



Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
of North Hollywood  
Second Sunday of Christmas  
*Bulletin for Worship*  
*January 4 2026*

*10:00am*

*Welcoming all people, Emmanuel Lutheran Church and schools  
love, teach and serve through Christ.*

## **GATHERING**

### **Prelude**

*Please stand*

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, <sup>☩</sup> one God,  
Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty Savior,  
Prince of Peace.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness,  
let us confess our sin.

*Brief silence for reflection*

Reconciling God,  
**we yearn for your presence to transform  
our grief, pain, and despair.**  
**We confess that we have not always prepared  
room in our hearts for your love;  
we have not always recognized  
your presence among us;  
we have not always embraced your message of peace.**  
**We cry out, weary with the burden of violence,  
oppression, and fear.**  
**We confess our failure to make room  
for those seeking refuge;  
our participation in violent systems  
that harm your innocent ones;  
our reluctance to embody your good news.**  
**Be born in us today  
and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation.**  
**Amen.**

God's grace upon grace flows over you.  
 ✚ Christ's presence redeems the whole creation.  
 Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!  
**Amen.**

**Gathering Song ~ ELW 300 "The First Noel"**

**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.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray...

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## Children's Message ~ Pastor Rick Hall

*The children are invited to Sunday School*

### First Lesson

Jeremiah 31:7-14

<sup>7</sup> Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." <sup>8</sup> See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor together; a great company, they shall return here. <sup>9</sup> With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back; I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path where they shall not stumble, for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. <sup>10</sup> Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock." <sup>11</sup> For the LORD has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. <sup>12</sup> They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. <sup>13</sup> Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow. <sup>14</sup> I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm: 147:12-20

<sup>12</sup> Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem;  
praise your God, O Zion,

<sup>13</sup> **who has strengthened the bars of your gates  
and has blessed your children within you.**

<sup>14</sup> God has established peace on your borders  
and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

<sup>15</sup> **God sends out a command to the earth,  
a word that runs very swiftly.**

<sup>16</sup> God gives snow like wool,  
scattering frost like ashes.

<sup>17</sup> **God scatters hail like bread crumbs.**  
**Who can stand against God's cold?**

<sup>18</sup> The LORD sends forth the word and melts them;  
the wind blows, and the waters flow.

<sup>19</sup> **God declares the word to Jacob,**  
**statutes and judgments to Israel.**

<sup>20</sup> The LORD has not done so to any other nation;  
they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

## Second Lesson

Ephesians 1:3-14

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup> just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup> He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup> that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup> he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup> as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup> In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup> so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup> In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup> this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*Please stand*

## Gospel Acclamation ~ ELW Setting Four S 151a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The holy gospel according to John  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel**

John 1:1-18

[<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.]

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup> (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") <sup>16</sup> From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup> The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

**Message ~ Pastor Rick Hall**

*Please stand*

**Hymn of the Day ~ ELW 295 “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”  
(stanzas 1-3)**



1 Of the Father's love be - got - ten  
2 Oh, that birth for - ev - er bless - ed,  
3 This is he whom seers in old time  
4 Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him;  
5 Christ, to thee, with God the Fa - ther,

ere the worlds be -  
when the vir - gin,  
chant - ed of with  
an - gel hosts, his  
and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
one ac - cord, whom the voic - es of the proph - ets  
prais - es sing; pow'r's, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him  
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that are, that  
bore the Sav - ior of our race, and the babe, the world's re -  
prom-ised in their faith - ful word; now he shines, the long - ex -  
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on earth be -  
and un - wea - ried prais - es be: hon - or, glo - ry, and do -



have been, and that fu - ture years shall see,  
deem - er, first re - vealed his sa - cred face,  
pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise its Lord  
si - lent, ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring  
min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more.  
ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

A - men.

**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**

*The presiding minister invites the assembly into prayer.*

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

*Brief silence*

*After each petition of the prayers...*

**Leader:** Hear us O God.

**People:** Your mercy is great.

*The presiding minister concludes the prayers with these words.*

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## **Peace**

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say*

Peace be with you or similar words.

*Please be seated*

## MEAL

### **Offering**

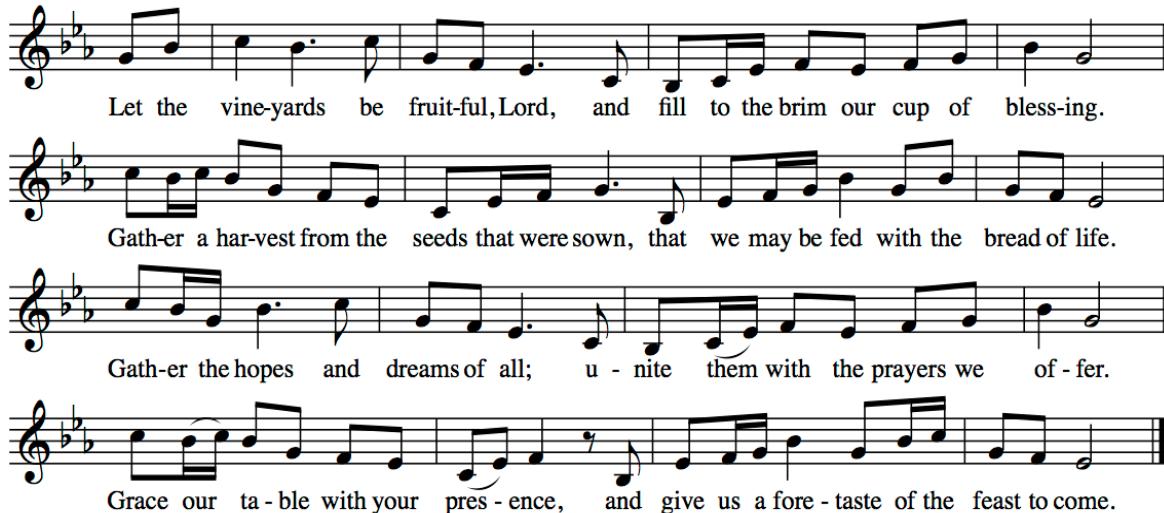
*For those not worshipping in person, please mail your tithe or offering to the church, give online at our website, or use the link here to give.*

<https://www.shelbygiving.com/App/Form/d491ee0f-8efd-4459-97c5-fa8df58e33>

### **Musical Offering**

*Please stand*

#### **Offertory Song ~ ELW 184 “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”**



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing.

Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we of - fer.

Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

### **Offertory Prayer**

Let us pray...

Nourishing God,  
you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert.  
Through this meal, satisfy our parched places,  
that we may rejoice and be for the world  
signs of your kingdom come.

**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.

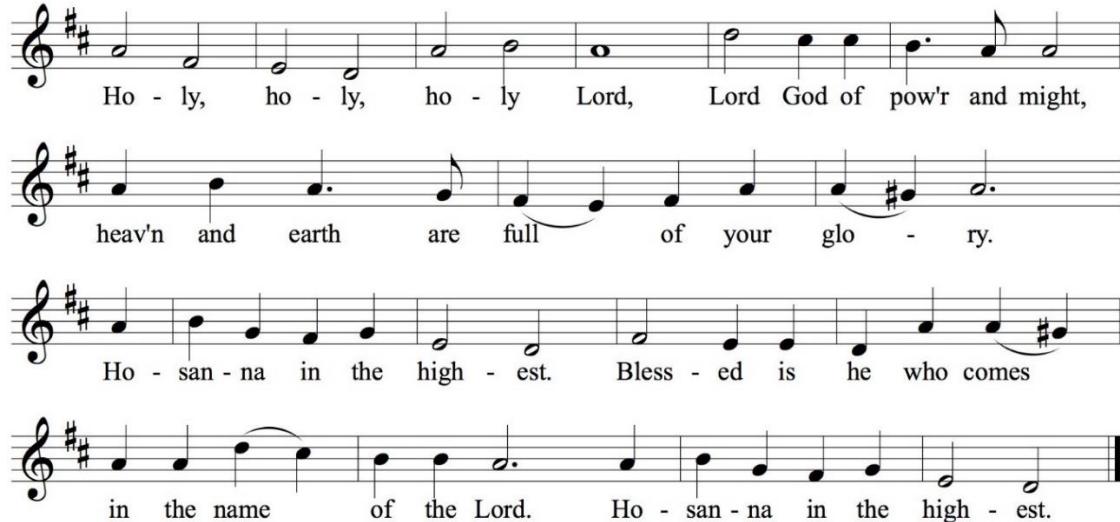
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The presiding minister continues:*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### **Holy, Holy, Holy ~ ELW Setting Four S 153**



### **The Words of Institution**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.  
In 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.  
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;

to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

### 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.**

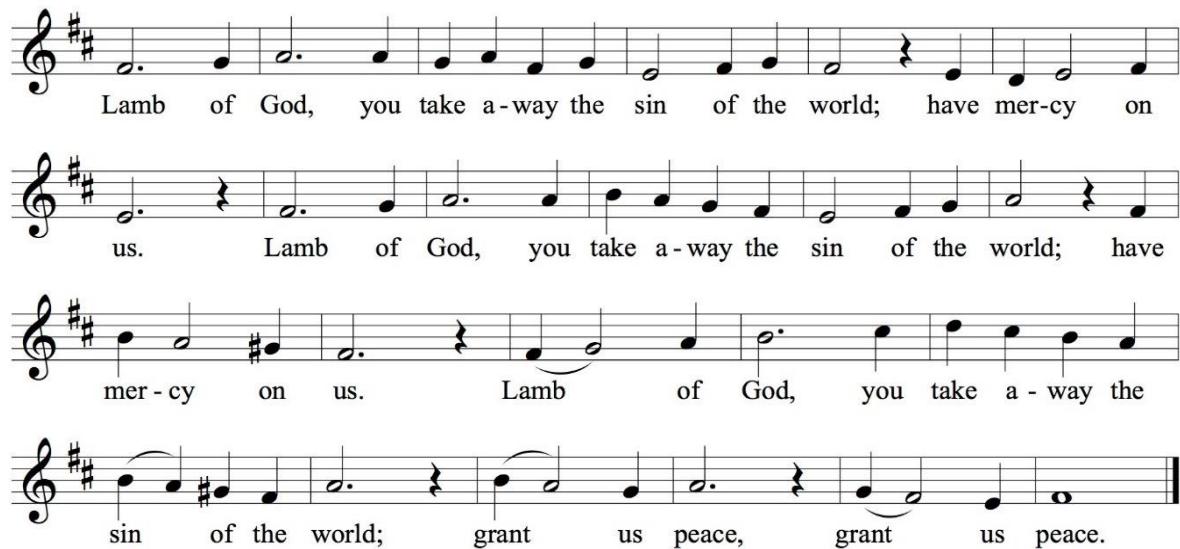
**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

The table is set; the meal is ready. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

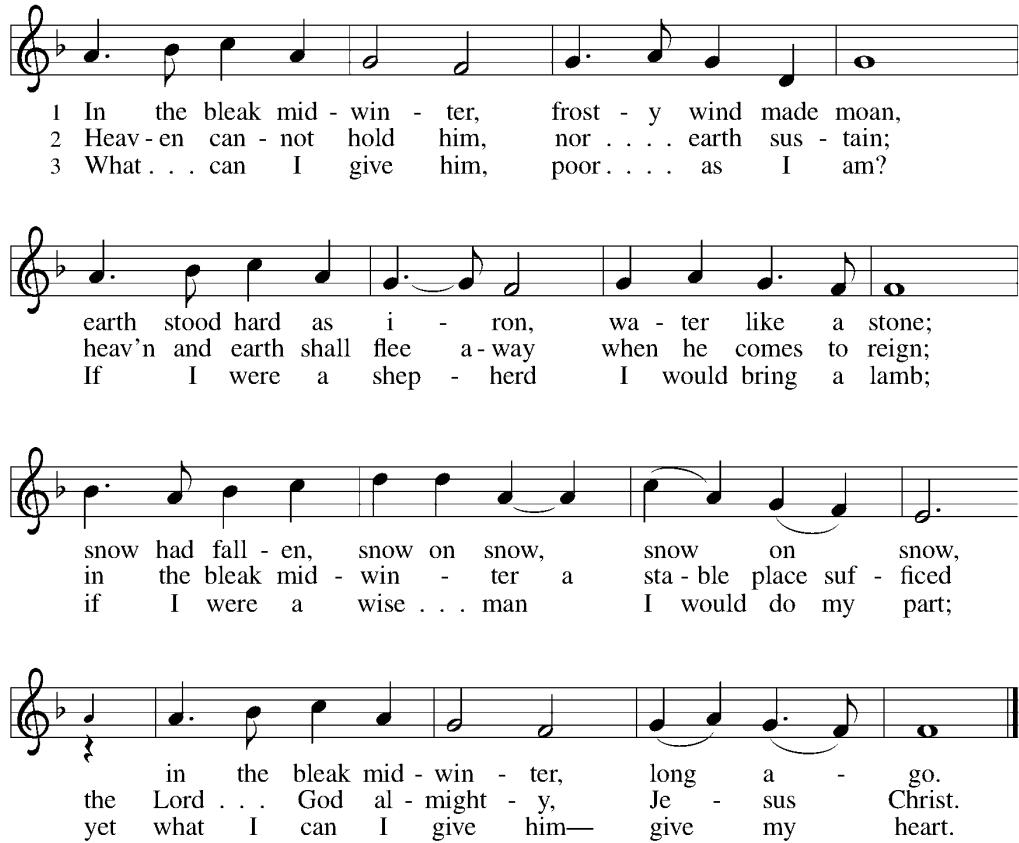
*Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. (gluten free and grape juice options available)*

**Communion Song ~ ELW Setting Four S 154 "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.

## Communion Song ~ ELW 294 “In the Bleak Midwinter”



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,  
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;  
3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?

earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;  
heav'n and earth shall flee a-way when he comes to reign;  
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed  
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;

the in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.  
yet Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.  
what I can I give him— sus my heart.

## Prayer after Communion

God our host,  
at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.  
Send us forth, eager to share the feast,  
welcome the stranger,  
and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

**Amen**

## SENDING

## Announcements

*Please stand*

## Blessing

*The minister blesses the congregation.*

The triune God,  
glorious Mystery,  
holy Incarnate One,  
abiding Comforter,  
☩ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

**Amen**

## Sending Song ~ ELW 288 “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

## **Worship Team**

<b>Message</b>	Pastor Rick Hall
<b>Minister of Music</b>	Mark Longfield
<b>Organist</b>	Andy Gladbach
<b>Greeter</b>	Catherine Menton
<b>CA Bread</b>	George Watson
<b>CA Wine #1 (tray)</b>	Debby Semel
<b>CA Wine #2 (tray)</b>	Diana Howison
<b>CA Empty #3 (recp.)</b>	George Watson
<b>CA Empty #4 (recp.)</b>	Darlene Michener
<b>Lector</b>	Liz Rickertsen
<b>Usher #1</b>	Terri Lau
<b>Usher #2</b>	Tom Reilly
<b>Usher #3</b>	Morgan Loy
<b>Gaffer</b>	Marshall Bowen
<b>Sound</b>	Ted Akin
<b>Live Stream</b>	Bob Akin

**Thank You Visitors and Members!**

On our [elcnoho.org](http://elcnoho.org) website, please click on “Member/Visitor Form” to give us feedback.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



### **Offering Envelopes**



Envelopes for 2026 are ready to be picked up in the Narthex. Please begin using them no earlier than January 2026 because your box of 2026 envelopes may be a different number than your box of 2025 envelopes. Also, please do not use 2025 envelopes after December 31, 2025. If you do not see your name and would like envelopes, please contact Diana Howison at [diana\\_howison@sbcglobal.net](mailto:diana_howison@sbcglobal.net)

As the 2025 calendar year comes to a close, please remember that all 2025 contributions need to be in the offering plate by Sunday, December 28, made through the online portal no later than December 31, post-marked no later than December 31 for correct recording. Thank you for your faithful stewardship; this is how our ministry continues.



The last Sunday School for the year will take place on 12/21. Classes will resume on 1/11.

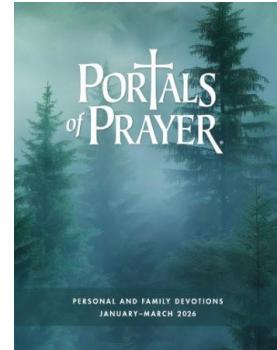


## Confirmation Classes Starting in October

This year we will be partnering with other churches in the Twin Valley Conference to teach Confirmation classes. Classes will be held on Sunday afternoons from 1:30-3:30pm at differing locations and churches throughout the Conference. Classes will only be once a month and will run until May. If you are in the 6-8th grade and want to attend or if you are the parent of a middle schooler who wants their kiddo to attend, please contact Pastor Rick at [rhall@elcnoho.org](mailto:rhall@elcnoho.org) or call the church 818-761-6124 or catch him on Sunday. It should be an exciting year of learning as we will focus on: **What does it mean to be Lutheran?**

## Next Quarter Devotionals Available

Devotional booklets are available in the literature rack in the church narthex, **Portals of Prayer** and **Christ in our Home** each covering one quarter of 2025. **Spark** is available in limited number. In this magazine style devotional book **Spark**, there are activities and stories to lead everyone in the family through the season. Finally, **The Word in Season** is also available. Pick up any of these in the narthex today! Pick these up at no charge. They are our gift to help you.



We need helping hands to pack more bags! We are asking people for an hour or two of their time to pack bags at Temple Beth Hillel. Check out some of the ways you can volunteer below. Then visit our website, [NHIFP.org](http://NHIFP.org), go to the tab "Sign Up Genius" to help out!

**Transportation Team** transports the loaded grocery bags from the packing site at Temple Beth Hillel to the food distribution site at First Christian Church. Sign up to help out here: [North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry: Transport bags from Temple to new pantry and/or unload truck \(signupgenius.com\)](http://North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry: Transport bags from Temple to new pantry and/or unload truck (signupgenius.com))

**Packing Team** fills the bags and sorts them in the basement of Temple Beth Hillel. Sign up to help out here: [North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry: Pack](http://North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry: Pack)

[Bags at the Temple OR at Distribution - CHECK LOCATION ADDRESS!](#)  
[\(signupgenius.com\)](#)

**Sack Lunches Team** makes sack lunches at home and delivers them to the First Christian Church. Sign up to help out here: [North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry: Provide sack lunches - make at home and deliver](#)  
[\(signupgenius.com\)](#)

Please place your groceries in the food collection box in the narthex and they will be delivered to Temple Beth Hillel.

## Contact Us

Please check as many as you wish.

- I wish to meet with Pastor Rick Hall to learn more about the sacrament of Holy Communion.
- I wish to meet with Pastor Rick Hall to learn more about the sacrament of Holy Baptism.
- I wish to meet with Pastor Rick Hall to learn more about becoming a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church.
- Today, or next Sunday will be my first communion, or the first communion for:

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DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

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**THANKS! Pastor Hall will contact you soon!**