

*3 Epiphany, January 25, 2026
8:30 & 11am Worship*



*Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene, OR 97403
541.345.0395
welcometocentral.org*

Central Lutheran Mission

Our mission is to be the hands and feet of Jesus by loving God and one another, nurturing faithful living, serving those in need, and sharing the Gospel.

Central Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Oregon Synod, is a Reconciling in Christ community: We affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's wondrous grace and unconditional love.

We celebrate both the human variation and inclusive unity of God's family. Following Jesus' example, we embrace all of God's people, regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, economic circumstance, and we firmly commit to racial equity. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, education, fellowship, and service.

Central Lutheran Staff

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For general messages, email: churchoffice@welcometocentral.org
Prayers requests may be submitted to: prayers@welcometocentral.org

Welcome to Worship!

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

PRELUDE

Fugue sur les jeux d'anches

Francois Couperin

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(please stand as you're able)*

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 confess our sins 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. Amen.

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

ENTRANCE HYMN #511 Thy Strong Word

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy speak - ing
 2 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with thine own
 3 Give us lips to sing thy glo - ry, tongues that mer - cy
 4 God the Fa - ther, light - cre - a - tor, to the laud and

it was done. For cre - at - ed light we thank thee,
 ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward glo - ry,
 to pro - claim, throats that shout the hope that fills us,
 ho - nor be. To thee, Light of Light be - got - ten,

while thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 and our lives our hopes con - fess.
 mouths to speak thy ho - ly name.
 praise be sung e - ter - nal - ly.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! May the light which
 Ho - ly Spir - it, light re - veal - er, glo - ry, glo - ry

light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 thou dost send fill our songs with al - le - lu - ias,
 be to thee. Mor - tals, an - gels, now and ev - er

Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ias with - out end!
 praise the Ho - ly Trin - i - ty!

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of

God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this ho-ly house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

3 *Refrain*

Organ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le-lu ia, al-le-lu ia. 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er, rich-es wis-dom, and strength, and hon-or, bless-ing and glo-ry are his. *Refrain* This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le-lu ia, al-le-lu ia. 2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion. Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men *Final refrain* This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. for the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign.

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia al-le-lu ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God, **your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.** *(please be seated)*

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 9:1-4

The northern tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali experienced the gloom of defeat by Assyrian military forces, but they are assured that their condition will be reversed when God makes a light-filled appearance. The joy they will experience will resemble celebrations of great harvests, because God will deliver them from everything that diminishes or oppresses them.

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the Lord] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. The Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 27:4-9

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then [|] shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I [|] be afraid?

One thing I ask of the Lord; one [|] thing I seek;

that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life; to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek God [|] in the temple.

For in the day of trouble God will [|] give me shelter,

hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high up- [|] on a rock.

Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies [|] who surround me.

Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;

I will sing and make music [|] to the Lord.

Hear my voice, O Lord, [|] when I call;

have mercy on me and [|] answer me.

My heart speaks your message— [|] “Seek my face.”

Your face, O Lord, [|] I will seek.

Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your ser- [|] vant in anger.

Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of [|] my salvation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the [|] Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be fore- [|] ver. Amen.

ANTHEM (8:30) *Jesus Christ, The Apple Tree* - Poston

Chorale

ANTHEM (11:00)

Down to the River to Pray
Jr. Cantors & Children's Choir

Traditional

SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Paul calls on the Corinthians to end their dissensions and share the unified outlook of the gospel. Discord arises when we forget that we belong not to human leaders or institutions but to Christ. Indeed, the unifying word of the cross of Christ is the center of the gospel and the power of God's salvation.

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. The Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

During the Gospel Acclamation our children are invited to the Chapel for a special message. They will return during the sharing of the peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please stand as you are able)*



Cantors: Jesus preached the good news ¹ of the kingdom* and cured every sickness a- ¹ mong the people. **Repeat antiphon.**

GOSPEL Matthew 4:12-23

The Gospel according to Matthew, the 4th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.** Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Laurie A. Jones

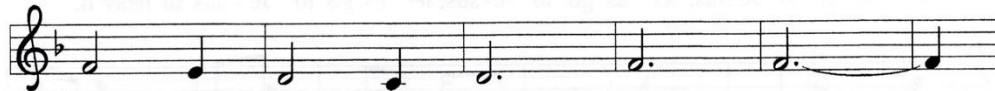
HYMN #798 Will You Come and Follow Me *(please stand)*



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



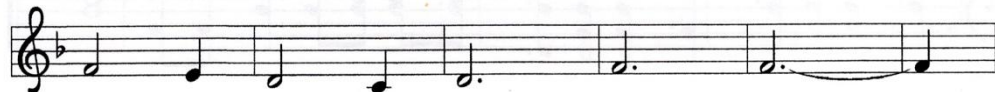
know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

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. (*please be seated*)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE

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

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANTHEM (8:30) *O Taste and See* – Ralph Vaughn Williams Chorale

INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION (11:00)

OFFERING

You are invited to place your offering in the plate as you come forward for communion.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. 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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(please stand as you're able)*

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

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

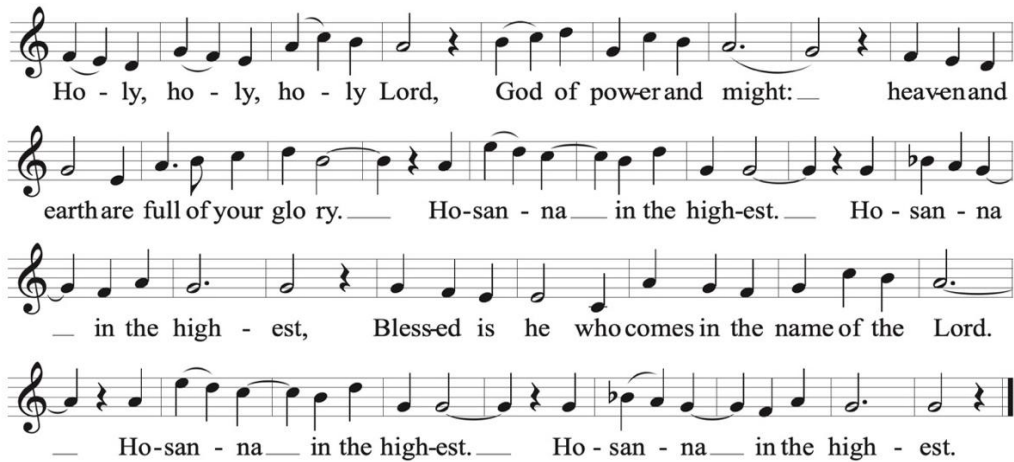
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

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:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might: — heaven and
earth are full of your glo ry. — Ho - san - na — in the high - est. — Ho - san - na
— in the high - est, Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
— Ho - san - na — in the high - est. — Ho - san - na — in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us:

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. (*please be seated*)

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS & DISTRIBUTION

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us — peace, grant us peace.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. 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.**

BENEDICTION *(please stand)*

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor, and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

HYMN #833 Oh, that I Had a Thousand Voices *(see insert)*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God!**

You may remain seated during the Organ Voluntary; however if you choose to depart, we kindly ask you to do so in silence until you reach the Narthex.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY (8:30) Andante (Concerto in G Minor) Handel

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Assisting Minister (8:30): Honora Mathisen-Lund

Today's Cantor (11:00): Steve Rodgers

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

A special welcome to those visiting with us today. If you would like to learn more about ways to engage with our faith community, or if you'd like to be on our email list, you may indicate so by filling out a pew card and placing it in the offering plate as you come forward for communion or handing it to Pastor Laurie after the service.

Lutheran & Episcopal Campus Ministry News: Sunday Dinner Church meets each Sunday at Central at 5pm. College students are invited to enjoy a home-cooked meal and conversation over dinner, concluding with a brief worship service with Holy Communion. Hearth & Table, an outreach meal for college students, co-sponsored by FOOD for Lane County, is served at Central from 6:30-7:30pm on Thursdays as eat-in (served family style) or as take-out. For more Campus Ministry info go online to: begoodsoil.org.

Our Together Tuesdays features a community meal served from 5:15-6pm, followed by Music Together, Children's Choir & Junior Cantor's Rehearsal at 5:45pm and Adult Education at 6pm in the Library. This week's class will be led by Todd Shorack, introducing the book, *The Widening of God's Mercy*.

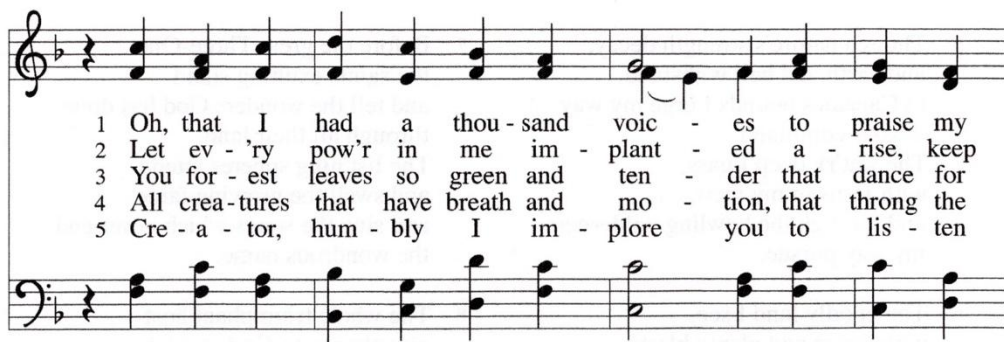
Registration is now open for Summer Camp at Lutherwood. For more information go online at lutherwoodoregon.org. Let Pastor Laurie know if your son/daughter intends to register as scholarships are available.

Mark your calendars...

A Service of Thanksgiving to God for the Life of Shirley Watson will take place at Central this coming **Friday, January 30th at 3pm** with a reception following.

Clare Josef-Maier will be ordained into Word & Sacrament Ministry on **Saturday, January 31st at 2:30pm** at Emmaus Lutheran Church. All are welcome!

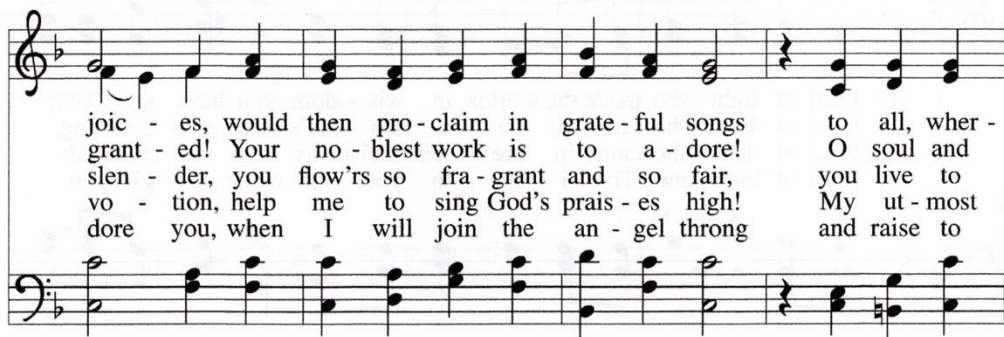
HYMN #833 Oh, that I Had a Thousand Voices



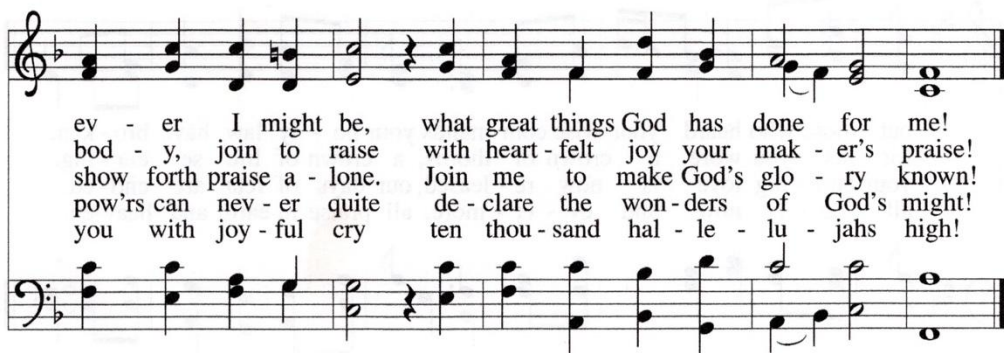
1 Oh, that I had a thou - sand voic - es to praise my
 2 Let ev - 'ry pow'r in me im - plant - ed a - rise, keep
 3 You for - est leaves so green and ten - der that dance for
 4 All crea - tures that have breath and mo - tion, that throng the
 5 Cre - a - tor, hum - bly I im - plore you to lis - ten



God with thou - sand tongues! My heart, which in the Lord re -
 si - lence now no more; put forth the strength that God has
 joy in sum - mer air, you mead - ow grass - es, bright and
 earth, the sea, the sky, come, share with me my heart's de -
 to my earth - ly song un - til that day when I a -



joic - es, would then pro - claim in grate - ful songs to all, wher -
 grant - ed! Your no - blest work is to a - dore! O soul and
 slen - der, you flow'rs so fra - grant and so fair, you live to
 vo - tion, help me to sing God's prais - es high! My ut - most
 dore you, when I will join the an - gel throng and raise to



ev - er I might be, what great things God has done for me!
 bod - y, join to raise with heart - felt joy your mak - er's praise!
 show forth praise a - lone. Join me to make God's glo - ry known!
 pow'rs can nev - er quite de - clare the won - ders of God's might!
 you with joy - ful cry ten thou - sand hal - le - lu - jahs high!