

LAMB OF GOD
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Pastor Paul Horn
765.414.5227
loginlafayette@gmail.com

1893 E 600 N
West Lafayette, IN 47906
lambogodlafayette.com

December 26, 2021

Sermon Series: What Child Is This?

Today's theme: *Our Substitute and Sacrifice*

Welcome, guests! God's love welcomes you—no matter who you are or where you come from— and so do we. We believe that Jesus Christ is the true Savior of all people. By his perfect life, innocent death, and triumphant resurrection he saves all sinners even without our help. Jesus Christ makes us special people, right with God and ready for life! We learn this from the Bible, God's authentic message of grace and guidance for us. Whether you are a first time guest or a curious observer with little religious background, we are delighted to share our worship with you. Please come back and worship with us again.

If you would like to know more about Lamb of God, visit our website

www.lambofgodlafayette.com

Follow us on Twitter, Instagram and YouTube; Like us on Facebook.

Lamb of God is a congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod WELS
(www.wels.net) est.1850

EXPLANATION OF THE THEME OF THE DAY:

Already as a child, Jesus' saving work had begun. His entire life, he served as our substitute, perfectly obeying God's Law. Just think of how we often neglect the study of God's Word. Then look at twelve-year-old Jesus, eager to be in the temple learning more about Scripture. However, he would need to do more than be our substitute. Eventually he would lay that perfect life down as the sacrifice for our sin.

Today's Order of Service

The Service: Setting Two

INVOCATION

[We invoke, that is, call upon the name of the Triune God to be with us this morning. The name of the Triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms]

In the name of the Father and of the Son \dagger and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

OPENING HYMN

God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

CHRISTMAS

206

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

1 God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, let noth - ing you dis - may,
2 From God our heav'n - ly Fa - ther a bless - ed an - gel came;
3 "Fear not," then said the an - gel, "let noth - ing you af - fright;
4 Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,

for Je - sus Christ our Sav - ior, was born on Christ - mas Day
and un - to cer - tain shep - herds brought ti - dings of the same:
this day is born a Sav - ior a babe of glo - rious might.
in Chris - tian faith and char - i - ty each oth - er now em - brace;

to save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r when we were gone a - stray.
how that in Beth - le - hem was born the Son of God by name.
See, death and hell and Sa - tan this child shall put to flight."
this ho - ly tide of Christ - mas re - veals to us God's grace.

Refrain
O ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and joy,

Text: Source
Tune: Source
Copyright Information

TUNE
METER
References

CONFESSION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

ABSOLUTION

[The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners" (The Small Catechism, First: What is the use of the keys?). See John 20:21-23]

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

[Kyrie is the Greek word for Lord. The expression "Lord, have mercy" is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church.]

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

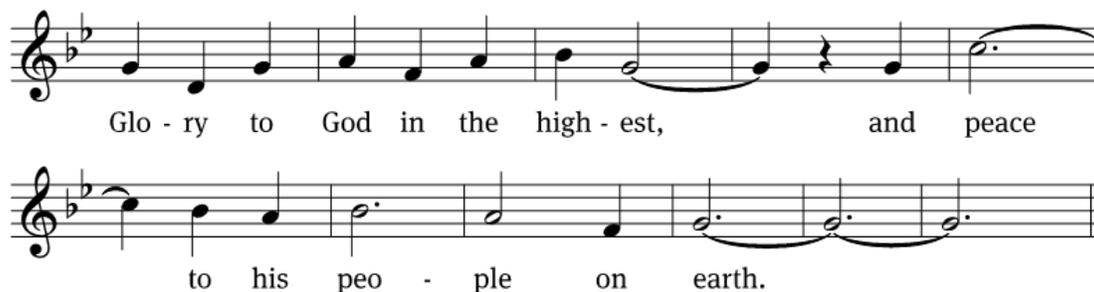
For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST (*Gloria in Excelsis*)

[Throughout this order of service, we will hear and tell the story of our greatest brother, Jesus. As we sing the Gloria we are reminded of the song the angels sang at Jesus' birth, a song the Christian Church has sung for almost 2,000 years.]

**Solo voice will introduce the refrain. Congregation will repeat the refrain.
Solo voice will sing the verses. Congregation will join in on the refrain.*



Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Refrain

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Refrain

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God, the Father. Amen.

Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

[The Prayer of the Day summarizes the theme of the day.]

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. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

[Like Mary, we sit at the feet of Jesus to hear his Word. (Luke 10:39)]

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9

The servant of the Lord spoke through the prophet Isaiah. While we have not always trusted God, Jesus demonstrated perfect obedience and trust, even when his Father asked him to be the sacrifice for our sin.

⁴The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed. ⁵The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears; I have not been rebellious, I have not turned away. ⁶I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. ⁷Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. ⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! ⁹It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who will condemn me? They will all wear out like a garment; the moths will eat them up.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

[As they worshiped, Old Testament believers responded to readings from the Scriptures by singing psalms. We continue this custom in our service this morning]

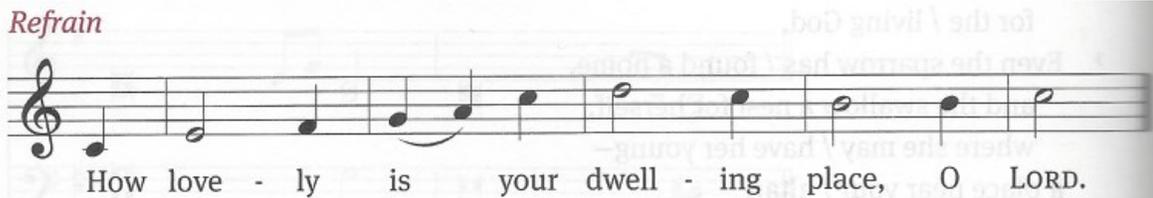
PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 84A

Christian Worship

**Solo voice introduces refrain. Congregation repeats the refrain and sings the refrain where indicated. Solo voice sings the verses.*

Refrain



How love - ly is your dwell - ing place, O LORD.

How lovely is your / dwelling place,
LORD Al- / mighty!
My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts / of the LORD;
My heart and my flesh cry out for the / living God.
Blessed are those who dwell / in your house;
they are ever / praising you. **Refrain**

Better is one day / in your courts
than a thousand / elsewhere;
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house / of my God
then dwell in the tents of the / wicked.
LORD Al- / mighty,
blessed is the one who / trusts in you.
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now and will forever. / Amen. Refrain**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 2:10-18

Through his suffering and sacrifice, Jesus has made us holy. He now calls us his brothers and sisters.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

[It has been a tradition in the Christian church to stand for the reading of the gospel for the past 2,000 years. Just as subjects rise when a king speaks, we rise out of respect for the words of our King.]

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Solo voice will introduce the refrain. Congregation will repeat the refrain.
Solo voice will sing the verse. Congregation will join in the refrain.*



For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations.

(Luke 2:30,31)

GOSPEL

Luke 2:41-52

Even as a boy, Jesus was acting as our substitute, demonstrating obedience to the heavenly Father and respect for God's holy Word.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S SERMON

The children are invited to come to the front to sit with Pastor Horn.

**The Hymn of the Day is chosen because of its strong connection to the Gospel Reading.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

Let All Together Praise Our God

CHRISTMAS

41 Let All Together Praise Our God



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore his
2 He leaves his heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
3 He veils in flesh his pow'r di - vine A ser - vant's
4 A won - drous change which he does make: He takes our
5 He serves that I a lord may be— A great ex -



high - est throne; To - day he o - pens heav'n a - gain And
in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
form to take; In want and low - li - ness must die Who
flesh and blood, And he con - ceals for sin - ners' sake His
change in - deed! Could Je - sus' love do more for me To



gives us his own Son, And gives us his own Son.
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
heav'n and earth did make, Who heav'n and earth did make.
maj - es - ty as God, His maj - es - ty as God.
help me in my need, To help me in my need?

6 For us he opens wide the door
Of paradise today.
The angel guards the gate no more;
To God our thanks we pay,
To God our thanks we pay.

Text: Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561, abr.; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Tune: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN (86 866) Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561.

What Child Is This? A child who knows where he needs to be...

CONFESSION OF FAITH

† *Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the **Nicene Creed** in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.*

**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 truly 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 believe in one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

OFFERING

[If you wish to give an offering you may do so on our website, lambofgodlafayette.com and click GIVE in the upper right corner or text any dollar amount to 84321 to give or mail a check to the church—1893 E 600 North West Lafayette, IN 47906]



PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

[The Prayer for the Church includes prayers for our brothers and sisters in our congregation. Since we belong to something bigger than ourselves, the Christian Church, we pray for the needs and struggles of all God's people on earth.]

THE SACRAMENT

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 him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, for in the wonder and mystery of his birth you have opened our eyes to the glory of your grace and renewed in our hearts the fervor of your love. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Sanctus)

*Isaiah 6:3 This is the song of the angels in heaven. *Sanctus means "holy." Used possibly as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the fourteenth century.*

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of
might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na
in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est,
ho-san-na in the high-est!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26-28, 1 Corinthians 11:24,25

†As he speaks the Words of Institution, the minister both proclaims the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's use.

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 $\frac{1}{11}$ 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 $\frac{1}{11}$ 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."

PAX DOMINI (John 20:19,21,26)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)

*John 1:29 *Jesus is God's Lamb (Latin: Agnus Dei), who was offered as a sacrifice for sin once for all.*

**Solo voice sings the first phrase. Congregation joins on the following phrases.*

Je - sus, Lamb of God; you take a - way the
sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Lamb of God; you take a - way the
sin of the world, have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, Lamb of God; you take a - way the
sin of the world: grant us your peace.

DISTRIBUTION*

**The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

CHRISTMAS

707

Peace Came to Earth



1 Peace came to earth at last that cho - sen night
2 And who could be the same for hav - ing held
3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen,
4 How else could I have known you, O my God!



When an - gels clove the sky with song and light And
The in - fant in their arms and lat - er felt The
In flesh and blood you bore our griefs and pain, In
How else could I have loved you, O my God! How



God em - bod - ied love and sheathed his might— Who could but
wound-ed hands and side, all doubts dis - pelled— Who could but
bread and wine you vis - it us a - gain— Who could but
else could I em - brace you, O my God! Who could but



gasp: Im - man - u - el! Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!
sigh: Im - man - u - el! Who could but shout: Im - man - u - el!
see: Im - man - u - el! Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!
pray: Im - man - u - el! Who could but praise: Im - man - u - el!

The picturesque language of this Jaroslav Vajda hymn vividly illustrates the weighty significance of God becoming man in Christ.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008 © 1984 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Tune: PEACE CAME TO EARTH (10 10 10 88) Richard Jeffrey, b. 1952 © 2000 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP),
a division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THANKSGIVING

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

(The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them" [Numbers 6:27].)

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.

Amen.

Serving at Serving at Worship

Pastor Paul Horn
Pianist: Katie Hefti

Acknowledgements

NIV® Scripture taken from the Holy Bible, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®. Copyright © 1973, 1984 by Biblica, Inc. All rights reserved worldwide. Used by permission.

The following items are all used by permission. All rights reserved.

Music reprinted under OneLicense #A-732573 CCLI #5028554

The Service: Setting Two. From *Christian Worship* © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAMILY BIBLE HOUR—RESUMES JANUARY 9TH at 9:15am

Pre-K—6th Grade—Bible history stories and how they point to Christ

7th-8th Graders, Teens, College Students and Adults—We will be focusing our attention on the topic of *Forgiveness*.



Our next Mornings with Mommy session will be held this next **Thursday, January 13th from 10:00-11:00am**. The theme will be **Color, Shapes and Numbers**. This is great opportunity for parents, grandparents and guardians to spend some special time with their little ones. Spread the word!

JESUS CARES

Our next **Jesus Cares** will be held on **Thursday, January 13th at 6:30pm**. This is our outreach and ministry to our neighbors in the Greater Lafayette Area who have special needs and their caregivers. If you know someone who might enjoy this service, please spread the word! If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jennifer Holmes at 765-588-7593 or via email at: Jennykay1979@yahoo.com.

WELS SINGLES FACEBOOK GROUP

"If you're single (unmarried, divorced, widowed) and looking to socialize, make friends, or enjoy fellowship with other singles who share your faith, we encourage you to join our Facebook group! Our group consists of over 500 members from around the world with ages ranging from 18-65+. We are an active group sharing Biblical encouragement, prayers, Lutheran memes, personal victories, and food. Our page is full of discussion posts and we typically have a weekly video hangout on Sunday evenings. We'd love to have you join us.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/wels.els.singles>

CONGREGATIONAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Our leadership team, along with Pastor Horn, are looking for ways our family at Lamb of God can serve the families in our community by partnering with many of the local non-profit organizations in the Greater Lafayette area. This month they've chosen Food Finders. Go to the website below and sign up with family, friends or church members to volunteer during the time period of January 1st-January 31st. You can sign up at:

<https://foodfindersfoodbank.volunteerhub.com/events/index>

Giving at Lamb of God

Looking for a simple way to give gifts to your Lord for his kingdom work? Consider using your bank's online "bill pay" option. Select Lamb of God as the vendor you wish to "pay" and funds can be transferred with no fee to you or the church. If you have any questions, reach out to our congregation's treasurer Eric Becker.

Prayer Requests

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

Keep in your prayers this week: All those in our midst who may be dealing with physical ailments, emotional hurts or the loss of a loved one; for our Mornings with Mommy ministry as well as for our Jesus Cares ministry that we might reach the Greater Lafayette area with the message of Jesus; that the Holy Spirit would work in the hearts of all those who join us for worship each Sunday; for all those who are suffering from abuse in the home, that they might seek help; that the Lord grant wisdom to Governor Holcomb, President Biden, Vice President Harris, and the United State Congress; for the current state of our world, that we remember our God is still in charge and will sustain us and give us what we need; that our Lord would give us the means to show the love of Christ as we support our neighbors in need.

Christmas Season Sermon Series at Lamb of God ***What Child Is This?...***

Sunday, January 2nd—***He Turns Slaves Into Sons***

Sunday, January 9th—***A Light For All People***

Prayer Requests

"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." 1 Timothy 2:1-2

Keep in your prayers this week: All those in our midst who may be dealing with physical ailments, emotional hurts or the loss of a loved one; for Kelly Korek, cousin of Rob Smith, who has been diagnosed with stage four ovarian cancer; for Pastor Paul Jansen of Ann Arbor, MI, who whose chemotherapy treatments have been put on hold briefly as the doctors await results from further testing; for those suffering from addiction that they might seek treatment and recovery; for those suffering from abuse in the home that God would use us to reach out to them and that the abused would be willing to seek help; that the Lord grant wisdom to Mayors Roswarski and Dennis, Governor Holcomb, President Biden, Vice President Harris and the US Congress; for the current state of our world, that we remember our God is still in charge and will sustain us and give us what we need; that our Lord would give us the means to show the love of Christ as we support our neighbors in need.