



**THE FOUND ARE LEFT; THE LOST ARE FOUND**





# Lamb of God Lutheran Church

Reaching Out. Reaching Up. Reaching Across.

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## WELCOME

Thank you for joining us for worship this morning. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful Word.

## COMMUNION



The Lord's Supper will be offered to our members during the service this morning. Lamb of God follows the historic Christian practice of close communion. We ask that only members of Lamb of God partake of the sacrament. Our pastor is eager to speak with anyone who would like to commune with us in the future.

## PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

If you would like to meet with Pastor Koepke, please contact him to make an appointment. Our pastor is here to serve both Lamb of God members and our community.

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WEBSITE: MyLambofGod.org  
CALENDAR: MyLambofGod.org/calendar  
FACEBOOK: facebook.com/MyLambofGod  
INSTAGRAM: @LambofGodLutheran

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# The Found are Left; the Lost are Found

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## ✠ The Gathering ✠

**OPENING HYMN:** *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (CW 234:1,3,5)*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,  
Joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,  
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.  
What need or grief ever has failed of relief?  
Wings of his mercy did shade you.

Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!  
Let the Amen sound from his people again;  
Gladly forever adore him!

## INVOCATION

**M:** The grace of our Lord Jesus ✠ Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord!

**SONG OF PRAISE:** *Give Thanks*

Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.

And now, let the weak say, "I am strong!"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich!"  
Because of what the Lord has done for us.

And now, let the weak say, "I am strong!"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich!"  
Because of what the Lord has done for us, give thanks!

*(Musical Interlude)*

Give thanks with a grateful heart  
Give thanks to the Holy One  
Give thanks, because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.

And now, let the weak say, "I am strong!"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich!"  
Because of what the Lord has done for us.

And now, let the weak say, "I am strong!"  
Let the poor say, "I am rich!"  
Because of what the Lord has done for us, give thanks!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## ✠ The Word ✠

### FIRST READING: *Hosea 3:1-5*

*The LORD called the prophet Hosea to seek his adulterous wife and love her again. This served as an object lesson, showing our God is a God who seeks and redeems those who are lost.*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to me, “Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the LORD loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes.”

<sup>2</sup>So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley. <sup>3</sup>Then I told her, “You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will behave the same way toward you.”

<sup>4</sup>For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods. <sup>5</sup>Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### SECOND READING: *2 Corinthians 2:5-11*

*A member of the church in Corinth had been lost in sin, but through loving church discipline, had been moved to repent. Paul encourages the members to joyfully welcome him back.*

<sup>5</sup>If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent—not to put it too severely. <sup>6</sup>The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. <sup>7</sup>Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. <sup>8</sup>I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. <sup>9</sup>Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. <sup>10</sup>Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, <sup>11</sup>in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Amazing Grace (CW 379)*

*Note that we will sing the final stanza without accompaniment.*

1. Amazing grace—how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.
2. The Lord has promised good to me; his Word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.
3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

*(sing A Cappella, no accompaniment)*

4. When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

**SERMON:** *Luke 15:1-10*

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. <sup>2</sup>But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>Then Jesus told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>“Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders <sup>6</sup>and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’

<sup>7</sup>I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

<sup>8</sup>“Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn’t she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ <sup>10</sup>In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH: Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **✠ The Prayers ✠**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**M: Lord Jesus Christ, you came into this world to seek and to save the lost. Without you, we wander in hopelessness and death.**

**C: We praise you for seeking us and bringing us safely into your flock.**

**M: We thank you for your relentless love, which never gives up on the straying and never despairs of the fallen.**

**C: Teach us to rejoice with heaven over every sinner who repents.**

**M: Lord, like Hosea who loved his unfaithful wife, you love us even when we turn away. You paid the price of our redemption at the cross.**

**C: Move our hearts to love you in return and walk in faithful obedience.**

M: Lord, you have entrusted to your church the ministry of reconciliation. When a brother or sister is trapped in sin, give us humility, courage, and compassion to call them back to you.

**C: When they return, help us to welcome them with joy and forgiveness.**

M: Guard us, O Lord, from pride that assumes we need no repentance. Keep us from despising the lost or hardening our hearts against them.

**C: Make us instruments of your love, eager to bring the gospel to all.**

M: Be with all who are burdened by guilt, loneliness, grief, or despair. Assure them that they are not forgotten, but sought by you.

**C: Comfort them with your presence and restore them by your grace.**

M: Lord of the Church, bless our congregation, our leaders and our people. Make us a community that reflects your heart for the lost.

**C: Keep us faithful to your Word and rejoicing in your salvation.**

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we join to pray the prayer he taught:

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C: 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.**



## ✠ Holy Communion ✠

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: 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."

M: 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."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

### DISTRIBUTION

*Lamb of God follows the historic Christian practice of close communion. We ask that only members of Lamb of God partake of the sacrament. Our pastor is eager to talk with anyone who would like to commune with us in the future.*

### CLOSING PRAYER

M: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

### THE LORD'S BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.  
Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

C: Amen.

# CLOSING HYMN: *His Mercy Is More*



1. What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done? Om -  
 2. What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam? What  
 3. What rich - es of kind - ness He lav - ished on us, His



nis - cient, all - know - ing, He counts not their sum. Thrown  
 Fa - ther, so ten - der, is call - ing us home? He  
 blood was the pay - ment, His life was the cost. We



in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore. Our  
 wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor. Our  
 stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford. Our



*Refrain*  
 sins they are man - y, His mer - cy is more. (to verse 2)  
 sins they are man - y, His mer - cy is more. Praise the Lord, His mer - cy is  
 sins they are man - y, His mer - cy is more. (sing Refrain twice)



more, strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn, our



sins they are man - y, His mer - cy is more.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GIVING TO LAMB OF GOD

If you wish to give your offering to Lamb of God online, this QR code is provided for your convenience. Several types of payment are accepted on this secure site. Thank you for your financial gifts to assist with the ministry of Lamb of God.



### REQUESTS FOR PRAYER AND CARE

Your prayer request will be treated with great discretion and shared with a limited group of prayer warriors who will consider it a gift to cover you in prayer. This is also a way to reach the Caring Committee if you need other assistance.

### SUNDAY BIBLE CLASSES

Children's Sunday School will meet at the front of church after our fellowship time—listen for the bell tone. After that, Bible class will meet to study idolatry, especially idols that hide themselves in our lives. Please join us for this time of study.

### FOUNDATIONS CLASS

A new round of Foundations will begin this Tuesday, September 16, and will continue on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm at church. This class is a great opportunity to study the basic teachings of God's Word. It is also the starting point for those who are interested in becoming communicant members of Lamb of God. Speak with Pastor Koepke for more information.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

All women are invited to join a new study, reading and discussing the book by Susan L. Fink, *Self-Care: Selfish or Sacred?* The study will begin this Wednesday, September 17, and will continue on Wednesday evenings, 7-8pm. This week, we'll discuss the first chapter, so try to have that read beforehand. You can attend in person at church, or join online. Questions? Speak with Laura Palmer.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS MEETING

Immediately after church today there will be a brief meeting for any adult or teen interested in learning more and helping with this event. This meeting will help determine whether there is enough interest to try this children's event this year. Questions? Speak with Becky Jaehnig.

### CARING CARDS

Reminder: Caring Card workshop will be held on Wednesday, September 17, at 10 am, at church. Come and see what the project will be!



### WOMEN'S PRAYER, PILATES, and PROTEIN

This Saturday, September 20, women of all ages are welcome to come to church to pray together and exercise together. The exercise will be led by Jenny Pearson— she'll make it as easy or as intense as you'd like. Afterwards, we'll try our hand at mixing up some protein shakes! Dress comfortably and bring an exercise mat or large towel. Join us!

### FINAL CALL for POTTERY CLASS

If you are still interested in joining the October 4 pottery class, this is your last chance. There is a spot available, but we need to know today! Speak with Megan Turnidge if you are interested. (Remember that there is a fee of about \$50.)

### SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

If you can host a Sunday fellowship after church in the next several months, there is a sheet on the bulletin board near the kitchen to sign up. Help is needed in the next few weeks, so if you can make the coffee, put out water, and clean up afterward, that would be appreciated. You can bring simple snacks if you'd like, but that is optional. Thank you for volunteering!

### ANNUAL EAST VALLEY REFORMATION SERVICE

Any Lamb of God member, high school age and older, is invited to participate in the choir for the East Valley Reformation service at Emmanuel Tempe on Sunday, October 26, at 4pm. Look for a link to more information and music in the weekly email, or contact Mr. Kevin Bode (kevbodes@hotmail.com), the music director at Emmanuel. Please consider this opportunity to sing!

