

Service of Holy Communion

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 19th, 2025



INTRODUCTION

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The congregation stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P. Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another, trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts.

The congregation sits or kneels. Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P. God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.” In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

Congregation stands

GATHERING HYMN

All Are Welcome

ELW 641

GREETING

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C. And also with you.**

KYRIE

A. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C. Lord, have mercy.

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

C. Lord, have mercy.

A. 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.

C. Lord, have mercy.

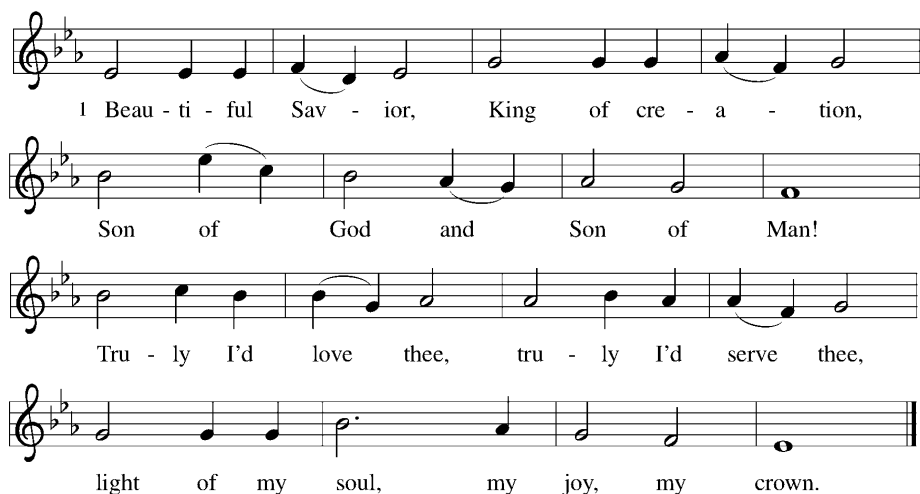
A. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C. Lord, have mercy.

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

C. Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



I Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Congregation is seated

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 62:1-5

- ¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn
and her salvation like a burning torch.
- ² The nations shall see your vindication
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
- ³ You shall be a beautiful crown in the hand of the LORD
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
- ⁴ You shall no more be termed Forsaken,
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate,
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her
and your land Married,
for the LORD delights in you,
and your land shall be married.
- ⁵ For as a young man marries a young woman,
so shall your builder marry you,
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,
so shall your God rejoice over you.

A. Word of God, word of life. **C. Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 36:5-10 (*read responsively*)

- ⁵ Your love, O LORD, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.
- ⁶ **Your righteousness is like the strong mountains, your justice like the great deep; you save humankind and animals, O LORD.**
- ⁷ How priceless is your love, O God!
All people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.
- ⁸ **They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

⁹ For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.

¹⁰ **Continue your lovingkindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

¹ Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be ignorant. ² You know that when you were gentiles you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

A. Word of God, word of life.

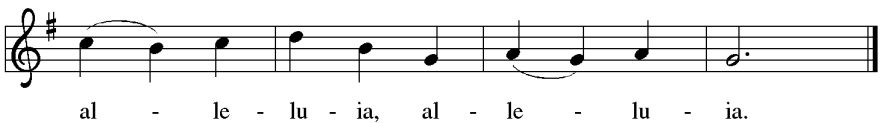
C. **Thanks be to God.**

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

Children & Youth are invited forward for a special sermon time with Pastor Peggy.

Congregation stands

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Repeat alleluia



GOSPEL: John 2:1-11

P. The holy gospel according to John. **C. Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. ² Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. ³ When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." ⁴ And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to me and to you? My hour has not yet come." ⁵ His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." ⁶ Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. ⁷ Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the person in charge of the banquet." So they took it. ⁹ When the person in charge tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), that person called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." ¹¹ Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee and revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

P. The gospel of the Lord. **C. Praise to you, O Christ.**

Congregation is seated

SERMON

Gifts

Congregation stands

HYMN OF THE DAY

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

ELW 310

APOSTLE'S 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 THE CHURCH

A. With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

A. Giver of gifts, you form each member of the church to serve. Inspire us to boldly use gifts of welcome and healing, service and teaching, leading and preaching, for the sake of your work in the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Refuge of creatures, you place all the living under the shadow of your wings. Lead us in ways that tend to the needs of wild and domestic animals, creatures threatened by extinction, and the environment we share. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Voice of the oppressed, you call prophets throughout time. We remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a voice for racial and economic justice and for peace. Guide our nation in continuing to heed your prophetic call. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. God of steadfast love, as Jesus celebrated at Cana, nurture marriages and relationships in mutual care; in times of separation or divorce hold tenderly broken hearts and broken dreams. Be present to all who are sick, grieving or in any need. We pray especially for...those we now say aloud...and those we hold in our hearts... God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Spirit of peace, celebrating this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we pray for neighboring congregations and ministry sites. Nurture our shared commitment to embody Jesus' love, justice, and healing. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Wellspring of life, in living and dying we trust in you. We give thanks for the saints. Guide us in our living until, at last, we rest in you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P. We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P. The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C. And also with you.

P. Let us share with each other a sign of Christ's peace.

Congregation is seated

CHOIR ANTHEM

Arise and Shine for Your Light Has Come

Dan McGowen & Hal Wright

MEAL

OFFERTORY INVITATION

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via Venmo* ↓



Offering can be given by putting it in the offering plate when it is passed, online directly via the QR codes for Tithely or Venmo, or by requesting your bank to send a check to the church. Find more details on our website.

Thank you for your generous gifts!

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via Tithely* ↓



Congregation stands

OFFERING SONG

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A. Let us pray... God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. **Amen**

DIALOGUE & PREFACE OF THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

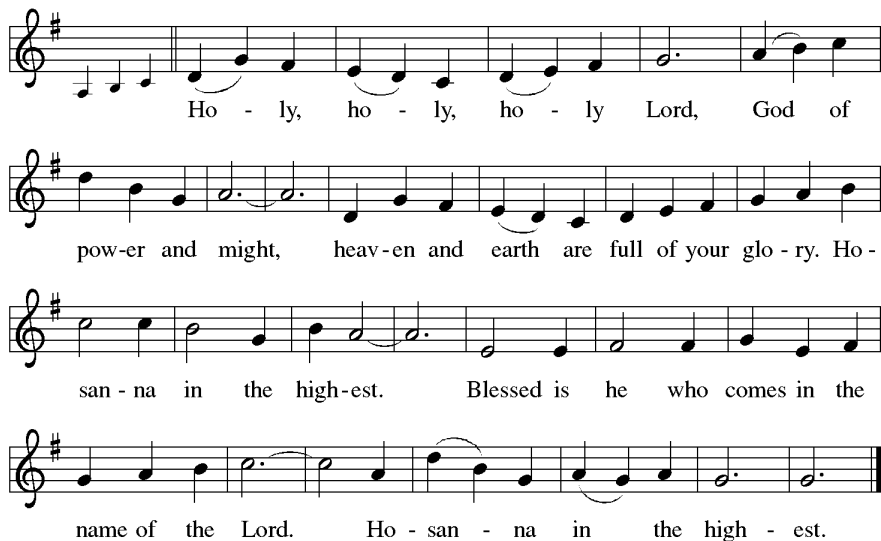
P. Lift up your hearts.

C. We lift them to the Lord.

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



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

The congregation sits or kneels.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P. Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things.

Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations. Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

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 preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

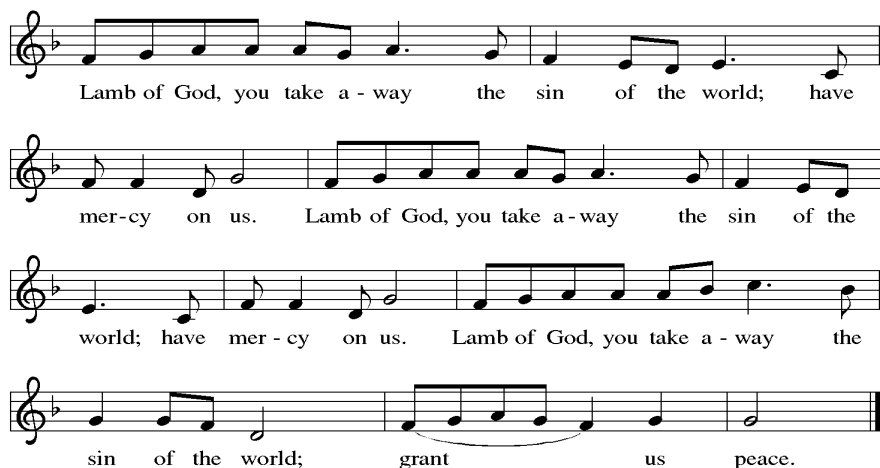
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we practice Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcome to Communion this morning. Please come forward, guided by the Ushers, to receive the bread and wine. Children are invited to the table for a blessing.

Gluten free and traditional wafers are available, please note this to Pastor Peggy when you come up. The bread is dairy and egg free. Grape juice is available in the second communion plate. As you return to your seat via the side aisles you can place your empty cup in the baskets on either side.

P. The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

COMMUNION SONG



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.

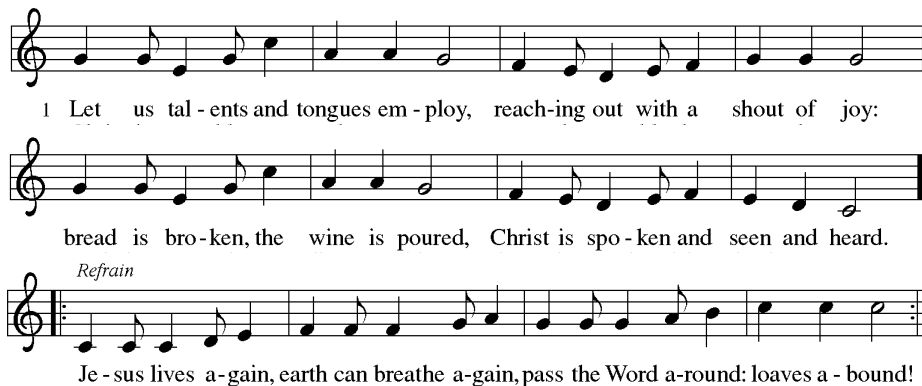
DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

After all have received Communion the congregation stands.

TABLE BLESSING

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

SONG AFTER COMMUNION



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
Refrain
Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A. Let us pray... Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

P. The Spirit of the triune God ✠ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

We All Are One in Mission

ELW 576

DISMISSAL

A. Go in peace. Live in hope. **C. Thanks be to God.**

Announcements for January 19th, 2025

Welcome to Holy Counselor Lutheran Church. May you experience the joy of God's presence in our worship!

If today is your first time worshipping at Holy Counselor, please be sure to fill out the "Guest Book" on the table in the narthex and take a welcome bag.

Please ask our ushers any questions you may have regarding worship this morning. Large print bulletins are available.

Worship is live streamed to our church Facebook page, but the camera is pointed away during Communion and is not on the children when they come forward during A Time for the Child in Us All.

~~~~~  
***Thank you, Claire and Michelle, for this morning's refreshments!***  
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Volunteers for today's Worship

Lay Asst. Dawn McCormick
Comm. Asst. *Jump in during worship!!*
Ushers *Jump in before worship!!*
Tech *Jump in during worship!!*
Tellers *Jump in after worship!!*

Volunteers for next Sunday, January 26th

Lay Asst. Debbie Lennon
Comm. Asst. Colleen Drache
Ushers *Jump in before worship!!*
Tech John Heeren
Tellers *Jump in after worship!!*

******* Join us for refreshments after worship*******

THIS WEEK AT HOLY COUNSELOR

Sunday, January 19: Sunday School, 8:45-9:15am
Worship w/Communion, 9:30am
Choir Practice following worship

Monday, January 20: Office Closed, Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Wednesday, January 22: Adult Ed, Zoom, 10am

Thursday, January 23: Pastor's Community Office Hours, Scout Goods, 1-3pm

Saturday, January 25: Sisters in Prayer, Zoom, 8:30-9:30am

Sunday, January 26: Sunday School, 8:45-9:15am
Worship w/Communion, 9:30am

Annual Congregational Meeting & Potluck Luncheon following worship
Confirmation Class, 6-7:30pm

Pastor's Community Office Hours: Pastor Peggy will be at Scout Goods, Thursday, January 23rd from 1-3pm. All are welcome to drop in for a visit as she connects with the community.

Annual Congregational Meeting: Our annual meeting is next Sunday, January 26th following worship with a makeup weather date of February 2nd. Please plan to attend to celebrate the 2024 year, hear updates about the church, vote on new members for church council, and approve the 2025 spending plan. **A potluck luncheon will follow, please bring a dish to pass.**

Chili Cook-off: Saturday, February 1st from 1-3pm will be our first ever Chili Cook-off! Prepare your best chili to be voted on or come with your appetite and opinions to vote on the best chili! Weather date will be 2/2 after worship.

Souper Bowl Sunday: Buy some delicious soup after worship on Sunday, February 9th to warm up before the big game! Please see the list of food items needed to make the soup. Connect with Kathy Baumann if you'd like to help make the soup on Saturday, February 8th at church!

International Women's Day Lenten Retreat: We are hosting our first ever Woman's Retreat at HCLC on Saturday March 8th from 9 am- 3 pm. All women are invited to come explore a Lenten journey this winter which includes a keynote speaker, worship, music, workshops and meditation. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. There is a recommended donation of \$10 for building use. **Please RSVP to the office (office@hc-lutheranchurch.org) by Sunday, February 9th.** Talk with Kathy Heeren for more information.

Calendar Fundraiser: We only have 12 calendars left! Get yours today! Our very own Frank Urbaniak created a beautiful calendar using his own photography. Pam has included scripture verses to meditate on monthly as well. **Calendars are \$20 and the entire cost will go to the church.** Note "calendar" with your payment.

Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is low on canned chili, canned stew, canned pasta and 4-pack toilet paper. You can always bring donations of canned goods, paper goods, and hygiene products. All donations can be placed in the blue bin by the sanctuary doors. Thank you!

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY LENTEN RETREAT

Saturday, March 8th, 2025

9am-3pm

@ Holy Counselor Lutheran Church
Recommended donation \$10.00 for
building use; scholarships available

Come explore a lenten journey for women



Worship & Music, Keynote Speaker, Workshops, Meditation and more!
Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.

**RSVP TO HCLC VIA EMAIL
BY FEBRUARY 8TH**

68 Sand Hill Road in Vernon
office@hc-lutheranchurch.org





Holy Counselor
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Office (973) 827-5251
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The Reverend Peggy Ludlow: pastorpeggy@hc-lutheranchurch.org
Director of Music: June Tarantino: music@hc-lutheranchurch.org
Office Administrator: Cathy Nemecek: office@hc-lutheranchurch.org
Bookkeeper: Wynn White: accounts@hc-lutheranchurch.org

MISSION STATEMENT

*As Children of God,
we are called to share and serve
Christ's love and bring God's word to all.*

CHURCH COUNCIL

Pastor Rev. Peggy Ludlow
President Nancy Knecht
Vice President Steve Baumann
Treasurer Colleen Drache
Recording Secretary Dawn McCormick
Financial Secretary John Heeren
Outreach Coordinator Francine Vince
Nurture Coordinator Margaret Kranz
Administration Coordinator Diane Rossi
Youth Representative Kevin Drache

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Frank Urbaniak
Pam Kucks
Matt Moller
Aileen Donovan

Holy Counselor is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Munsee people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

