

Baptism of Our Lord

January 19, 2025



Baptism of Our Lord

January 19, 2025

Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: Settings of “*Forest Green*” - Lovelace/Manz
Lois Theesfield, organ

Welcome

Gathering Song: “*Blessed be the God of Israel*” - ELW #250

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
our creator,
our protector,
our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you speak blessing and compassion into the world.
Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;
we resist your call to oppose injustice;
we give in to scarcity and fear;
we assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults
and release us from their grasp.
Show us your lovingkindness.
Restore our hearts and repair your world,
that we may live in Christ’s ways.
Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine.”
In + Christ, you are forgiven.
In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
live anew as beloved children of God.
Amen.

Kyrie

ELW Setting 8


Refrain



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.




Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
hun - gry and the poor; that
friends and fam - i - ly; for
wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
life and for love, for our work and our play,
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

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.**

First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

¹ 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.
² 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.
³ For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
⁴ Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
⁶ I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music: "Arise! Shine!" - Luigi Cherubini
Memorial Choir

Second Reading: Acts 6:14-17

¹⁴This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you
14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the
word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and
prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had
not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord
Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the
Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Children at Heart Sermon

Gospel Acclamation
ELW Setting 8

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

The Gospel according to Luke
Glory to You, O Lord

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² 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

Hymn of the Day: "Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized" - ELW #304

Installation of Church Council Members

Steve Lekwa, President
Wayne Kinyon, Vice President
Erin Rewerts, Secretary
Hattie Rhodes, Treasurer
Carl Link
Connie Kinyon
Denise Rehor
Emilia Stage
Larry Parker
Lynn Rhodes
Mike Neal
Steve Jungst

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

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

Offering

Music Voluntary: *“Drawn to the Light”* - John Ylvisaker
Memorial Choir

Offering Prayer

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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

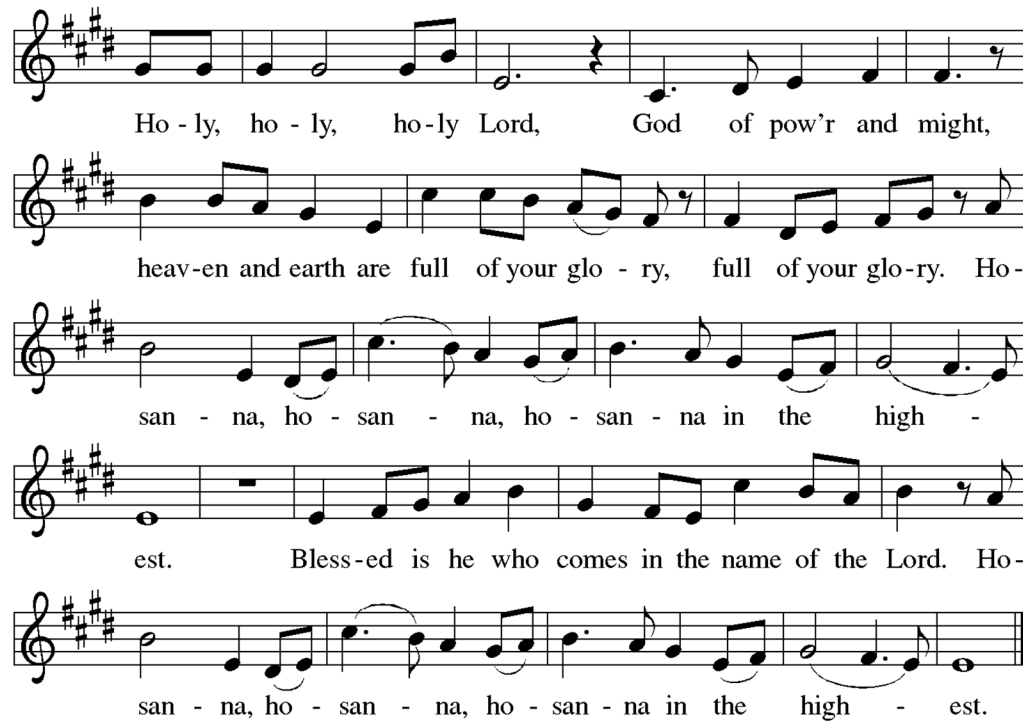
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

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:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW Setting 8



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

Words of Institution

The 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.

Invitation to Communion

The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Hymns during Communion

“When Jesus Came to Jordan” - ELW #305

“Crashing Waters at Creation” - ELW #455

Prayer after Communion

Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ we pray,
Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

The Spirit of the triune God
+ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.
Amen.

Sending Hymn: *“Baptized in Water”* - ELW #456

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *“Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized”* - arr. Paul Manz
Lois Theesfield, organ

Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or emily@mlcnevada.org, or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

Please keep Arlys & Mike Neal and Lauren Chitty and their entire family in your prayers following the death of their daughter and sister, Cindy Grosz.

Please keep Pastor Anita Nuetzman and family in your prayers following the death of her husband, +Dennis Nuetzman.

Please keep the family of +Darla Bohrer (niece of Sandy Christian) following her death

Karen Anderson	Johann Thiel	Jackie Byers
Caleb Roof	Mike Neal	<i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>
Kelsee Holzmer	Christina King	Donna See
<i>granddaughter of Joyce Mack</i>	Sherry Kluever	Norma Dannan
Jake Jacobson	Kim Elliott	<i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
Evelyn Onstot	Pr. Marcia Kisner	Fred Samuelson
Marty Schuler	Marlene Waddell	Jaylee Bartleson
Katy Beno	<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-</i>	George Forsyth
<i>sister of Sandy Christian</i>	<i>Goettsch</i>	Janeen Driscoll
Kathy Larsen	John Bass	Julie Sutherland
Eric Forsyth	<i>son-in-law of Ron & Gloria</i>	Jan Cook
Ardith Forsyth	<i>Jacobson</i>	
Crystal Vines	Carol Vincent	
Katie Bass	Cassie Harrell	
<i>niece of Judy Coverdale</i>	Jean Smith	
Wayne Johnson	Easton Farrington	
Troy Vincent	Janice Hartz	

Hospitalizations: *If you are in the hospital or are going to be in the hospital and want us to be aware of it, please call the church office or have someone call on your behalf. Unless directed otherwise, your name will be placed on the prayer list and included in electronic notifications.*

Announcements

Save the date: Annual Meeting of the Congregation February 2

Mark your calendar and plan to be in worship to hear an update of the mission, ministry, and goals at Memorial. After the service we will be taking a group photo before celebrating God's mission together with treats in Fellowship Hall.

Book Study: “The Rapture Exposed” by Barbara Rossing

Beginning February 16, join us after worship for discussion as we read through “*The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation*”. Please sign up in the narthex or contact Pastor Kathleen. If you would like a book provided the suggested donation is \$13. While it's not a requirement, you might want to read through Revelation prior to our first meeting with special focus on chapters 4-7, 21, and 22. Please contact Pastor Kathleen with any questions.



Transportation Help Needed for MLC Member

A Memorial member is seeking assistance in rides to and from church on Sundays, as well as for weekly grocery shopping. Please note that they will need help getting in and out of the vehicle. If you can help, please contact the church office for more details. *Thank you!*

National Day of Racial Healing - ELCA Event for All

This year, the ELCA, in partnership with Augsburg Fortress, will join the movement of racial healing for our church and the nation. On Jan. 21, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Central time, the ELCA will feature a free online educational event that centers the voices of ELCA leaders of color. We invite you to join us in this collective effort for a more just and equitable world. This event is open to all ELCA rostered ministers, lay leaders and members. We welcome all ELCA synods, congregations, colleges, universities, seminaries, separately incorporated ministries and antiracism teams, as well as the church's affiliate organizations and ecumenical and interreligious partners. Register by using the QR code.



Listen God is Calling, Loving Our Global Neighbors

Join Bishop Amy Current and leaders from across the synod for a short presentation and discussion. Register once and attend any one or all of these events:



January 30: Loving our Neighbors of Palestine, Israel, and the Middle East.

February 6: Loving our Neighbors by "Preaching and Teaching with Love and Respect for the Jewish People."

February 13: Loving our Neighbors through Accompanying Migrants with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities.

February 20: Loving our Neighbors in partnership with the Pare and Mwanga Dioceses of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania as global companions.

Register for any or all of these events using the QR code.

Middle School Lock-In Friday, February 21

Youth from Memorial and area churches are invited to attend this fun event!

When: February 21, 2025, starting at 6:00 PM and ending at 7:00 AM the next morning

Where: Resurrection Lutheran Church in Ankeny, IA

Who: All 6th - 9th graders.

How? Use this registration link to sign up!
<https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/9505678>

Cost: \$25

Stay Connected with Memorial

Keep up-to-date with Memorial and community events, prayer requests, volunteer opportunities, and more; sign up to receive emails and/or periodic texts at bit.ly/memorialconnect or by using the QR code



MLC Member Survey

Earlier this year our congregation council set a goal to reach out to Memorial's membership in the hopes of listening well to the needs and hopes of our congregation. A subcommittee was formed to create a survey that would help in identifying what needs are being met, as well as what needs are not currently being met. The council needs everyone's honest feedback in order to identify how we can best serve and love as Memorial Lutheran Church. Thank you in advance for your time and your thoughts. Your participation will help us to grow and abide together in Christ for the sake of the world.



Online Giving with Tithe.ly—New Funds Available for Designated Gifts

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/> give or by scanning the QR code. ***Did you know? In Tithe.ly, you can set up one-time or recurring gifts to the General Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, Drive for the Drive Pavement Project, Sanctuary Screens Fund, Sanctuary Carpet Fund, and more!***



A Special Note Regarding Tithe.ly Fees

We so appreciate all that give using the online/mobile giving platform Tithe.ly! If you haven't already, please consider including Tithe.ly processing fees as part of your one-time and recurring gifts. To do this, simply check the "Cover Fees" box when setting up your gift. If you have already set up a recurring gift and would like to start including the fees, you'll need to delete this gift and set it up again with "Cover Fees" checked.

Save the Date

National Day of Racial Healing - ELCA Event for All

When: Tuesday, January 21, 10 AM—2 PM

Where: Online, register using the QR code



Annual Meeting of the Congregation

When: Sunday, February 2 following worship

Book Study Begins: *“The Rapture Exposed”* by Barbara Rossing

When: Sunday, February 16 following worship

Where: MLC Chapel

Listen God is Calling, Loving Our Global Neighbors

Register once using the QR code and attend any or all of the following events:



January 30: Loving our Neighbors of Palestine, Israel, and the Middle East.

February 6: Loving our Neighbors by "Preaching and Teaching with Love and Respect for the Jewish People."

February 13: Loving our Neighbors through Accompanying Migrants with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities.

February 20: Loving our Neighbors in partnership with the Pare and Mwanga Dioceses of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania as global companions.

Memorial Lutheran Church 2025 Council Members

Steve Lekwa, President
Wayne Kinyon, Vice President
Erin Rewerts, Secretary
Hattie Rhodes, Treasurer
Carl Link
Connie Kinyon
Denise Rehor
Emilia Stage
Larry Parker
Lynn Rhodes
Mike Neal
Steve Jungst

Memorial Lutheran Church
701 11th Street, Nevada, IA 50201
Phone 515-382-6509
pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org
emily@mlcnevada.org
www.mlcnevada.org

@memluthnevada



Memorial Lutheran

Memorial Lutheran ELCA

Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry
Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement
Mike Coverdale, Custodian

Texts and graphics from From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #20739. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America.
Used by permission. All rights reserved. Cover image designed by macrovector / Freepik
