. Januchowski, Office Manager

**Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**

\* If you have a need that falls outside of these days/hours,  
please send an email or call the main number. \*

**Today's Lay Leaders****Lector:** Kathy Wakefield**Ushers:** Linda Kolar-Wood  
& Deanna Possig**Communion Assistants:****Altar Guild:** Deanna Posig**Music & Worship  
Coordinator:**  
Barb Regent

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*\*Glory to God, written by Ronald A. Nelson, from Lutheran Book of Worship Holy Communion Setting Two.*

*\*Prayer elements adapted from "Created Whole," liturgy written by The Rev. AJ Houseman, ReconcilingWorks.*

*\*Holy, Holy, Holy from ELW Setting Ten.*

*\*Blessing written by Steve Garnaas-Holmes. Unfolding Light. Online at [www.unfoldinglight.net](http://www.unfoldinglight.net)*