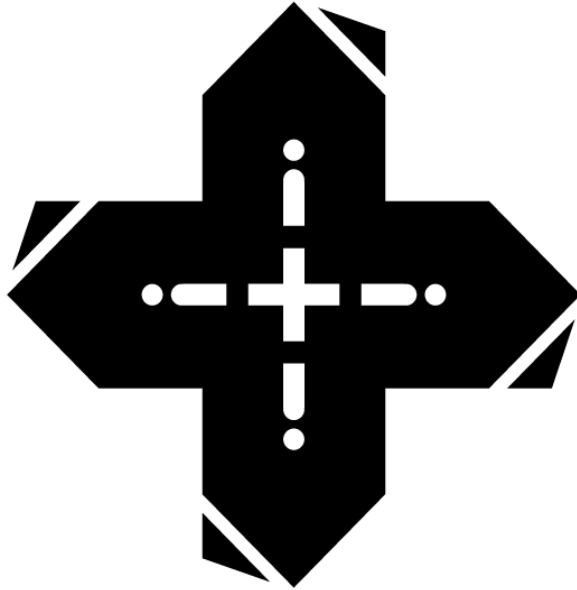


Connecting Christ. Creating Community.



# HUNTERSVILLE

*Lutheran Church*

Sundays after Christmas  
12.28.25



# Huntersville Lutheran

*A Changeless Message for  
A Changing Community*

8000 McIlwaine Rd Huntersville, NC 28078

Worship @ 9:00am | Family Bible Hour @ 10:30 am

Pastor@huntersvillelc.com | huntersvillelc.com | 248-807-3057

**W**elcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. Our service is centered on our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lived, died, and rose from the dead so that we would have eternal life in him. God reveals this soul saving message in his Word. We gather to find strength through God's powerful and holy Word. Take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the order of service, readings, and hymns, and fill out the take action card. May God bless our time together this morning.

## About Our Worship

The gospel is the good news about what Jesus did to be the Savior for sinners. It is also the power of God—the very thing he uses to work faith in our hearts and transform our lives. Therefore, gospel-centered worship places the gospel in central focus. This order of service is called the liturgy. In the message, in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news about Jesus from start to finish. Gospel-centered worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children).

## For Your Convenience

**Restrooms** are located in the gathering space, to the left of the kitchen. There is also a family restroom located in the classroom

**Cry Room:** If your little one needs some room to move around, head to the back of the sanctuary and you'll find a cry room. You can also go into the Classroom off the gathering space if you need more space.

## Service Participants

Rev. Douglas Van Sice, *pastor of Huntersville Lutheran*

Mrs. Andrea Van Sice, *pianist*



# ORDER OF SERVICE

*From beginning to end, the Gospel—the good news of what Jesus did for sinners—is the central focus in our worship. In the message, in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news about Jesus from start to finish. This is because the Gospel is the very thing that God uses to transform hearts and eternities, creating saving faith in the heart of the believer. God bless our worship this morning.*

## Opening Hymn

*A Great and Mighty Wonder*

*Christian Worship #349*



- 1 A great and might - y won - der, a glo - rious mys - ter - y:
- 2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate and yet re - mains on high,
- 3 While thus they sing your mon - arch, those bright an - gel - ic bands,
- 4 Since all he comes to ran - som, by all be he a - dored,
- 5 All i - dols then shall per - ish and Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



a vir - gin bears an in - fant who veils his de - i - ty.  
and cher - u - bim sing an - thems to shep - herds from the sky.  
re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, and o - ceans, clap your hands.  
the in - fant born in Beth - l'em, the Sav - ior and the Lord.  
and Christ shall raise his scep - ter, de - cree - ing end - less peace.

### *Refrain*



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry and peace to all the earth!"

## Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

## Confession

*CW 173*

**L** Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

**L** Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C** Almighty and merciful Father,  
we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.  
We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.  
We have done those things that we should not have done,  
and we have not done those things that we should have done.  
Have mercy on us, Lord!  
Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,  
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

**L** 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.

**C** Amen.

## Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

*The word Kyrie is a Greek word from the phrase Kyrie eleison which means, "Lord, have mercy!" This is the most heartfelt cry of a believer to his Lord. It is not a cry for forgiveness, but a cry for mercy that our Lord and King hear us and help us in our necessities and trouble. Christians have been praying the Kyrie at Sunday worship for more than 1700 years (that's why its name is Greek, the language most commonly spoken at the time). This morning, may it also be our heartfelt cry to our God and king.*

**L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

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

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For the leaders of our synod and district, for all pastors in Christ, for all who are servants of the Church, and for all the people of God, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For all who govern our nation and for all public servants, that they may be upheld and strengthened for every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

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

**C** Amen.

# Glory to God in the Highest

*Gloria*

The musical score is written on ten staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is composed of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some measures containing rests. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes. The text is as follows:

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

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. 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. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth.



# THE WORD

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**L** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

**L** Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Be seated*

## First Reading

*Isaiah 61:10—62:3*

<sup>10</sup>I delight greatly in the LORD;  
my soul rejoices in my God.  
For he has clothed me with garments of salvation  
and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,  
as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
<sup>11</sup>For as the soil makes the sprout come up  
and a garden causes seeds to grow,  
so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness  
and praise spring up before all nations.



<sup>1</sup>For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet,  
till her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
her salvation like a blazing torch.  
<sup>2</sup>The nations will see your vindication,  
and all kings your glory;  
you will be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will bestow.  
<sup>3</sup>You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD's hand,  
a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm of the Day

*Psalm 148*

**L** Praise the LORD from the heavens;

**C** praise him in the heights above.

**L** Praise him, all his angels;

**C** praise him, all his heav'nly hosts.

**L** Praise him, sun and moon;

**C** praise him, all you shining stars.

**L** Praise the LORD from the earth,

**C** lightning and hail, snow and clouds,

**L** you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars,

**C** wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds,

**L** kings of the earth and all nations,

**C** young men and women, old men and children.

<sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. <sup>4</sup>For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will— <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding, <sup>9</sup>he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, <sup>10</sup>to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.

<sup>11</sup>In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, <sup>12</sup>in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.

<sup>15</sup>For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people, <sup>16</sup>I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. <sup>18</sup>I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people,

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## **Gospel**

*John 1:14–18*

<sup>14</sup>The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

<sup>15</sup>(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, “This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”) <sup>16</sup>Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

**L** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to you, O Christ!

*Be seated*

## Hymn of the Day

*The Only Son from Heaven*  
*Christian Worship #383*



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!"



## 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 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.**

*Be seated*

## Prayer of the Church

*When the leader says, "Lord, in your mercy," the congregation responds, "Hear our prayer."*

# THANKSGIVING

**Offering |** *The members of Huntersville Lutheran have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you would like to give digitally, simply scan the QR code or click on the "Give" tab in HLC's app. Guests, you are welcome to participate in supporting our ministry, but certainly do not feel obligated.*



**Connect Card |** *In your service folder, you will find connect cards. If you haven't done so already, please take a moment and fill it out completely to give us a record of your attendance. You may also request prayers be said on your behalf. Please place the connect card in the offering plates as they are passed around.*



# THE SACRAMENT

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*Huntersville Lutheran practices close communion, which means biblical conversation and confession with our church beforehand. It is our desire to share in the eternal blessings of this Sacrament according to the instructions that God himself gives. If you are new to Huntersville Lutheran, please know that many of those around you were at one time new, too. And, as you can see by their presence, this preliminary discussion has only brought us closer together to celebrate the Lord's Supper in the way he has prescribed. Contact our pastor at any time.*

## Preface

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- L** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them up to the Lord.
- L** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- L** 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, by whose wonderful and mysterious birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



## Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of 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!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- L** 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.

**C** Amen.

## 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.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.

## Words of Institution

**L** 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.

## Jesus, Lamb of God

*Agnus Dei*

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; grant us your peace.

*Be seated*

## Distribution

**L** Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

**C** **his mercy endures forever.**

**L** Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**C** **we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

**L** We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Blessing

**L** 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.**

## Song of Departure

*Alleluia! Let Praises Ring*  
*Christian Worship #481, vv. 2 & 4*

2. Alleluia! Let praises ring!  
Unto the Lamb of God we sing,  
in whom we are elected.  
He bought his Church with his own blood,  
he cleansed her in that blessed flood  
and as his bride selected.  
Holy, holy  
is our union  
and communion;  
his befriending  
gives us joy and peace unending.

4. Alleluia! Let praises ring!  
Unto our triune God we sing;

blest be his name forever!  
With angel hosts let us adore  
and sing his praises more and more  
for all his grace and favor.  
Singing, ringing:  
holy, holy,  
God is holy;  
spread the story  
of our God, the Lord of glory!

## **Acknowledgments**

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Setting Two from Christian Worship

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