

Baptism of Our Lord

January 11, 2026



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Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: Settings from Partita on “*All Who Believe and Are Baptized*”

(hymntune: Es ist das Heil) - arr. Stephen Johnson

Lois Theesfield, organ

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

**Mighty God, lover of justice,
you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.**

We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.

**We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.**

Turn us to seek your face.

**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.**

Amen.

The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in + Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.

Amen.

**Gathering Hymn: "Gathering" from "Unfailing Light" - Marty Haugen
& Susan Briehl**

Assisting Minister

O ser-vants of God, let us sing our praise.

All

We bless your ho-ly name, O God.

Assisting Minister

From the ris-ing of the sun to its set-ting,

All

We bless your ho-ly name, O God.

Assisting Minister

You lift up the weak and hun-gry.

All

We bless your ho-ly name, O God.

Assisting Minister

All

And your glo - ry shines a - bove the heav - ens

We

bless your ho-ly name, O God.

When a Star Is Shining - ACS #915

1 When a star is shin-ing o - ver east - ern hills,
 2 Where the world is wait-ing for an un - known day,
 3 Lead us on, O Day-star, in the qui - et night;

when the air is si - lent, and the clam - or stills,
 where a voice for - got - ten cries, "Pre - pare the way!"
 guide us through the shad-ow with your gen - tle light;

when the night is wait-ing, and the old hopes rise,
 Where an earth - ly pow-er makes the heart turn cold,
 show us in a man-ger our re - demp - tion's sign;

then the time has rip - ened and the heart grows wise.
 there the gifts are of - fered— in - cense, myrrh, and gold.
 bring us to a morn-ing where the prom - ise shines.



Refrain

Lead us on, lead us on, to a morn-ing where the
 promise shines. Lead us on, lead us on,
 to a morn-ing where the promise shines.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: WHERE THE PROMISE SHINES, Bob Moore, b. 1962

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Prayer of the Day

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your beloved children, and empower us all with your Spirit, 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 42:1-9

¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
 my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
 I have put my spirit upon him;
 he will bring forth justice to the nations.

² He will not cry out or lift up his voice
 or make it heard in the street;

³ a bruised reed he will not break,
 and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
 he will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed
 until he has established justice in the earth,
 and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
 who created the heavens and stretched them out,
 who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
 who gives breath to the people upon it
 and spirit to those who walk in it:
⁶I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
 I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
 a light to the nations,
⁷ to open the eyes that are blind,
 to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
 from the prison those who sit in darkness.
⁸I am the LORD; that is my name;
 my glory I give to no other,
 nor my praise to idols.
⁹See, the former things have come to pass,
 and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
 I tell you of them.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-43

³⁴Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality,³⁵but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him.³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree,⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify

that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.

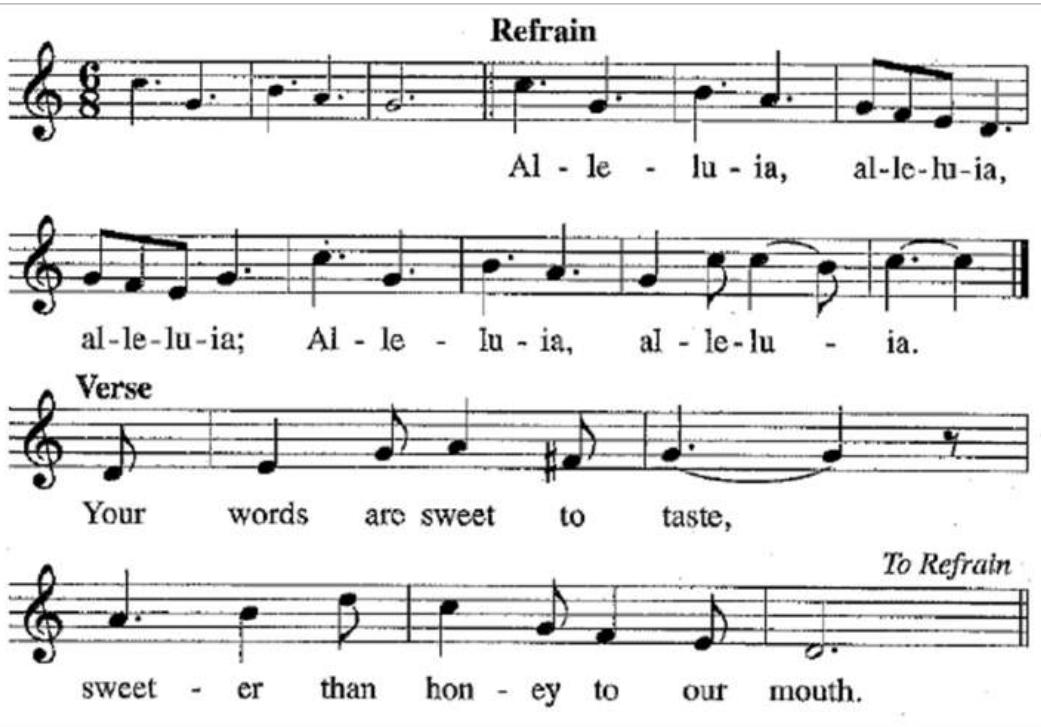
⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children at Heart Sermon

Gospel Acclamation - “*Unfailing Light*” - Marty Haugen & Susan Briehl



Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia, al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verse

Your words are sweet to taste,
sweet - er than hon - ey to our mouth.

To Refrain

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:13-17

The Gospel according to Matthew

Glory to You, O Lord

¹³ Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.

¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now,

for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented.¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: “When Jesus Came to Jordan” - ELW #305

Thanksgiving for Outgoing Council Members
Installation of Council Members

Sharing of the Peace

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

Offering

Music Voluntary: “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry” - arr. Cathy Moklebust
Emily Dalthorp, handbell solo

Offering Prayer

God of majesty,
no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you,
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.
Use what we have gathered
to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

The Meal

This is Christ's table and Christ's meal. All are welcome here. Kids are welcome to commune at the discretion of their parents. If you are unable to come forward please let an usher or the pastor know so that we can bring you Communion at your seat.

The Great Thanksgiving - “*Unfailing Light*” - Marty Haugen & Susan Briehl

Eucharistic Prayer

Sharing our life, he lived among us, revealing your boundless love, a light
to all the nations, and life for ev'ry people
And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy” - “Unfailing Light” - Marty Haugen & Susan Breihl

All

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho-ly Lord,

God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is is the One who comes, who

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name,

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - est, 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

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
Come to the table; taste and see.

Hymns during Communion

*“Lamb of God” - “Unfailing Light” - Marty Haugen & Susan Briehl
“Jesus, the Light of the World” - ACS #914*

Lamb of God

The musical score consists of three staves of music in 3/4 time, key signature of two flats. The first staff is for the bassoon, the second for the cello, and the third for the bassoon. The lyrics are as follows:

All
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us.
1., 2.
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.
3.

Jesus, the Light of the World



1 Hark! the herald angels sing, Je-sus, the Light of the world;
2 Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Je-sus, the Light of the world;
3 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Je-sus, the Light of the world;
4 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace! Je-sus, the Light of the world;



“Glo - ry to the new-born king,” Je-sus, the Light of the world.
join the tri - umph of the skies; Je-sus, the Light of the world.
Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord! Je-sus, the Light of the world.
Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness! Je-sus, the Light of the world.



We'll walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy are bright.



Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je-sus, the Light of the world.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, stanzas; George D. Elderkin, 1845–1928, refrain
Music: WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT, Traditional; arr. George D. Elderkin

Hymn after Communion: “Now Lord You Let Your Servant Go in Peace” from “Unfailing Light” - Marty Haugen & Susan Briehl

All

Now Lord, you let your

ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful - filled. My

own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -

pared in the sight of ev - ry peo - ple: a

light to re - veal you to the na - tions, and the

glo - ry of your peo - ple . Is - ra - - el.

Now Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace.

Post Communion Prayer

Radiant God,
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In the sacrament of his body and blood
you have drawn us to your heart.
Send us from this table with delight,
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Announcements

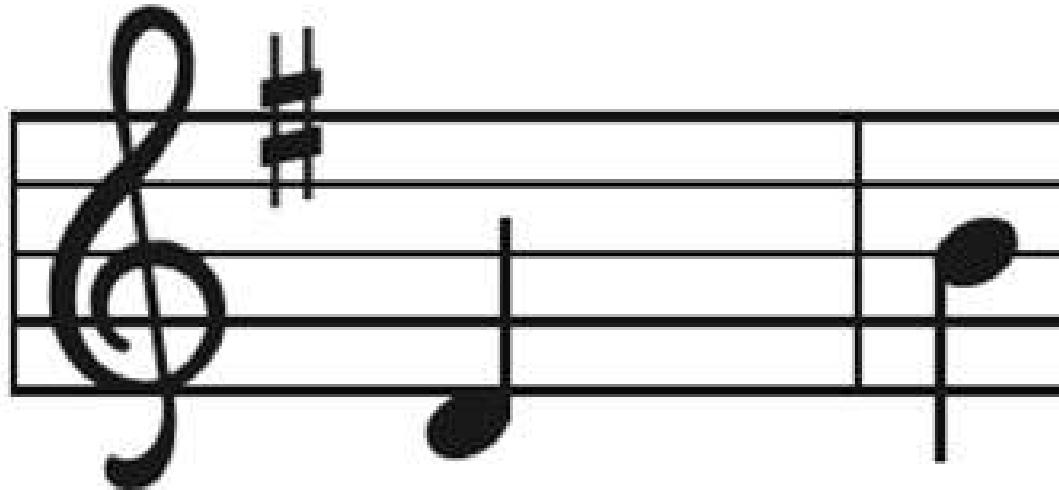
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Blessing

May the triune God,
who has put a new song in your mouth
and tuned your heart for praise
+ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: "Down Galilee's Slow Roadways" - ACS #916



1 Down Gal
2 A - ris
3 We too

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Setting from Partita on "All Who Believe and Are Baptized"
(hymntune: Es ist das Heil) - arr. Stephen Johnson
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 Shelley Ludeman and family in your prayers following
the death of her sister, Rhonda Thompson*

*Please keep Kenzie and Fred Alderson and family in your prayers following the death
of Fred's mother Beverly Alderson.*

Ashley and Ming Xu <i>friends of Aly Sassman</i>	Barb McDaniel	Christina King
Julia Zaffarano	Ken Huffaker <i>father of Kendra McCauley</i>	Sherry Kluever
Joan Stensland	Emma Nelson <i>granddaughter of Steve & Nan Jungst</i>	Kim Elliott
Kathy Lynn Johnson	Ardith Forsyth	Pr. Marcia Kisner
Teresa Krebs	Eileen Miller	Marlene Waddell
Kari Toot	Karen Anderson	<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>
Tanya Sorem	Caleb Roof	Cassie Harrell
Julie & Craig Sutherland	Evelyn Onstot	Jean Smith
June Copenhaver <i>mother of Diane Martin</i>	Katy Beno <i>sister of Sandy Christian</i>	Easton Farrington
Pastor Andrea Myers <i>wife of Pastor Ronald Myers</i>	Eric Forsyth	Janice Hartz
Charlie Lloyd	Crystal Vines	Jackie Byers
Bert Ann Ray	Katie Bass <i>niece of Judy Coverdale</i>	<i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>
Wayne Kinyon	Wayne Johnson	Donna See
Loren Bryant <i>brother of Arlys Neal</i>	Troy Vincent	Norma Dannan
Jill Rhodes	Johann Thiel	<i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
Connie Robinson <i>sister of Shirley Klonglan</i>	Mike Neal	Fred Samuelson
		Jaylee Bartleson
		Janeen Driscoll
		Jan Cook

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.

Save the Date

TODAY: Acolyte Training (Option 1)

When: Sunday, January 11 following worship

Handbells & Choir Rehearsals Resume

When: Tuesday, January 13

Lutheran World Relief Work Day

When: Wednesday, January 14, 1:00 PM

Where: Mission Room

Fellowship & Outreach Team Meeting

When: Wednesday, January 14, 4:30 PM

Where: Lounge

Wednesday Night Live & Confirmation

When: Wednesday, January 14, 6:30 PM

Acolyte Training (Option 2)

When: Wednesday, January 14, 6:30 PM

Weekly Bible Study

When: Thursday, January 15, 9:00 AM

MLC @ Food at First

When: Thursday, January 15, 2:00 PM & 4:30 PM

Volunteers needed for either or both time slots! See sign-up sheets in Narthex.

Weekly Bible Study

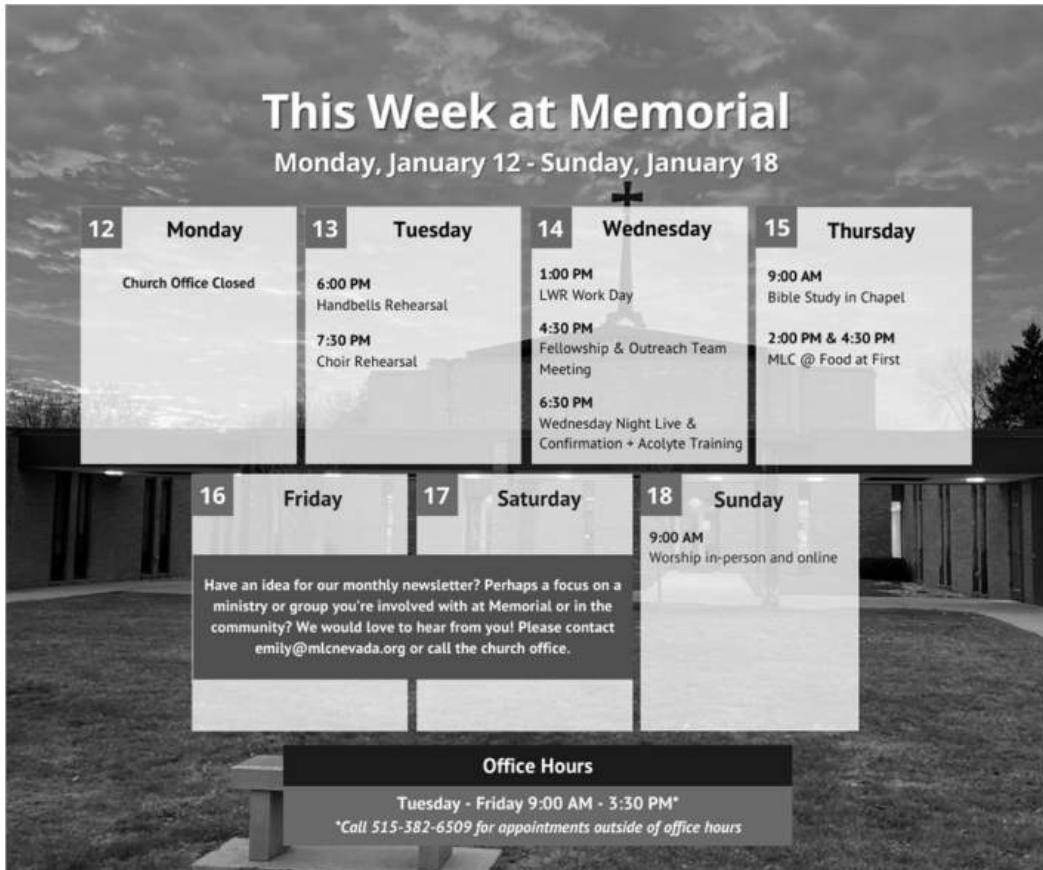
When: Thursday, January 22, 9:00 AM

Newcomer Orientation

When: Sunday, January 25 following worship

Community BINGO & Nachos

When: Sunday, February 22, time TBD



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Memorial Lutheran

Memorial Lutheran ELCA

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

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