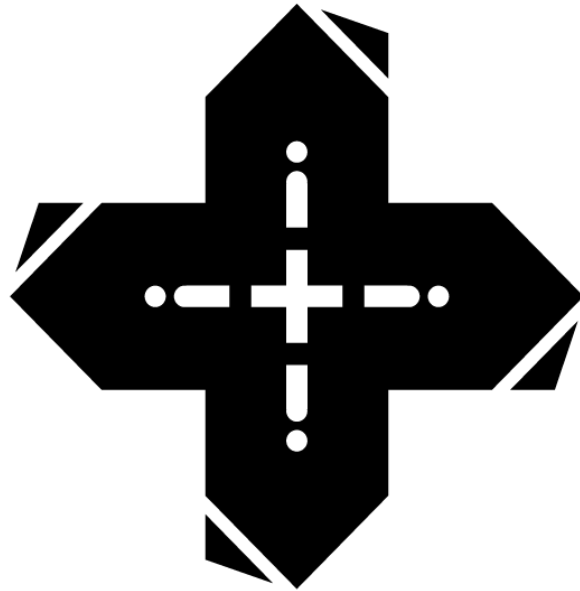


Connecting Christ. Creating Community.



HUNTERSVILLE
Lutheran Church

01.03.21 | Sundays after Christmas



Huntersville Lutheran

*A Changeless Message for
A Changing Community*

Worshipping at the Brick Row 19725 Oak St. Cornelius, NC

Bible Class @ 8:45am | Worship @ 9:30am

Pastor@huntersvillelc.com | huntersvillelc.com | 248-807-3057

Welcome! Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. Our service is centered on our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lived, died, and rose from the dead so that we would have eternal life in him. God reveals this soul saving message in his Word. We gather to find strength though God's powerful and holy Word. Take a few moments to familiarize yourself with the order of service, readings, and hymns, and fill out the take action card. May God bless our time together this morning.

About Our Worship

The gospel is the good news about what Jesus did to be the Savior for sinners. It is also the power of God—the very thing he uses to work faith in our hearts and transform our lives. Therefore, gospel-centered worship places the gospel in central focus. This order of service is called the liturgy. In the message, in specially selected Scripture readings, and in carefully crafted songs, prayers, and creeds, the liturgy proclaims the good news about Jesus from start to finish. Gospel-centered worship is also designed to include the participation of the entire assembly (including children).

For Your Convenience

Restrooms are located in the hallway at the rear of the building. Simply follow the arrows once you are in the hallway.

Service Participants

Rev Doug Van Sice, *pastor of Huntersville Lutheran*
Andrea Van Sice, *keyboardist*

Worship Notes | *The Sundays After Christmas*

For centuries, the church has set aside the days between Christmas and the festival of Epiphany to reflect on what God has done for his people in Bethlehem. These days are known as the *12 Days of Christmas*. These 12 Days of Christmas has less to do with two turtle doves and five golden rings and has far more to do with what God's Son came to do for us.

Today, we have the opportunity to take a rare glimpse into Jesus' childhood. Matthew, Mark, and John spend little to no time talking about the events of Jesus' boyhood. But Luke spends close to a whole chapter looking at a specific event when Jesus was 12 years old—his visit to the temple. As we take a look at Jesus' journey to the temple and Mary's reaction, let's take the time to ponder Christmas' past and remember what it was that Jesus came to do for us—to be our substitute in life and death.

About Huntersville Lutheran

Huntersville Lutheran is a church that is waiting for you. We are supported by, and are members of, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, a collection of over 1,300 churches across the United States and Canada. Our mission is to show you to the authentic Jesus, build you up in his Word, and connect you to your community and neighbors in ways you have never been able to before. For more information, check out www.huntersvillelc.com.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Opening Hymn | *Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising* |



1 Come, your hearts and voic - es rais - ing, Christ the
2 See how God, for us pro - vid - ing, Gave his
3 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing And in
4 Ja - cob's Star in all its splen - dor Beams with
5 Gra - cious Child, we pray you, hear us; From your



Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; Loud - ly sing his love a -
Son and life a - bid - ing; He our wea - ry steps is
love our race be - friend - ing, In our need his help ex -
com - fort sweet and ten - der, Forc - ing Sa - tan to sur -
low - ly man - ger cheer us. Gent - ly lead us and be



maz - ing, Wor - thy folk of Chris - ten - dom.
guid - ing From earth's woe to heav'n - ly joy.
tend - ing, Saved us from the wi - ly foe.
ren - der, Break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.
near us Till we join th' an - gel - ic choir.

Call to Worship

L In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

C Amen.

L In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

C He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made.

L In him was life and that life was the light of all mankind.

C **The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it.**

L The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world.

C **The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

John 1, selected verses.

Confession of Sins

L Dear friends, let us confess our sins with a true heart in the presence of God and one another.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

C **I confess to you, before the whole company of heaven, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed
by my fault,
by my own fault,
by my own grievous fault;
therefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life.**

L Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. As a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I say to you what God says to you:

Your sins are all forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

L In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Song of Praise | *Joy to the World* |



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow Nor
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace And



earth re - ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry
 all their songs em - ploy, While fields and
 thorns in - fest the ground; He comes to
 makes the na - tions prove The glo - ries



heart pre - pare him room And heav'n and
 floods, rocks, hills, and plains Re - peat the
 make his bless - ings flow Far as the
 of his right - eous - ness And won - ders



na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And
 sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -
 curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far
 of his love, And won - ders of his love, And



heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 as, far as the curse is found.
 won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Prayer of the Day

L Let us pray:

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through Jesus Christ our lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Be Seated

THE WORD

Children's Sermon

In Matthew 19, Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these." The message of God's Word is for all people, adults and children. But, we understand that children learn differently than adults. That is why we have a children's message. For a few minutes, we invite your children to come to the front of the gym to hear a message specifically geared toward them and their understanding so that they can learn, too!

First Reading | **1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26**

¹⁸ But Samuel was ministering before the LORD—a boy wearing a linen ephod.¹⁹ Each year his mother made him a little robe and took it to him when she went up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice. ²⁰ Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, saying, "May the LORD give you children by this woman to take the place of the one she prayed for and gave to the LORD." Then they would go home. ²⁶ And the boy Samuel continued to grow in stature and in favor with the LORD and with people.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 84

- L** How lovely is your dwelling place,
C O LORD Almighty!
- L** My soul yearns, even faints,
C for the courts of the LORD.
- L** Blessed are those who dwell in your house;
C they are ever praising you.
- L** Better is one day in your courts
C than a thousand elsewhere;
- L** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
C than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- L** O LORD Almighty,
C blessed are they who trust in you.

Second Reading | *Hebrews 2:10-18*

¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. ¹² He says,

“I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters;
in the assembly I will sing your praises.”

¹³ And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again he says,

“Here am I, and the children God has given me.”

¹⁴ Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. ¹⁶ For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

L The Gospel according to Luke, chapter 2.

⁴¹ Every year Jesus’ parents went to Jerusalem for the Festival of the Passover. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up to the festival, according to the custom. ⁴³ After the festival was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. ⁴⁴ Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.”

⁴⁹ “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn’t you know I had to be in my Father’s house?” ⁵⁰ But they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁵¹ Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man.

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day | *From Heav'n Above to Earth I Come* |



1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
3 "This is the Christ, our God most high, Who hears your
4 "He will on you the gifts be - stow Pre - pared by
5 "These are the signs which you shall mark: The swad-dling



news to ev - 'ry home; Glad ti - dings of great joy
cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of low -
sad and bit - ter cry; He will him - self your Sav -
God for all be - low, That in his king - dom, bright
clothes and man - ger dark. There you will find the in -



I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
ior be From all your sins to set you free.
and fair, You may with us his glo - ry share.
fant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

Sermon | *Pondering Christmas Past* |

Luke 2:41-52

Personal Sermon Notes

Confession of Faith | *Apostle's Creed*¹

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

¹Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. The Apostle's Creed, written in the third century, expresses the truths taught by the apostles. In the Apostle's Creed, we confess the gospel truths of work each person of the Trinity (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit) carries out.

THANKSGIVING

Offering | The members of Huntersville Lutheran have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. If you would like to give digitally, text any dollar amount to **84321**. Easy to follow instructions will be sent to your phone to complete your digital offering. Guests, you are welcome to participate in supporting our ministry, but certainly do not feel obligated.

Take Action Cards | In your service folder, you will find *Take Action* Cards. If you haven't done so already, please take a moment and fill it out completely to give us a record of your attendance. In addition, you may request prayers be said on your behalf today. Place your *Take Action* card in the offering plate as it comes around.

Prayer

Lord's Prayer

- ☐ **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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT



Huntersville Lutheran practices close communion, which means biblical conversation and confession with our church beforehand. It is our desire to share in the eternal blessings of this Sacrament according to the instructions that God himself gives. If you are new to Huntersville Lutheran, please know that many of those around you were at one time new, too. And, as you can see by their presence, this preliminary discussion has only brought us closer together to celebrate the Lord's Supper in the way he has prescribed. Contact our pastors at any time.

Introduction to the Lord's Supper

- L** Everyone ought to examine their hearts before partaking of the Lord's Supper. *1 Corinthians 11:28*
- C** **I confessed my transgressions to the Lord and he forgave the guilt of my sin.** *Psalm 32:5*
- L** Everyone ought to recognize the true body and blood of the Lord in this Supper. *1 Corinthians 11:29*
- C** **The bread that we break and the cup that we bless are a participation in the body and blood of Christ.** *1 Corinthians 10:16*
- L** Those partaking of the Lord's Supper are to be united in fellowship as one body.
- C** **Because there is one loaf, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.** *1 Corinthians 10:17*

The Words of Institution

- L** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

- C** **Amen.**

Lamb of God | *Angus Dei*² |

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 your peace. A - men.

Distribution

² John the Baptist declared Jesus to be the Lamb of God (*Angus Dei*), the sacrifice for sins, once for all. We join countless Christians in singing these words before receiving the very thing in this Supper that these words promise, sins taken away through the blood of Jesus.

The Lord's Blessing

- ☐ The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Numbers 6:24

- ☐ Amen.

LET THE
PEACE
OF CHRIST
RULE IN YOUR
HEARTS

Song of Departure | *Now Sing We, Now Rejoice*



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our
 2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to
 3 Now through his Son doth shine The Fa - ther's grace di -
 4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly



voice; He from whom joy stream - eth Poor
 thee. Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O
 vine. Death o'er us had reign - ed Through
 ground? Where the an - gels sing - ing With



in a man - ger lies; Not so bright - ly
 pure and ho - ly Child; Through thy grace and
 sin and van - i - ty; He for us ob -
 all his saints u - nite, Sweet - est prais - es



beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.
 mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
 tain - ed E - ter - nal joy on high.
 bring - ing In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!
 Draw me un - to thee! Draw me un - to thee!
 May we praise him there! May we praise him there!
 Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You | You could have chosen to be anywhere this morning and you chose to spend it here, so thank you. To our guests and visitors this morning, we pray your time with us has been enjoyable. If you have any questions, feel free to speak with any of our members or pastor after the service.

Faithbuilders | Faithbuilders is our path to membership at Huntersville Lutheran. It is a course on the basics of biblical Christianity. If you are interested in learning more about us and what the bible teaches, this is the place to do it. A new Faithbuilders course is starting soon. If you would like to enroll, please let Pastor Van Sice know.. We warmly welcome you to join us!

New Bible Class Starts Next Weekend | The book of Psalms is one of the most underutilized books in Scripture. Psalms is “a collection of the prayers of God’s people, for God’s people.” But the reason that the Psalms are often neglected or overlooked is because they are often misunderstood. Over the next couple weeks, we are going to be looking at the different kinds of Psalms that are found in the Psalter and exploring how you can and should be using them as part of your daily devotional life. Begins January 12th at 8:45.

Festival of the Epiphany | Next week, the church transitions into another season of the church year with the celebration of the Festival of the Epiphany. On this day, we celebrate God’s Son revealing himself to the Magi from the East. This special festival service will begin at 10am.

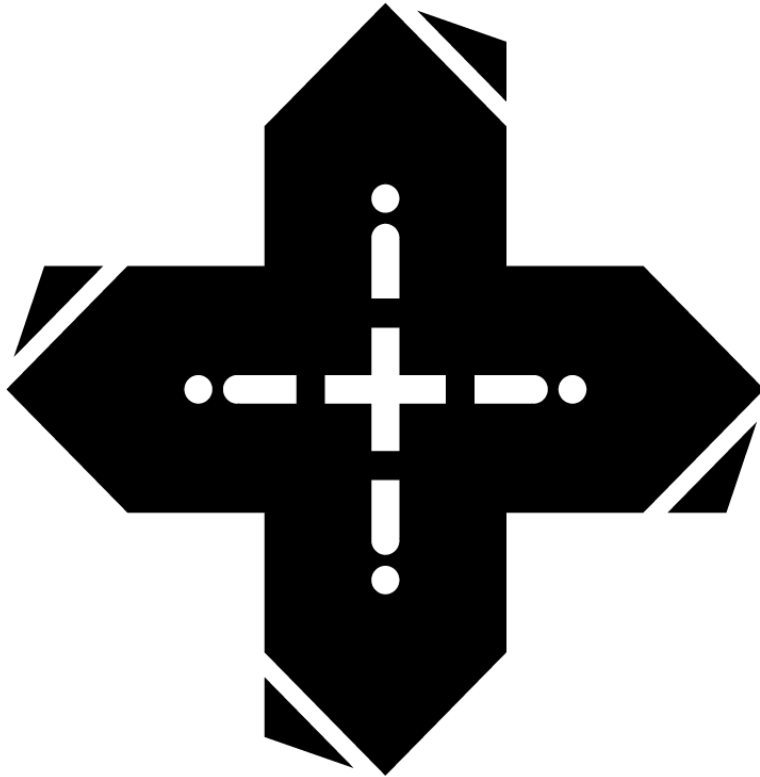
Special Thanks | To everyone who helped HLC during the busy month of December—from passing out door hangers, to inviting your friends for Christmas, to making ornaments, and to the setting up and taking down for worship. Thank you. Pastor could not do this work alone and greatly appreciates all of the help!

Communion at Huntersville Lutheran

We believe what God's Word says. God's Word clearly teaches that along with the bread and wine we receive Christ's body and blood for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26, 28; Mark 14:22, 24; Luke 22:19-22). Communion is important to us at Huntersville Lutheran and we seek to honor the biblical view of communion. Before coming up for communion, all adults should ask themselves these questions:

1. Do you confess your sins and seek to turn away from the sins you confessed?
2. Do you recognize that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is the only way sin is forgiven?
3. Do you recognize that in the Sacrament of Communion you receive Jesus' true body and blood along with the bread and the wine?
4. Do you believe that the Bible *IS* God's inspired Word and does not just contain some truths of God?
5. Do you believe that Huntersville Lutheran Church teaches only the truth of God based on His inspired Word? (A summary of these teachings is taught in Faithbuilders, a class that runs multiple times throughout the year.)

We ask that those who have not had the opportunity to understand our Scriptural confession and are unsure of the answers to the above questions would speak with the pastor before participating in the Lord's Supper this morning. It is our sincere desire to share in the blessings of the Lord's Supper with you according to the pattern Jesus himself has given in his Word.



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