

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

## January 18, 2026



**Lord of Love Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
**10405 Fort St., Omaha, NE 68134**

*"Celebrating and sharing God's Love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others"*

Worship 9:00 a.m.

**Bold type** indicates Congregational responses.

\* Congregation please stand as you are comfortable

### **Introduction**

Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

**Welcome to Lord of Love! We are the body of Christ, and we are not whole without you.**

**Visitors:** We're so glad you're here, and we'd love the opportunity to connect with you! Text WELCOME to 402-493-2946 so we can follow up with you.

**Nursery:** The nursery (just off the Narthex) is open during worship. Please know that children are always welcome in the Sanctuary for worship. Quiet toy bags are available from the ushers.

**Offering:** An offering plate is at the back of the Sanctuary, and gifts may be placed there. Children may put their offering in the noise jar during the offering song.

**Communion:** Everyone is welcome at communion. Gluten-free wafers are available by asking a communion server. In the communion trays, the wine is red and grape juice is white.

**Prayer Requests:** If you have a prayer request, you can text PRAY to 402-493-2946.

**Fellowship:** Donuts and coffee are available in the Narthex after worship. Please join us!

**Prelude "I Surrender All"..... arr. by Phillip Keveren**

**Announcements**

**Ringing of the Bell**

**\*Gathering Song: "Baptized and Set Free"..... ELW 453**

**\*Greeting**

P: 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.**

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

P: In this season of light, let us go before God and confess how our words and actions contribute to the darkness instead of adding to the light.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of Love and Light,

**We confess that we are not always the light-bearers you desire us to be.**

**We shine a spotlight on the transgressions of others  
while trying to keep our own sins hidden in the dark.**

**We burn bridges by being impatient, opinionated and judgmental.**

**We inflame others by lashing out in anger.**

**We go through our days enveloped in the gloom of fear and doubt.**

**We let our witness become a smoldering ember until it dies out completely.**

**Forgive us Jesus, the Everlasting Light.**

**Come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.**

**Teach us to walk as children of light,  
surrounded by your love, forgiveness and healing.**

**We ask this in the name of Christ.**

**Amen.**

God is light, and in God there is no darkness at all. If we walk in the light as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

**Amen.**

## \*Hymn of Praise

All

1. Your can - o - py of vig - il lights, each  
 2. (You) walk with us a - long the way, your  
 3. (Re) - freshed by sab - bath this day, a -

star your hand has set in place, be - stows a bless - ing  
 Word, a lamp to pil - grim feet; stay with us now for  
 wak - en us to your sha - lom: the reign of Christ's un -

on our life, and all cre - a - tion sings your and  
 each new day, our un - known guest, our host are  
 fail - ing way, where peace and jus - tice at

praise. You formed the moon and fired the sun, you  
 feast. Grant those who share this ho - ly meal the  
 home and saints need nei - ther moon nor sun to

quick - ened dust with ho - ly breath, and  
 faith and vi - sion to be lieve that  
 sing your praise e - ter - nal ly, O

bind - ing us to your dear Son, re -  
 hearts might see what eyes con - seal:  
 mer - ci - ful, im - mor - tal One, by O

1, 2. 3.

newed our life, de - stroyed our - death. 2. You  
 grace your pres - ence we re - ceive. 3. Re  
 bless - ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty.

### **\*Prayer of the Day**

L: Let us pray.

**Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**Choir Anthem: "Lord of All"..... arr. Dave Williamson**

Steve Jordon – percussion and Josh Lund – bass

### ***Installation of Church Council***

#### ***First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7***

L: Listen to me, O coastlands;

    pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The Lord called me before I was born;

    while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

He made my mouth like a sharp sword;

    in the shadow of his hand he hid me;

he made me a polished arrow;

    in his quiver he hid me away.

And he said to me, "You are my servant,

    Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

But I said, "I have labored in vain;

    I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;

yet surely my cause is with the Lord

    and my reward with my God."

And now the Lord says,

    who formed me in the womb to be his servant,

to bring Jacob back to him,

    and that Israel might be gathered to him,

for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,

    and my God has become my strength—

he says,

“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob  
and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

Thus says the Lord,  
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,  
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,  
the slave of rulers,  
“Kings shall see and stand up;  
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,  
because of the Lord, who is faithful,  
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Second Reading:** *1 Corinthians 1:1-9*

L: Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## \*Gospel Acclamation



## \*Gospel: John 1:29-42

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One.”

The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children's Sermon** ..... Rev. Kim McSheehy

**Sermon** ..... Rev. Kim McSheehy

**Hymn of the Day: "Lamb of God"** ..... ELW 336

**\*The Apostles' Creed**

L: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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**

L: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, gather the church into one great fellowship. Equip your people to work together for justice and peace, following the example of Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, whose birth we remember this week. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Creating God, sustain the web of life on this planet. Protect wild places, endangered species, and vulnerable habitats. Come to the aid of those affected by natural disasters. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Just God, you desire respect and equality for everyone. Raise up prophets who speak truth to the nations. Embolden leaders and those in authority to advocate for people in need. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you lift up those who are bowed down by trouble, oppression, or illness. We especially pray for those on our prayer list and those whose names and needs we lift up now... Bring an end to social injustice and inequities of every kind, so that all people may have abundant life. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Abiding God, you are present with this congregation. Keep us mindful of our mission and guide our ministries in this community. Kindle in us a desire to help one another. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Faithful God, you promise to be with us always. We remember with gratitude the faithful departed who now rest in you. Strengthen us to the end, that we may see you face to face. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**Amen.**

### **\*Peace**

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

*Please share signs of peace with one another.  
Please be seated.*

## Offering

Gifts may be placed in the offering plate located in the back of the sanctuary or given electronically at [www.lord-of-love.org](http://www.lord-of-love.org). Children may come forward to put their offering in the noise jar during this song.

Communion servers, please come forward during the offertory song.

*All*

1. By your hand you feed your people, food of  
2. In this meal we taste your sweet-ness, bread for  
3. Send us now with faith and cour - age to the  
an - gels, heav-en's bread; for these gifts we did not  
hun - ger, wine of peace; ho - ly Word and ho - ly  
hun - gry, lost, be - reaved. In our liv - ing and our  
la - bor, by your grace have we been fed:  
wis - dom sat - is - fy our deep - est needs.  
dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:  
Christ's own bod - y, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er -  
flow-ing, life out - poured, giv-en as a liv - ing  
to - ken of your world re-deemed, re - stored.

### **\*Offertory Prayer**

P: 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.**

### ***The Great Thanksgiving***

P: The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### ***\*Words of Institution***

P: Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars, beneath the sea, within each cell, with every breath. Generations bless your faithfulness: through the waters, across the wilderness, by night and day, out of exile, into the future. We give you thanks for your Son: at the heart of human life, near to those who suffer, beside the sinner, among the poor, with us now.

On the night 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 remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering, upon this bread, within this cup, among your people, throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, Holy God, for your mercy, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your Church, without end. **Amen.**

### **\*The Lord's Prayer**

P: Gathered around the table by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### **Communion Invitation**

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

### **Lamb of God**

All

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the the

1., 2.

world; have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.

3.

world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

**Communion Music "He Leadeth Me" ..... arr. by Lorie Line**

### **Communion**

### **\*Post-Communion Prayer**

P: Creator of our days and nights, we give you thanks for this gift of life. Increase our faith and open our eyes that we might recognize Jesus in all whom you call us to love and serve. Abide with us when we struggle and doubt and be our hope and highest joy, until at last with all your saints we dwell in your unfailing Light.

**Amen.**

### **\*Benediction**

P: Holy God, Blessed Trinity, strengthen your faith, increase your hope, deepen your love,  $\pm$  and give you peace this day and always.

**Amen.**

**\*Sending Song:** “*Brightest and Best of the Stars*” ..... ELW 303

### **\*Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

**Thanks be to God!**

### ***Ringing of the Bell***

**Postlude** “*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*” ..... arr. by Lorie Line

### **Unfailing Light Liturgy**

By Marty Haugen & Susan Briehl

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### **By Your Hand You Feed Your People**

By Marty Haugen & Susan Briehl

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