

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.

Instructions for in-person worship.

- ) Keep your mask on at all times, except when receiving communion.
- Enjoy the presence of one another as we "speak the peace," wave, smile, make the sign of the Cross. Please do not embrace, hug, kiss, or elbowbump anyone but for immediate family members you are seated with.
- ) Please do not attend worship if you are currently sick with any of the following symptoms: fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, nausea, or diarrhea.
- ) Please do not attend worship if you had close personal contact with anyone who has been diagnosed or is awaiting test results for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
- Notify the Church Office if you receive a positive COVID-19 test result within 7 days of attending a worship service. Your name will be kept anonymous unless required for reporting to the Department of Health.

MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH 3505 - 122nd Avenue East, Edgewood WA www.mtviewlutheran.org • 253-863-5171

#### NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

# Christmas Eve

Friday, December 24, 2021 • 7:00 p.m.

Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them,

"Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

-LUKE 2:9-14

#### Prelude

# Welcome / Announcements

## Christmas Eve Litany

We gather into the sanctuary of this space tonight.

We gather in from the darkness and cold of the world, in which violence and hatred still find hold, healing has not come, and provision is not made for the least among us.

We have awaited our savior, and now...

He comes that we might have love.

He comes that we might have peace.

We come seeking a light to burn bright in the midst of the darkness. We come seeking a word of hope to sustain.

We have awaited our savior, and now... He comes that we might have light. He comes that we might have hope.

We search for one who will offer a graciousness the world cannot, **Who shows us a way of life the world fails to reveal.** 

We have awaited our savior, and now...

He comes that we might have life.

Immanuel comes that we might have life forevermore!

# **Opening Hymn** • "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 283



#### Greeting

For unto us a child is born! 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 Evening

Almighty God,

you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### Amen.

## **Hymn** • "He Came Down"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 253



- he came down that we may have love; He came down that we may have love;
- He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;

he came down that we may have light;

he came down that we may have peace;

he came down that we may have joy;

## First Reading

A reading from Isaiah.

Isaiah 9:2-7

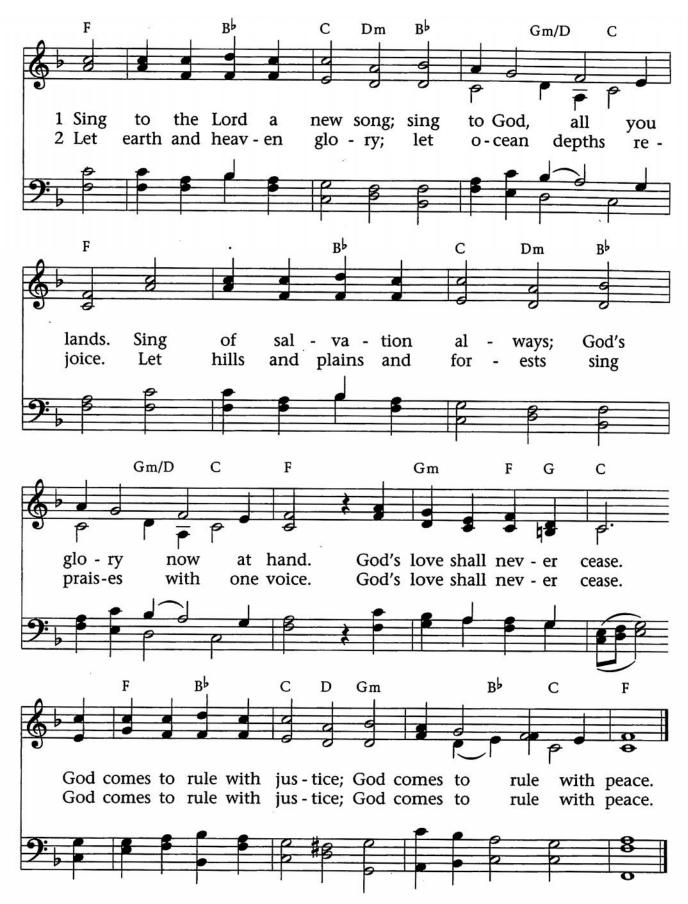
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# **Psalm 96** • "Sing to the Lord a New Song"

Psalms for All Seasons #96F



## Second Reading

A reading from Titus.

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# Gospel Acclamation • "Hallelujah Song"

Frank Hernandez

Cantor sings first, **then all sing.**Cantor sings top line of music; **congregation sings bottom line.** 



### Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 2:1-20

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

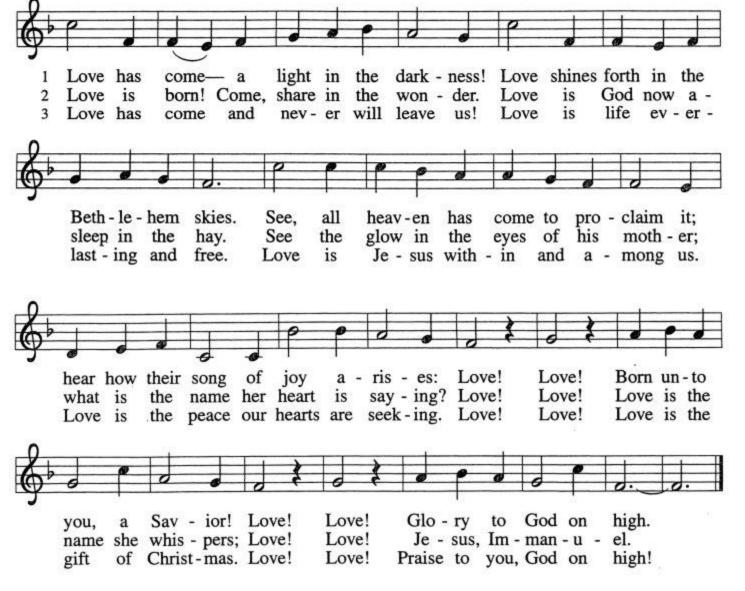
#### Sermon

Pastor Briana R. Merkle.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

# **Hymn of the Evening** • "Love Has Come"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 270



#### Nicene Creed

Together, let us confess our faith.

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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic 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.

### Prayers of the Church

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

At the conclusion of each petition:

Hear us, O God. **Restore us and let your face shine upon us.** 

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

## Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

## Offering

We give to the Lord of our tithes and offerings.

You can mail an offering to:

Mountain View Lutheran Church 3505 - 122nd Ave E Edgewood WA 98372

You can give electronically:

#### ONLINE via the MVLC WEBSITE

- *y* Visit www.mtviewlutheran.org.
- ) Hover over the "GIVE" dropbox.
- Choose "Make a Donation via Bank Account" or "Make a Donation via Credit/Debit Card."
- Fill out all information on the page and then click the blue "GIVE" button.
- J If you want it to remember your information, visit "SIGN IN" and create an account.
- NOTE: Online giving is a one-time gift unless you check "Make this Gift Recurring."

For those worshiping in person, you are invited to leave your offering in the offering plates located in the side aisles as you come forward for Holy Communion.

# Offertory • "Away in a Manger"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 277



by my

us for

cra - dle till morn-ing

heav-en, to

live with you there.

# Offering Prayer

down from the

your ten - der

Gracious God,

your Word-made-flesh brings harmony to the earth. As we offer ourselves and these your gifts, prepare us to receive the grace and truth you offer at this table and renew in us the song of your salvation, in Jesus Christ our Savior.

sky and stay

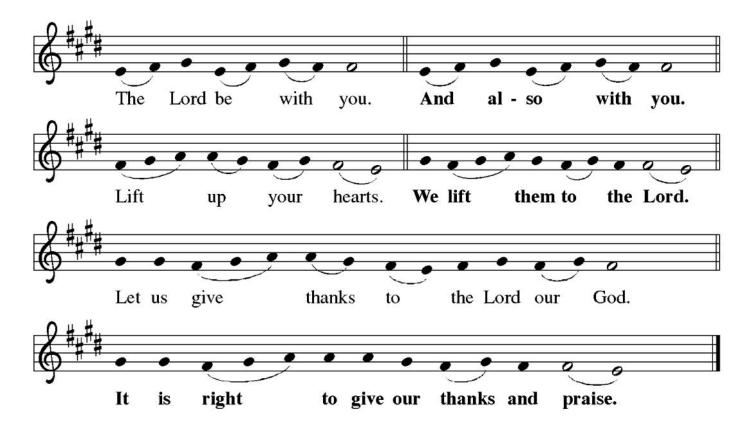
fit

care and

Amen.

### **Great Thanksgiving**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship S 152



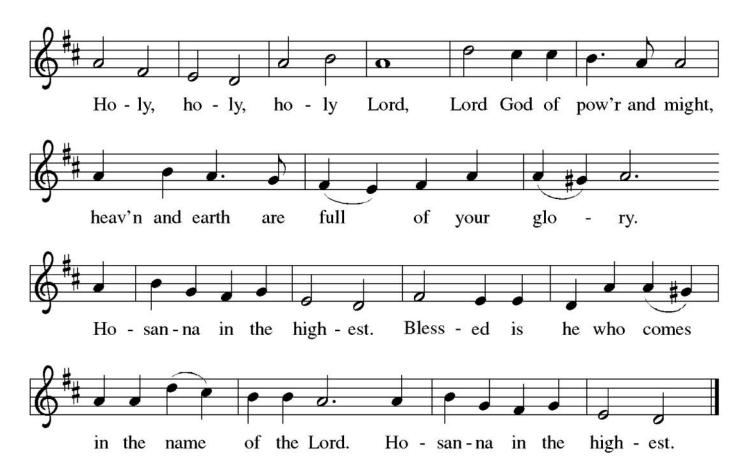
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times in in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

#### Sanctus

Evangelical Lutheran Worship S 153



### Words of Institution

### The Lord's Prayer

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

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.

#### Communion

In Christ's manger, at Christ's table, come, see what God makes known for you.

#### Distribution

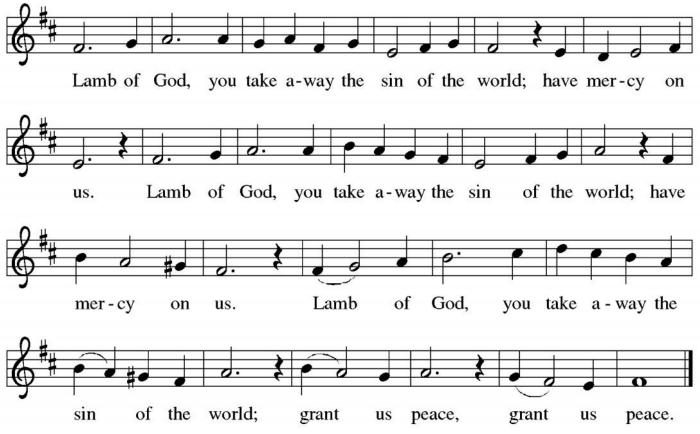
All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the body and blood of Jesus Christ. If you are unable to come forward for communion, then please let an usher know and you will be served where you are seated.

If gluten-free wafers are required for health reasons, then please ask the pastor serving communion for a wafer.

After you receive communion, please pick up a candle from the center aisle as you return to your seat.

#### Lamb of God

Evangelical Lutheran Worship S 154



# **Communion Song** • "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 279



Beth - le - hem, how see thee O lit - tle town of still we lie! For Christ is born of and, gath - ered all a bove Mar у, won - drous gift How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the is giv'n! ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us. we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by; while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won-d'ring love. hu - man hearts the God im-parts to bless - ings heav'n. So of his cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in to - day. us



shin - eth the thy dark streets ev - er - last - ing light. yet O morn-ing stars, to geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth, No com - ing; but, this world of ear may hear his in sin, We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The all to - night. hopes and fears of the years are met in thee and God the king, and prais - es sing to peace to all the earth! where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in. come to a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el! oh, us,

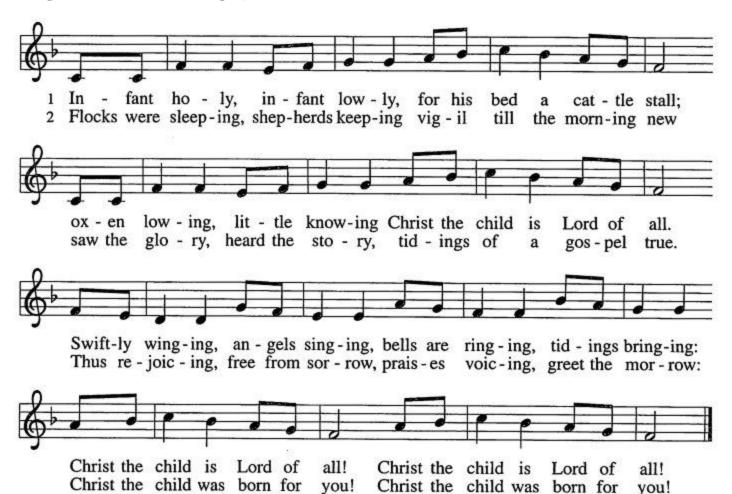
# **Communion Song** • "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 283



# Communion Song• "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 276



## Prayer after Communion

We thank you, wondrous God, for Jesus, God with us, in these gifts of bread and wine. As we have shared this feast of love, strengthen us to share your love with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

# Lighting of the Candles

"The Coventry Carol" / "The First Nowell" Brenna Sage, piano

# Candlelight Hymn • "Silent Night, Holy Night!"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 281

Everyone is asked to make the sign of the cross with their candles, during each verse, following the lead of the pastor, as a remembrance of our baptisms.



# Blessing

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh.

#### Amen.

Extinguish candles at the conclusion of the blessing.

Please continue to hold onto your candle once it is extinguished, in order that wax doesn't get onto the chairs or floor. Place your candle in the provided boxes when you exit the worship space at the conclusion of the service.

# **Sending Hymn** • "Joy to the World"

Evangelical Lutheran Worship 267



## Sending

Christ is born! Go tell it on the mountain and everywhere! **Thanks be to God.** 

#### **Poinsettias**

The poinsettias on the altar and in the Sanctuary worship space are given to the glory of God

by Jeanne Anderson in memory of Bill, Gertie, and Karl Winter

by Joe and Rosemarie Anderson in memory of Joe's brother Clif and Rosemarie's brother Bobby

by John and Myrna Anderson in memory of Kevin Anderson and Dean Inglin

by Carolee Berntsen and Chris Berntsen in memory of Dave Berntsen

by Nan Bolin

in memory and honor of Joseph Bolin, daughter Julianne, and grandson Dusty J. Craig

by Alan and Lois Carlson to the glory of God

by Pat Clement

in memory of Helen C. Miller, SMD, and Helen, Ben, and Michael McFeeley

by Mary Beth Dahl

in memory of Art and Lucille Dahl

by Ken and Barb Edmonds

in memory of Pastor Aubrey Edmonds and Helen and Alden Erickson Sr. and Alma

by Ed and Barb Egan

in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Egan and Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Hoerz

by Jacque Fauber

in memory of Cass Fauber and Ned Kofford

by Karen Fink

in memory of Paul Fink and Chad McHenry

by Rich and Jackie Hanenburg in honor of their grandchildren

by Rick and Karen Hansen

in memory of their parents, Walt and Freda Hendrickson and Don and Gladys Hansen

by Skip and Janice Harrison

in honor of their grandkids, Paige and Joel

by Loren and Ellen Leapaldt

in honor of their children and grandchildren; in memory of Loren's parents, Ed and Sally Leapaldt; and in memory of Ellen's mother and grandparents, Ruth Witt and Sig and Florence Anderson

by Don and Gwynne Lindbo in memory of Thom Lindbo

by Vic and Joanne Lindstrom in honor of their family

by the Lysne family

in memory of their beloved who have gone before, including Pebbles

by David and Joyce Maxwell in memory of their son John Herschel

by Connie McCrossin in memory of John McCrossin

by Dorothy Nelson

in memory of Norm Nelson; her parents, Fred and Mary Wilhelm; sisters Irene Gordan and Betty Roland; and brothers Albert Wilhelm and Fred Wilhelm, Jr.

by Lindy and Diane Nelson in memory of their parents and their son Eric

by Glenn and Carol Petersen

in loving memory of their son Hans Petersen; and parents, Ken and Clair Petersen and Raymond and Luella Rowberg

by Gloria Ratcliffe

in memory of her mother, husband, and daughter

by Rod and Chris Ray

in honor of Tate Longabaugh and Jonah Ray

by Earl and Joan Root

in memory of their son Michael Allen, their parents, and Barrie Mott

by Kim Soeder

in memory of Joe and Dot Whelan

by Ken and Sandi Swanson

in memory of Dorothy Somers and Tom Swanson

Jon, Erica, Parker, and Nora Thornton

in memory of Dave Thornton and Mary Beth Anderson

by Betsy Tunstall

in memory of Bruce Tunstall and their parents

by Marlene Wright

in memory of her parents Harry and Avis Sprague

by Bob and Ann Yost

in memory of their grandparents

#### Worship Notes

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#### Worship leaders include:

- PREACHER and PRESIDER: Pastor Briana Merkle.
- DIRECTOR of MUSIC MINISTRIES: Brenna Sage.
- ALTAR GUILD: Flora Larson, Diane Nelson, Karen Slavens.
- WORSHIP ASSISTANT: Bob Linden.
- CANTOR: Hannah Johnsrud.
- ) CRUCIFER: Jarod Wright.
- USHERS: Fred Albert (head usher), Eileen Newton, Betsy Tunstall, Keith Wright.
- ACOLYTES: Alison Hutton, Colin Hutton.
- COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Amy Lewis, Marlene Wright.
- LECTOR: Lori Neptun.
- J SOUND: Megan Hutton.
- VIDEOGRAPHER: David Burch.

#### **MOUNTAIN VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH**

3505 - 122nd Avenue East, Edgewood WA 98372 www.mtviewlutheran.org • 253-863-5171

### Ask a Seminary Student

#### Sunday, December 26, 2021 • 10:30 a.m. • Life Together Hall

MVLC member Hannah Johnsrud is home for Christmas break from her studies at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Sunday morning (12/26), immediately following the worship service, Hannah will lead a conversation and question-and-answer session in the Life Together Hall about her seminary experience to date. Come and learn about the faith journey of a future pastor of the Church!

## Lifelong Faith Formation in the New Year

Rock Ministry and Adult Education, MVLC's lifelong faith formation programs start again on Sunday, January 9, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Kids age two through youth in twelfth grade are invited to participate in Rock Ministry, MVLC's version of Sunday school. Kids and youth meet with their peers and a team of adult mentors as they explore Bible stories and topics of faith. Classes meet in the Education Building.

Adults are invited to participate in Adult Education in the Life Together Hall. Classes are led by MVLC's pastors, professors from Pacific Lutheran University, members of MVLC ministry groups, and/or our various ministry partners and benevolence recipients.

Come and learn, one and all!

### **Holiday Hours**

Mountain View Lutheran Church www.mtviewlutheran.org • 253-863-5171

- First Sunday of Christmas worship. Sunday, December 26, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. (There is only one worship service this particular Sunday.)
- Second Sunday of Christmas worship. Sunday, January 2, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. (There is only one worship service this particular Sunday.)
- Church Office closed. The MVLC Church Office will be closed on Monday 12/27 and Tuesday 12/28.
- Church Office limited hours. The MVLC Church Office will be open for limited hours on Wednesday 12/29 and Thursday 12/30. It is recommended that you call in advance if you need to visit.

Mountain View Community Center www.mtviewcommunitycenter.org • 253-826-4329

MVCC Closed. From Thursday, December 23, 2021 through Monday, January 3, 2022.

Edgewood Nourish Food Bank www.nourishpc.org • 253-826-4654

- Food Bank Closed. Saturday, December 25, 2021
- **Food Bank Open.** Thursday, December 30, 2021. 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- Food Bank Closed. Friday, December 31, 2021 and Saturday, January 1, 2022.