

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2025



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Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude

Emily Dalthorp, piano

Welcome

Gathering Song: “All Are Welcome” - ELW #641, verses 1,3,5

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.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love;
and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command,
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10

⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

⁵“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

⁶Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” ⁷But the LORD said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’;
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.

⁸Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD.”

⁹Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me,

“Now I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

¹ If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to

remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

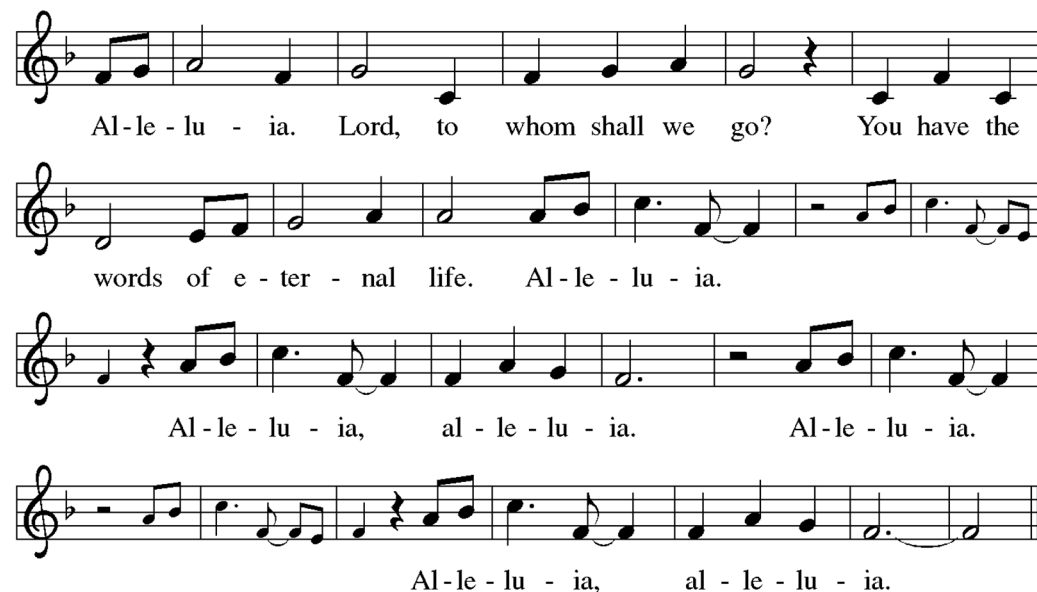
⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰ but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³ And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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 4:21-30

The Gospel according to Luke
Glory to You, O Lord

²¹ Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” ²³ He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” ²⁴ And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Hymn of the Day: “Christ, Be Our Light” - ELW #715

Apostles Creed

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

**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.**

**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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

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

Offering

Music Voluntary

Emily Dalthorp, piano

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

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 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

"Lamb of God" - ELW Setting 8
"Dearest Jesus at Your Word" - ELW #520

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: “*Rise, Shine You People*” - ELW #665

Dismissal

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

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

Eileen Miller	Troy Vincent	Janice Hartz
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	<i>Norma Dannan</i>
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	

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

TODAY: Community BINGO & Nachos

Join us for BINGO and nachos from 5:00—6:30 PM this evening (nachos will be served at 5:00 followed by BINGO at 5:30). Free-will donations will go to Memorial's Dorcas Fund, which provides assistance to those in need. This is a fun community event for all ages (kids and adults welcome!), but please note that children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Celebrating our loan payoff—don't forget to update your Tithe.ly recurring giving!

As you may have heard, we joyfully announced the payoff of our “A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place” heating and cooling project loan! If you have been giving through Tithe.ly as an automatic recurring gift, please make sure to cancel this giving and prayerfully consider moving it to another area in need, such as Capital Improvement or one of our special building projects. If you have questions, please contact Emily Dalthorp. Thank you!

Nevada Kiwanis Club Bedding Drive—Donations Needed!

The Nevada Kiwanis Club is sponsoring a bedding drive for the Ames Chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace during the month of February. Their mission is “**NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!**” Since November of 2023, Sleep in Heavenly Peace has been building and delivering beds to children in Ames and Nevada who need a bed and a safe place to sleep. Kiwanis is collecting new plain colored twin sheet sets, blankets, mattress pads, and pillows. Donation boxes will be located at **Fareway, State Bank, First Interstate Bank, Availa Bank, City Hall, and Story County Medical**. Please help Kiwanis support the efforts of Sleep in Heavenly Peace to provide beds and bedding for children in our community so that “**No kid sleeps on the floor in our town.**” Thank you!

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!*

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:



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 Mwangi 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

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!***



Save the Date

TODAY: Community BINGO & Nachos

When: Sunday, February 2, 5:00 - 6:30 PM

Where: MLC Fellowship Hall

Beer & Theology

When: Thursday, February 6, 6:30 PM

Where: Cubbies on Main

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

When: Sunday, February 16 following worship

Where: MLC Chapel

Middle-school Lock-in

When: Friday, February 21

Where: Resurrection Lutheran Church in Ankeny

Listen God is Calling, Loving Our Global Neighbors

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



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

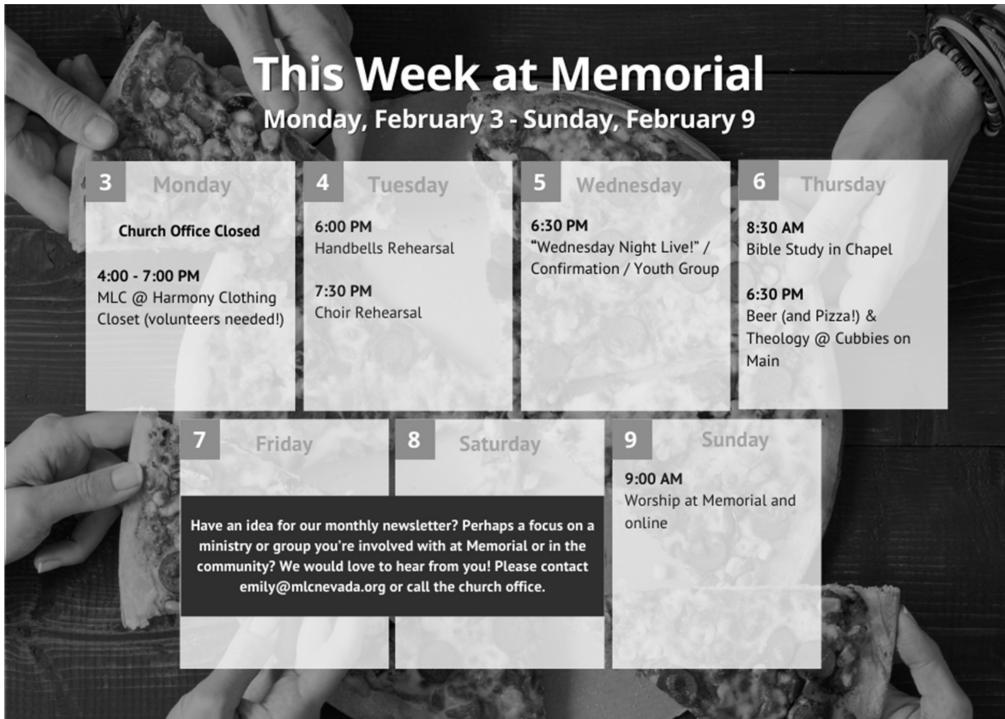
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Our 2025 Goals

As discussed and approved at the January 2025 council meeting

1. We will gather with Memorial members with an emphasis of creating an environment of belonging, fellowship, and family.
2. We will build on the ongoing ecumenical work.



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

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