

44

COLOR  
TRANSPARENCY



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TRANSPARENCY

after they had left, an angel of the Lord  
dream and said, "Get up, take the child  
Egypt, and remain there until I tell yo

*As a community following Christ,  
we LOVE with an open heart,  
GROW with a curious mind,  
and SHARE with a generous spirit.*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

- *Please turn off all cell phones.*
- *If you are visiting with us today, we extend to you a particular welcome and invite your questions and comments.*
- *Our entire worship service is printed in this worship folder for your convenience.*
- *Hearing assistance devices are available in the Narthex.*
- *Child care is available for children ages 5 years and under in the Child Care Area, across from the Life Together Hall.*

In the order of service, the words  
that are spoken by a leader are in regular type.

**Words spoken by the assembly are in boldface type.**

# **FIRST SUNDAY of CHRISTMAS**

*Sunday, December 28, 2025 • 9:30 a.m.*

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The congregation is invited to gather around the baptismal font.

## **SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM**

Baptism of Finnick Briar Swan.  
Son of Maclain and Ashley Swan.

Baptismal sponsors: Brittney Goulet and Abbie Giustino.

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

***Brittney and Abbie***

We present Finnick Briar Swan for baptism.

Maclain and Ashley, called by the Holy Spirit,  
trusting in the grace and love of God,  
do you desire to have Finnick baptized into Christ?

***Maclain and Ashley***

We do.

As you bring Finnick to receive the gift of baptism,  
you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with him among God's faithful people,  
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,  
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,  
place in his hands the holy scriptures,  
and nurture him in faith and prayer,  
so that Finnick may learn to trust God,  
proclaim Christ through word and deed,  
care for others and the world God made,  
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help Finnick grow in the Christian faith and life?

***Maclain and Ashley***

We do.

Brittney and Abbie, do you promise to nurture Finnick in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

***Brittney and Abbie***

We do.

People of God, do you promise to support Finnick and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

**We do.**

#### PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you, as a community following Christ,  
to profess your faith in Christ Jesus,  
reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce all evil, every force that undermines the love of God?

**We renounce them.**

Do you renounce the abusive powers of this world,  
the structures of inequality, and the forces  
that threaten God's beloved creation?

**We renounce them.**

Do you renounce your own participation with these powers,  
your own actions and inactions that draw you from God?

**We renounce them.**

With the whole church, we confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

We give our thanks for the waters of life that surround us and nourish the earth: for the water of the Puyallup River; for Wapato, Hylebos and Clarks creeks; for Lake Tapps and the Puget Sound. We rejoice in the groundwater throughout the Pacific Northwest that fulfills our thirst. Through the watershed we live in, remind us of your gifts of life.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.


**Amen.**

## BAPTISM

Finnick Briar Swan,  
I baptize you in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Congregation sings twice:



Up from the wa - ters God has claimed you, up  
from the wa - ters, child of light.  
Praise to the One who called and named you up  
from the wa - ters in - to life.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your children new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Finnick with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

Finnick Briar Swan, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

WELCOME

Let us welcome Finnick.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

The congregation returns to their seats.



# GATHERING HYMN • "THE FIRST NOEL"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 300



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to  
2 They look - ed up and saw . . . a star shin - ing  
3 And by the light of that . . . same star three . .  
4 This star drew near to the . . . north - west, o'er . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where  
in . . . the east . . . be - yond . . . them far; and to the  
wise . . . men came . . . from coun - try far; to seek for a  
Beth - le - hem . . . it took . . . its rest; and there it



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's  
earth it gave . . . great light, and . . . so it con -  
king was their . . . in - tent, and to fol - low the  
did both stop . . . and stay right . . . o - ver the



night that was so deep.  
tin-ued both day and night.  
star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
place where Je - sus lay.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

## 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.**

Sit.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Exalted God,  
even as the heavenly host sang of your glory  
in the night skies over Bethlehem;  
even as the star shone in the heavens,  
and sheep and cattle gathered in that light,  
so we gather,  
young and old together,  
to recount all that you have done for us  
in mercy and steadfast love.

No tyrant's threat or deadly act  
can destroy the dreams and visions  
you have placed within us,  
for you have drawn us close.

With all creation,  
we praise you and exalt your name  
forever and ever.

**Amen.**

## READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

### Hebrews 2:10-18

<sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> 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, <sup>12</sup> saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

<sup>13</sup> And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again,

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

<sup>14</sup> 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, <sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup> For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

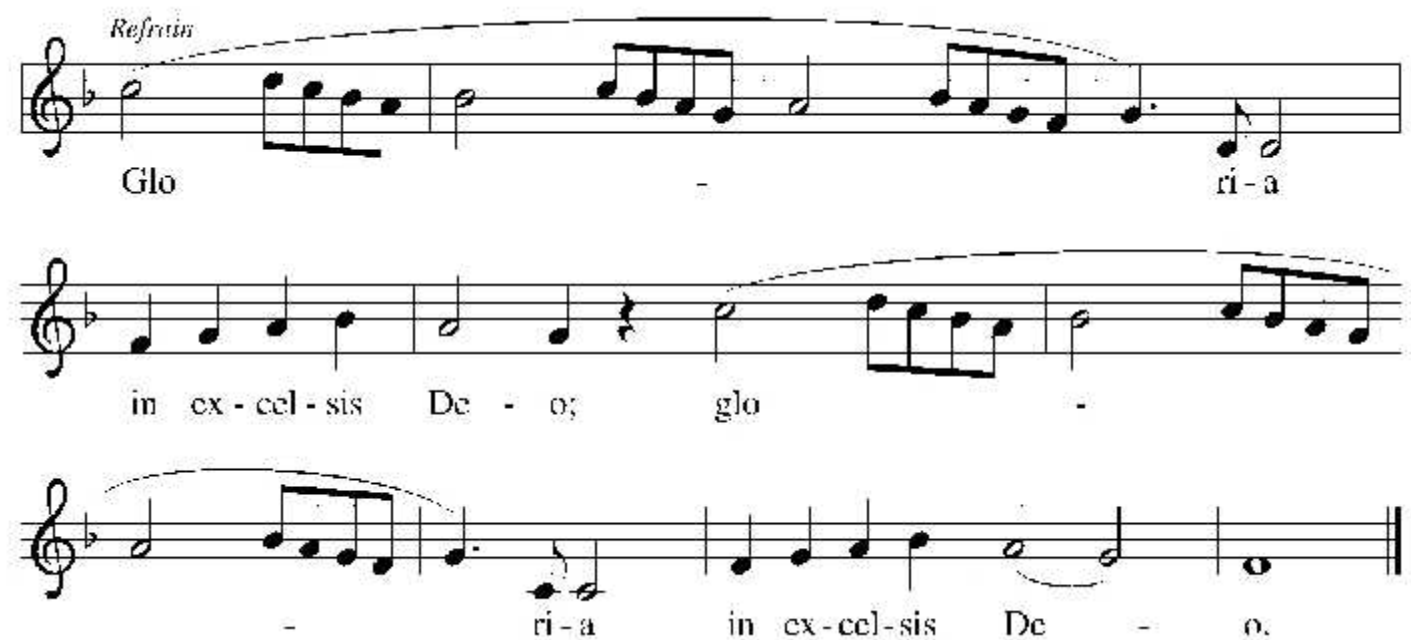
The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Stand.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION • “ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH”

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 289



## GOSPEL

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 2:13-23

<sup>13</sup> 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.” <sup>14</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt <sup>15</sup> 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.”

<sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

<sup>18</sup> “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.”

<sup>19</sup> When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, <sup>20</sup> “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.” <sup>21</sup> Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup> 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. <sup>23</sup> 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.**

Sit.

CHILDREN’S SERMON + SERMON

Stand.

# HYMN OF THE DAY • "HOLY CHILD WITHIN THE MANGER"

With One Voice 638



1 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, long a -  
 2 Once a - gain we tell the sto - ry— how your  
 3 Ho - ly Child with - in the man - ger, lead us

go yet ev - er near; come as friend to ev - 'ry  
 love for us was shown, when the im - age of your  
 ev - er in your way, so we see in ev - 'ry

stran - ger, come as hope for ev - 'ry fear.  
 glo - ry wore an im - age like our own.  
 stran - ger how you come to us to - day.

As you lived to heal the bro - ken, greet the  
 Come, en - light - en with your wis - dom, come and  
 In our lives and in our liv - ing give us

out - cast, free the bound, as you taught us love un -  
 fill us with your grace, May the fire of your com -  
 strength to live as you, that our hearts might be for -

spo - ken, teach us now where you are found.  
 pas - sion kin - dle ev - 'ry land and race.  
 giv - ing and our spir - its strong and true.

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

At the conclusion of each petition:

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Sit.

# INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

All creation teems with the abundance  
of God's provision:  
mountains and hills, fruit trees and cedars,  
creeping things and flying birds!

Our own lives bear witness to the abundance  
of God's love and mercy,  
for God has lifted us up and carried us in our need.

In joyful praise,  
we offer to God a portion of all we have received.

You can participate in the Offering electronically  
by scanning the QR code and filling out the online form.



## OFFERING



# OFFERTORY RESPONSE • "WHAT CHILD IS THIS"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 296



What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

## OFFERING PRAYER

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.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom  
and teach us to pray:

**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.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## COMMUNION

God is now in flesh appearing.

Come to the feast of joy!

Sit.

## DISTRIBUTION

We are here because Jesus has called us—  
strangers and friends, locals and visitors,  
believers and doubters, the certain and the curious.

It is always a mixed company that Jesus gathers  
and invites to his table where, in bread and wine,  
he meets us and through him, we are joined to each other.

So come,  
not because you understand,  
but because you are understood.

Come,  
not because of how you feel,  
but because God has food for you.

Come,  
not because you deserve a place,  
but because Jesus invites you,  
just as you are.

If you need an alcohol-free element or a gluten-free element, then please  
let your server know.

If you are unable to come forward for communion, then please let an  
usher know and you will be served where you are seated.

# COMMUNION HYMN • "I WONDER AS I WANDER"

With One Voice 642


1 I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky, how  
 2 When Mar - y birthed . . . Je - sus, all in a cow's stall, came  
 3 If Je - sus had . . . want - ed for an - y wee thing, a  
 4 I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky, how

Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die for poor ord'-n'ry peo - ple like  
 wise men and farm-ers and shep-herds and all, and high from the heav-ens a  
 star in the sky or a bird on the wing, or all of God's an - gels in  
 Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die for poor ord'-n'ry peo - ple like


you and like I. I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky.  
 star's light did fall; the prom - ise of the a - ges it then did re - call.  
 heav'n for to sing, he sure - ly could have had it, 'cause he was the king.  
 you and like I. I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky.

# COMMUNION HYMN • "THERE'S A STAR IN THE EAST"

With One Voice 645



1 There's a star in the east on Christ-mas morn, rise up, shep-herd, and fol-low.  
2 If you take good heed to the an-gel's words, rise up, shep-herd, and fol-low.



It will lead to the place where the Christ was born, rise up, shep-herd, and fol-low.  
You'll for-get your flocks, you'll for-get your herds, rise up, shep-herd, and fol-low.

*Refrain*



Fol - low, fol - low, rise up, shep-herd, and fol-low.



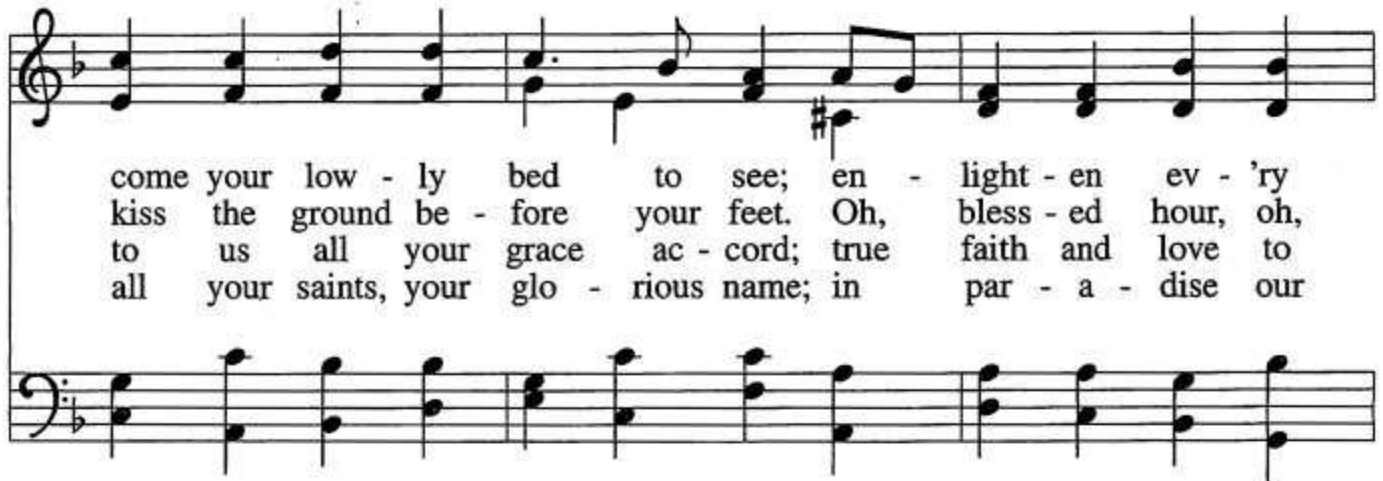
Fol-low the star of Beth-le - hem, rise up, shep-herd, and fol-low.

# COMMUNION HYMN • "YOUR LITTLE ONES, DEAR LORD"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 286



1 Your lit - tle ones, dear Lord, are we, and  
2 With songs we has - ten you to greet, and  
3 Oh, draw us whol - ly to you, Lord, and  
4 Un - til at last we too pro - claim, with



come your low - ly bed to see; en - light - en ev - 'ry  
kiss the ground be - fore your feet. Oh, bless - ed hour, oh,  
to us all your grace ac - cord; true faith and love to  
all your saints, your glo - rious name; in par - a - dise our



soul and mind, that we the way to you may find.  
sweet-est night that gave you birth, our soul's de - light.  
us im - part, that we may hold you in our heart.  
songs re - new, and praise you as the an - gels do.

Stand.

## 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.**

## DEACON SENDING

Deacons are called to “make Christ  
and his redemptive love known by word and example.” (1 Timothy)

Such love is expressed in the extension of Holy Communion  
to those who are homebound or hospitalized.

Gracious God,

**as Mary set out to visit Elizabeth before she gave birth to her  
son, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament  
with our sisters and brothers who are sick or homebound. In  
your love and care, nourish those to whom we bring this  
communion, that through the body and blood of your Son we  
may all know the hope of your promised coming in Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen.**

## BLESSING

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

**Amen.**

# SENDING HYMN • "GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 290

*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 leared 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.



## SENDING

Glory to God in the highest!

**And peace to God's people on earth!**

Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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Next week:

**Second Sunday of Christmas • January 4, 2026**

8:15 a.m. = Worship in the Sanctuary.

9:30 a.m. = Rock Ministry classes in the Education Building.

9:30 a.m. = Adult Education in the Life Together Hall.

Pastor Eric provides an overview of the Gospel of Matthew.

10:45 a.m. = Worship in the Sanctuary.

# WORSHIP NOTES

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Worship leaders include:

PREACHER: Deacon Traci Vatne.

PRESIDERS: Pastor Eric Bostrom, Deacon Traci Vatne.

ASSISTING MINISTER: Bob Linden

MUSIC LEADER: Kevin Peterson.

VIDEOGRAPHER: David Burch.

ALTAR GUILD: Flora Larson, Janet Larson, Diane Nelson, Karen Slavens.

USHERS: Julie Kibler, Mark Kibler, David Nichols, Bob Yost (head usher).

GREETERS: Paige Nichols, Diane Tyler.

ACOLYTE: Joanna Schaefer.

LECTOR: Deborah VanderLey.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Kathy Harris, Connie McCrossin.

SOUND: Henry Peck.

## MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

3505 - 122nd Avenue East, Edgewood WA 98372

www.mtviewlutheran.org • 253-863-5171