



Emmanuel Lutheran Church of North Hollywood

First Sunday of Christmas
Bulletin of Worship

December 28, 2025

10:00 am

*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, + one God,
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty Savior,
Prince of Peace.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

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 275 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"



1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla-tions, bright-er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais-ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,



once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain



Come and wor-ship, come and wor-ship, wor-ship Christ, the new-born king.

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...

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, 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

Isaiah 63:7-9

⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸ For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully,” and he became their savior ⁹ in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: 148

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
 praise God in the heights.

**² Praise the LORD, all you angels;
 sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

³ Praise the LORD, sun and moon;
 sing praise, all you shining stars.

**⁴ Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,
 and you waters above the heavens.**

⁵ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
 who commanded, and they were created,

**⁶ who made them stand fast forever and ever,
 giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth,
 you sea monsters and all deeps;

**⁸ fire and hail, snow and fog,
 tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

⁹ mountains and all hills,
 fruit trees and all cedars;

**¹⁰ wild beasts and all cattle,
 creeping things and flying birds;**

¹¹ sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,
 princes and all rulers of the world;

**¹² young men and maidens,
 old and young together.**

¹³ Let them praise the name of the LORD,
 whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

¹⁴ **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

Second Lesson

Hebrew 2:10-18

¹⁰ It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.” ¹³ And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Here am I and the children whom God has given me.” ¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

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 Matthew

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel

Matthew 2:13-33

¹³ Now after [the magi] had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. ¹⁷ Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: ¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and

loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazarene.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Message ~ Pastor Rick Hall

Please stand

Hymn of the Day ~ ELW 296 “What Child Is This”



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y’s lap is sleep - ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

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...

God of glory,
great are your wonders among us
and many are the blessings you bestow.

Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world,
that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace,
through Christ our Savior.

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.

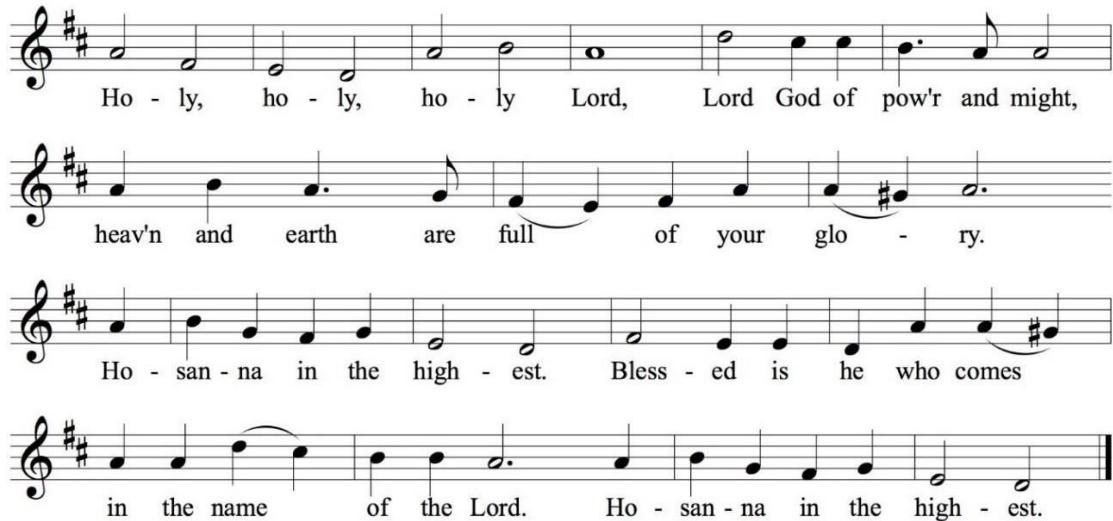
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

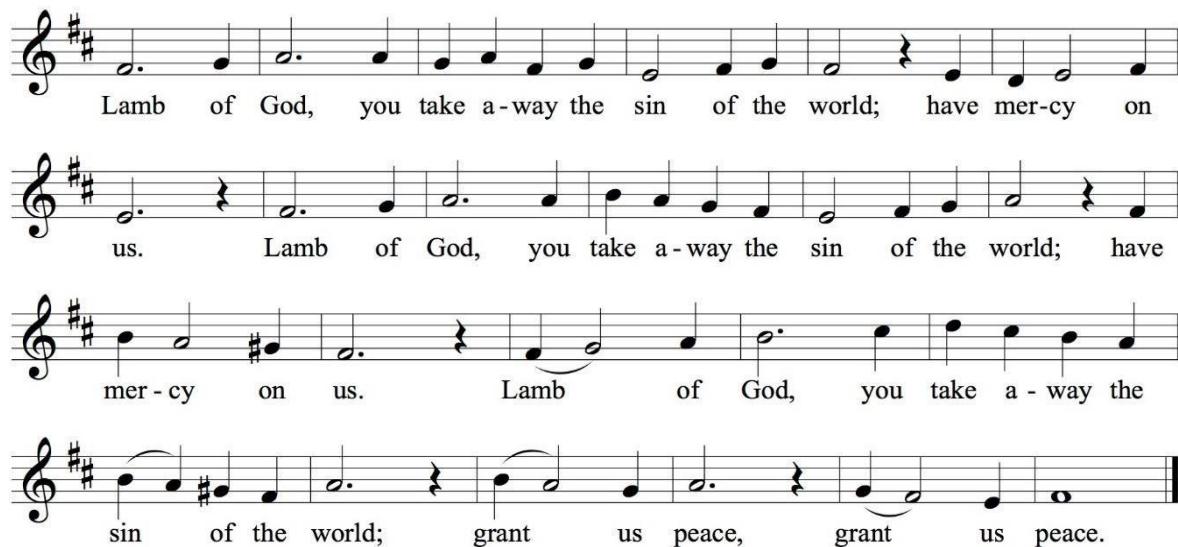
Amen.

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 272 “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath
2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man

sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - - ing as
mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
air, dis - - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who

seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to

mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

Prayer after Communion

Incarnate God,
you are among us at this table.
May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts
the mystery of your presence.
Move us to discover the wonders of your love
in the everyday moments of our lives,
through Christ born in us.

Amen

SENDING

Announcements

Please stand

Blessing

The minister blesses the congregation.

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

Amen

Sending Song ~ ELW 290 “Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born;

Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Team

Message	Pastor Rick Hall
Minister of Music	Mark Longfield
Organist	Andy Gladbach
Greeter	Jeanine Wilson
CA Bread	Mark Longfield
CA Wine #1 (tray)	Debby Semel
CA Wine #2 (tray)	Diana Howison
CA Empty #3 (recp.)	George Watson
CA Empty #4 (recp.)	Darlene Michener
Lector	Liz Rickertsen
Usher #1	Jeannie Wilson
Usher #2	Barbara Piecka
Gaffer	Marshall Bowen
Sound	Ted Akin
Live Stream	Bob Akin

Thank You Visitors and Members! On our elcnoho.org website, please click on “Member/Visitor Form” to give us feedback.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



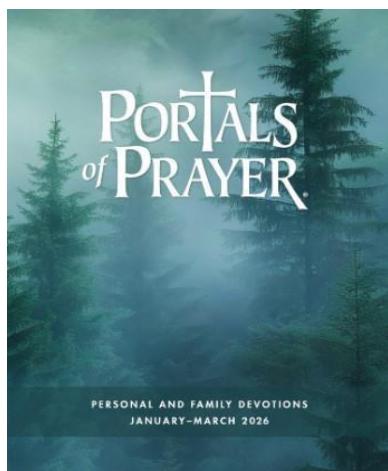
The church office will be closed December 22 – Jan 2 for the Holidays.

For any immediate needs please coordinate with Ancel, Office Manager by 12 noon on December 15th.



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 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.



In the month of December the Adult Bible Study Class will be studying Jesus' disciple John. We look forward to learning more about the beloved disciple in the coming weeks. Join us on Sunday mornings at 9 AM.

Thank you, Liz



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

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.



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, 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 Bags at the Temple OR at Distribution - CHECK LOCATION ADDRESS! \(signupgenius.com\)](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 \(signupgenius.com\)](http://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.

Got extra grocery bags? If you've got gently used paper or plastic bags taking up space in your pantry, we'd love to give them a second life! Drop off whatever you can spare at our distribution site—we'll put them to good use.

Other ways you can help us is by shopping from our [Amazon Wish List](#)

FOOD ASKS OF THE MONTH



We always need cat and dog food (wet or dry).

Please donate cans of hearty soups and chili.



Drop off food donations at:

Our Distribution Site
- Mondays and Fridays
between 7:30AM-11:00
(11634 Moorpark St. -1/2 block
east of Colfax)

Temple Beth Hillel (enter
off Laurelgrove) Mondays-
Fridays, 4:00-5:00PM
please
donate cans of hearty soups
and chili.



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

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:

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

THANKS! Pastor Hall will contact you soon!