February 23, 2025 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany



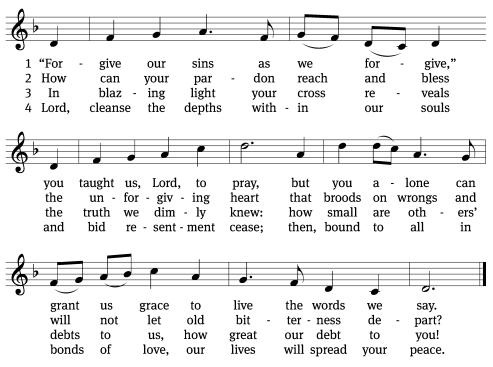
Prepare for Worship

Lord Jesus, you have invited me to come and receive your holy Sacrament. I believe that in the bread and wine you give me your true body and blood to eat and drink. Forgive my sins and nourish my faith through this precious meal. I long for the comfort that comes with your promises; I yearn for the assurance of your faithful love. Bless me now as I receive you by faith.

Amen.

Setting Six

733 Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive



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Stand

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Confession

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Absolution

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

1001 Gloria (Amer) - MISSIONARY HYMN



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The Word

Salutation

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, keep your family continually in true faith, so that those who rely only on the hope of your heavenly grace may be protected by your mighty power; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

4 Be seated

First Reading

Genesis 45:3-15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?"

His brothers could not answer him, because they were terrified by his presence. ⁴Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me, please."

They came closer. He said, "I am Joseph, your brother, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵Now do not be upset or angry with yourselves for selling me to this place, since God sent me ahead of you to preserve life. ⁶For two years now the famine has been in the land, and there are still five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me ahead of you to preserve you as survivors on the earth, and to keep you alive by a great act of deliverance. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God, and he has made me a father to Pharaoh, lord over his entire household, and ruler over the whole land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry, go up to my father and tell him, 'This is what your son Joseph says: "God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me. Do not delay. ¹⁰You shall live in the land of Goshen, where you will be close to me—you, your children, your grandchildren, your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. "I will take care of you here, for there are still five years of famine. Otherwise you will come to ruin, you, and your household, and all that you have." ¹²Pay attention. Your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You shall tell my father all about my position of honor in Egypt and about everything that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here."

¹⁴He threw his arms around his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, and Benjamin wept on his shoulder. ¹⁵He kissed all his brothers and wept over them. After that his brothers talked with him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

103A The LORD Is Kind and Merciful

Refrain





Tone



Praise the LORD, / my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his / holy name—
who forgives / all your sins
and heals all your dis- / eases,
who redeems your life / from the pit
and crowns you with love and com- / passion,
who satisfies your desires / with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the / eagle's. Refrain

The LORD is compassionate and / gracious, slow to anger, abound- / ing in love.

He does not treat us as our / sins deserve or repay us according to our in- / iquities.

For as high as the heavens are a- / bove the earth, so great is his love for those who / fear him; as far as the east is / from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions / from us.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son and to the Holy / Spirit, as it was in the be- / ginning, is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

Second Reading

Romans 12:14-21

Bless those who persecute you; bless, and do not curse. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who are rejoicing; weep with those who are weeping. ¹⁶Have the same respect for one another. Do not be arrogant, but associate with the humble. Do not think too highly of yourselves.

¹⁷Do not pay anyone back evil for evil. Focus on those things that everyone considers noble. ¹⁸If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, maintain peace with everyone. ¹⁹Do not take revenge, dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath. For it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay," says the Lord. ²⁰But:

If your enemy is hungry, feed him;

if he is thirsty, give him a drink.

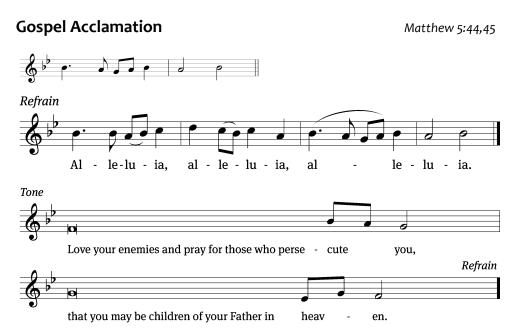
For by doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.

²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand



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Gospel Luke 6:27–38

"But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. ²⁸Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹If someone strikes you on one cheek, offer the other too. If someone takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes away your things, do not demand them back.

³¹"Treat others just as you would want them to treat you. ³²If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? To be sure, even the sinners love those who love them. ³³And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even the sinners do the same thing. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you expect to be repaid, what credit is that to you? Even the sinners lend to sinners in order to be paid back in full. ³⁵Instead, love your enemies, do good and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the unthankful and the evil. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. ³⁸Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be poured into your lap. In fact, the measure with which you measure will be measured back to you."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

729 Son of God, Eternal Savior



- Son ter - nal Say - ior. source of life and of God. 2 Bind all geth - er Church's
- us as one to in vour
- 3 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, for so may we Son of God, life е ter - nal Sav - ior, source of and



truth and grace, sa - cred fold, oth - ers live. truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth mong us, a weak and health-y, poor and wealth-y, have your Free - ly gifts been grant - ed; Word made flesh, whose birth mong us



hal - lows all our hu - man race, sad and joy - ful, young and old. may your ser-vants give. hal - lows all our hu - man race,

you our head, who, throned in Is there want or pain or Yours the gold and the vours by your pray-ing, by vour



your own will glo - ry, for ev - er plead: fill us with your sor - row? Make us the bur-den share. there spir - its all Are sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea; we but stew-ards will - ing that your peo - ple should be one, grant, O grant our



and pit - y, our wrongs and love heal help our need. crushed and bro - ken? Lord, soothe their care. Teach us, to of your boun-ty held sol will be. in emn trust hope's fru - i - tion: here earth your will be done. on

Text: Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1855-1932, abr., alt. Tune: The Revivalist, Troy, 1868, ed. Joseph Hillman Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon Love Your Enemies, Overcoming Evil with Good Luke 6:27-38

Stand

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.

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 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.

Prayer of the Church

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death.

You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn.

Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph. **Amen.**

Be seated

Good News for Kids

Offering

The Sacrament

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns. The Lord's Supper makes a second statement. It says, "We are one in all that we do." We don't know if this type of bond exists with our guests, so we ask that if you are not a member of a WELS or ELS congregation you refrain from the Lord's Supper today and meet personally with our pastor if you desire to receive the sacrament in the future.

Stand

Preface

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

Lift up your hearts.

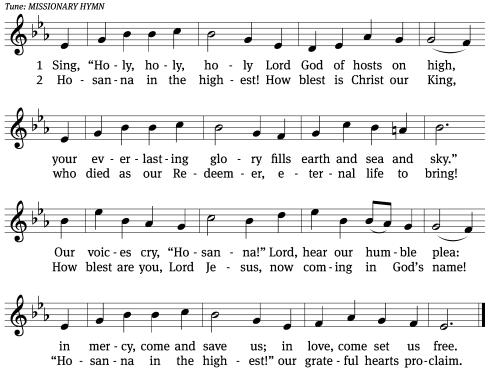
We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

1010 Sanctus (Amer) - MISSIONARY HYMN



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Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

Words of Institution

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."

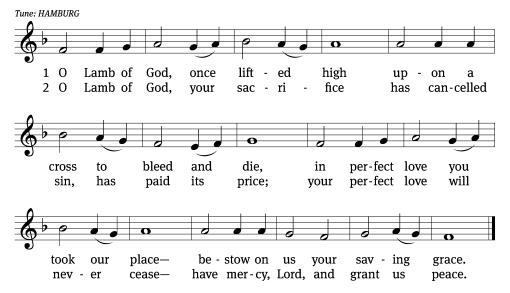
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen**.

1013 Agnus (Amer) - HAMBURG

CW 1013



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Be seated

Distribution

767 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us



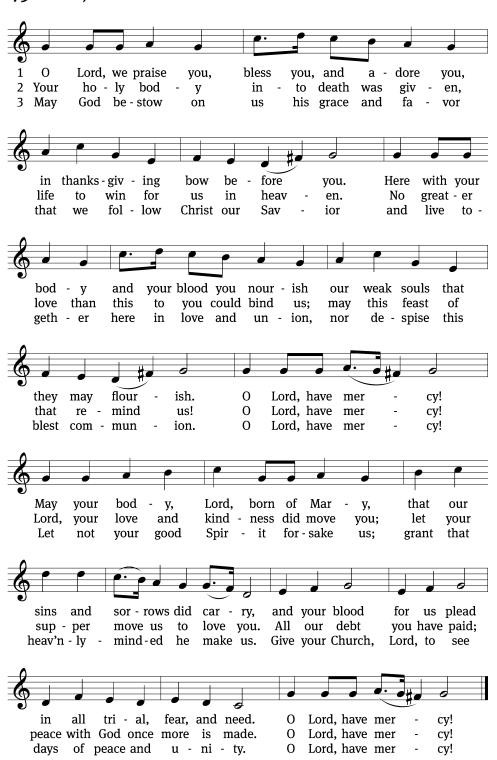
Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–1889, alt. Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887 Text and tune: Public domain

661 Draw Near and Take the Body of Your Lord



Text: Latin, 7th cent., abr.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

673 O Lord, We Praise You



Stand

Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

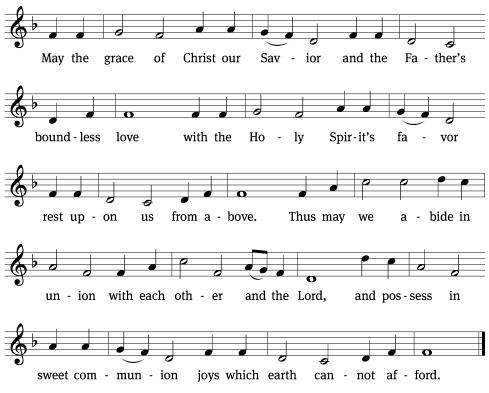
The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

928 May the Grace of Christ Our Savior



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807 Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844 Text and tune: Public domain

Thank You to Today's Helpers

Accompanist: Jill Rasmussen

Altar Guild: Cassandra Canny & Karen Holmen

Counters: Greg Lewis & Jeff Overson

Streaming: Lee Bowman

Ushers 8 am: Dennis Moural & Jon Holmen

Ushers 10:30 am: Greg Lewis

Next Sunday's Servants Accompanist: Kris Olson

Altar Guild: Christine Pfeifer & Paula Twelmeyer

Counters: Karl Kuhrt & Steve Winecke

Streaming: Kale & Payton Weis

Ushers 8 am: Kale Weis

THIS WEEK AT LINCOLN HEIGHTS February 23 - March 2, 2025

Sunday	8:00 am 9:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 10:35 am	Worship with Communion Homeless Meal Delivery Sunday School/Bible Class Worship with Communion Kunama Worship Hand Bell Practice
Monday	5:30 pm	Youth Group at Beautiful Savior
Wednesday	5:30 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm 6:45 pm 6:45 pm	Catechism and Bible History Choir Evening Prayer Bible Class Children's Hand Bell Practice
Thursday	10:00 am	Women's Fellowship Group
Sunday	8:00 am 9:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 11:35 am	Worship Homeless Meal Delivery Sunday School/Bible Class Worship Kunama Worship Hand Bell Practice

Lent and Easter Worship Schedule

March 5 Ash Wednesday Worship w/Communion at 4:30 & 7 pm

March 12-April 9 Wednesday Lenten Worship at 7 pm

April 17 Maundy Thursday Worship w/Communion at 5 & 7 pm

April 18 Good Friday Worship at 5 & 7 pm

April 20 Easter Worship at 8 & 10:30 am

Acknowledgments

Setting Six (American) from Christian Worship

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Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

welcomes

Bishop V'yacheslav Horpynchuk Ukrainian Lutheran Church Saturday, March 1st at 4:00 pm

Presentation by Bishop Horpynchuk followed by a Q & A session, prayer and finger food reception. This is a wonderful opportunity to pass along encouragement to our brothers and sisters in Christ who are in Ukraine through the leader of the Ukrainian Lutheran Church. Bishop Horpynchuk will also preach at Grace Lutheran on Sunday, March 2nd at 9:00 am.

Grace Lutheran Church

1716 9th Ave East Oskaloosa, Iowa

Contact Pastor Pfeifer if interested in carpooling. pastor@lhelc.org 515-771-5111

Lost and Found

There is a collection of lost items in the church office. If you have lost glasses, toys, hair accessories, jewelry, earbuds or any other small item, please stop by and see if anything belongs to you. The items are in a basket on the desk. Thank you.

Youth Group Night - Bowling!

7th-12th Grade Students

Monday, Feb 24th, 5:30-8:00 pm

We meet at Beautiful Savior Lutheran at 5:30 pm for snacks and Bible study and then go to Spare Time for bowling. Contact Pastor Pfeifer to sign up and to arrange a ride. 515-771-5111

Can You Help?

The Altar Guild committee is in need of two volunteers. Ladies work in pairs and are assigned two months of the year. Duties include setting up for Communion, changing the paraments and hanging banners. If you can help in this way, please contact Karen Pippett at sewgirlie09@gmail.com or 515-249-7161. Thank you.

Welcome to Lincoln Heights!

We are glad you are here today to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Please speak with an usher for any help.

Yellow Cards

Please fill out a yellow card and place it in the offering plate when passed. Thank you.

In Our Prayers

The Lord is eager to hear the prayers of thanks and petitions for help from his people. Please keep these members and families in your prayers. Contact Pastor to add someone to this list:

Ukraine

Ray & Gloria Overson, Sherry Just and Randy Michael- shut-ins Linda Thielke, Larry Borchert, Jeff Overson, Pat Oswald, Makenzie Phippen- health Lucas Gilman & Karri Pippett, Daniel Pfeifer & Paige Harman, Isaiah Luellen & Andie

Schlabach, Caleb Winecke & Makayla Gallentine, Addyson Pender & Zach Ostendorfengaged couples

Online Giving

Thank you for your generous and cheerful offerings to the Lord.



www.LHELC.org/giving

Prepare for Next Sunday

For a simple devotional reading plan, review the readings for this week on Monday through Wednesday. Then read the Scripture for next Sunday on Thursday through Saturday. The Word for next Sunday:

Exodus 34:29-35, 2 Corinthians 3:7-18, Luke 9:28-36

Our Mission is to nurture each other in God's Word and spread the Good News of Christ to all.

LINCOLN HEIGHTS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 1217 Watrous Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa

Phone: (515) 288-3013

www.lhelc.org

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