



SAN MARCOS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
3419 Grand Avenue . San Marcos, CA 92078 . (760) 727-1509  
[www.sanmarcoslutheran.org](http://www.sanmarcoslutheran.org)

Pr. Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 16, 2025

*Welcome to worship!*

*Throughout the service, you will be invited to sit, stand, or kneel as you are able and as you feel comfortable. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion, for it is Christ who does the inviting. An usher will let you know when it is your row's turn to come forward. Bread, gluten-free wafers, red wine, and white juice are all available. Please tell the pastor you need a gluten-free wafer when it is your turn.*

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### GATHERING

#### PRELUDE

'I Am the Bright and Morning Star' by Carl Simone

#### WELCOME AND COMMUNITY TIME OF PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS- *The congregation is invited to stand, sit, or kneel, as able.*

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

**Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

*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.**

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.**

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Living God, **in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Shall We Gather at the River



- 1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv - er, soon our pil-grim-age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow-ing by the throne of God?  
 we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.  
 grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.  
 soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899  
 Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

**WORD** -*The congregation may be seated.*

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 17:12-20

Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

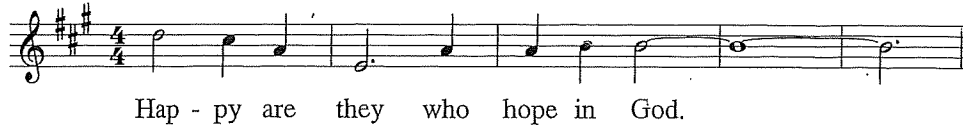
They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious,

and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it?

I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

Refrain



Happy are they who do not seek to walk the way of those who sin,  
But delight in the law of the Lord, Happy, happy are they.

Like a tree planted near water, there it blooms, like our God.  
Whose leaves will not fade, but remain. Happy, happy are they.

The wicked, the lawless, who like the chaff, our God, like wind will drive away.  
God will keep watch for the just. Happy, happy are they.

SECOND READING

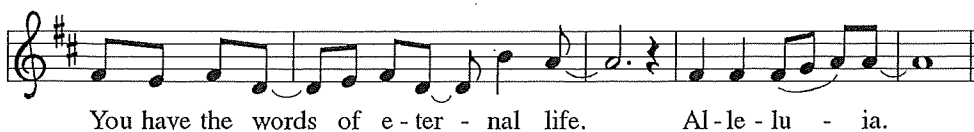
1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile, and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - *The congregation is invited to stand, as able.*



The holy gospel according to Luke, the 6th chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

Luke 6:17-26

He came down with them and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

“Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

“Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

## Light Dawns on a Weary World



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
 2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
 3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
 bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
 lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom-ised day of jus - tice comes.  
 wea - ry world: the prom-ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
 wea - ry world: the prom-ised green of E - den comes.



*Refrain*  
 The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won-der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*The assembly is invited into prayer:*

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

*After each petition, "God of grace, **hear our prayer.**"*

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

## PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

*The congregation greets one another with the words "peace be with you" or "God's peace" and a sign of peace—a wave, a handshake, a peace sign, etc.*

## MEAL

### SPECIAL MUSIC

"Holy Ground" - Christopher Beatty

Choir

### OFFERING PRAYER

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.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING- *The congregation is invited to stand, as able.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

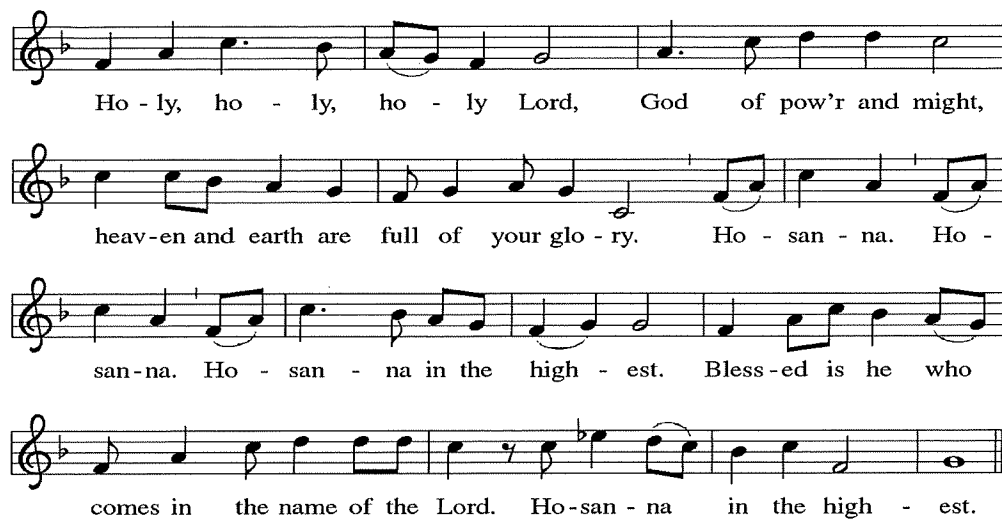
Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*The presiding minister continues:* Eternal God, in the abundance of your love you have caused all things to be; from dust and spirit, you have woven our humanity; in all our wanderings, you never cease to call us to fullness of life. You gave us Jesus, son of Mary, the bread of life, broken for the world; he fed us and feasted with us; he healed us and suffered for us; his dying and rising have set us free from the poverty of sin and the famine of death. Therefore, with all whom you have made, cherished, and called, with all who hunger for your kingdom and will not rest until all your children are fed, with the broken saints and redeemed sinners of all the ages, we take up the song of your praise:



#### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon these gifts,  
 that these fragile, earthly things  
 may be to us the body and blood of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ;  
 who, on the night that he was betrayed,  
 gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.  
 Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said:

“This is my body, which is given for you.

Do this to remember me.”

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying:

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.”

As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste  
 beyond all words can hold.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, in our eating and drinking  
 we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ;  
 we proclaim him as creation's host,  
 transforming poverty into plenty  
 in the reckless generosity of love.

Inspire us with the hope  
 that one day death and greed will be no more  
 and people without number  
 will come from east and west, north and south to share the kingdom meal.  
 We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
 by whom and with whom and in whom  
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit  
 all honor and glory be yours, Mother of blessings, forever and ever. **Amen.**

*Steven Shakespeare, Prayers for an Inclusive Church, Church Publishing (New York, NY: 2009).*

## THE 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.  
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.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

## DISTRIBUTION

## COMMUNION HYMNS

Hymnal #469

### By Your Hand You Feed Your People



- 1 By your hand you feed your peo - ple, food of an - gels, heav-en's bread.
- 2 In this meal we taste your sweet-ness, bread for hun - ger, wine of peace.
- 3 Send us now with faith and cour - age to the hun - gry, lost, be - reaved.



For these gifts we did not la - bor, by your grace have we been fed:  
Ho - ly word and ho - ly wis - dom sat - is - fy our deep - est needs.  
In our liv - ing and our dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:



Christ's own bod - y, blessed and bro - ken, cup o'er - flow - ing, life out - poured,



giv - en as a liv - ing to - ken of your world re - deemed, re - stored.

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

Music: CAMROSE, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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## Be Not Afraid

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Be not a-fraid, sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!

Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community

Music: BE NOT AFRAID, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

**Amen.**

## Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.  
 2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
 3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for-ev - er.  
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."  
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

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### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.

**Thanks be to God.**

*We invite you to remain seated quietly for the postlude. If you exit during the postlude, please refrain from conversation until you are outside of the sanctuary. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in Luther Hall immediately following the service.*

### POSTLUDE

‘Deep River’ by Hugh Livingston, Jr.

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**NOTICE OF RECORDING:** Please be aware that by attending this service, you may be recorded by video and/or audio equipment. By attending this service, you consent to being recorded for live streaming purposes.

### **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Preacher/Presider: Pr. Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

Assisting Minister: Anne Voth

Musicians: Justin Hershey and Max Chodos

Lector: Grace Holtz

Ushers: Tom Andreas and Vicki Petsche

*All are welcome! As a community of the people of God, the members of San Marcos Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people, regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28)*

Are you new to San Marcos Lutheran Church? Pastor Casey would love the opportunity to get to know you, and has put together a short, confidential, online form. Your smartphone's QR reader can take you to it using this code.

If technology isn't your cup of tea (or if it just isn't working for you today) there are cream-colored cards in the pew in front of you, which you can fill out and put in the silver offering plates, hand to an usher, or hand to Pastor Casey after the service. We're glad you're here!

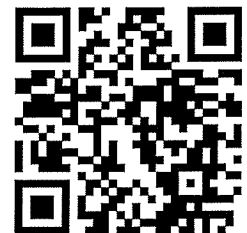


**Let Us Keep These People in Our Prayers:** Susan Agonia, Christine Buma, Jim Cavolt, Sue Check, Steve Choi, Bill Hanson, Jolene Hanson, Pete Johnson, Jim Kent, Linda Kent, Susan Kent, Gary Kloehn, Laura, Deborah McGregor, Melinda Nelson, Leanne Pohrman, Alvar Roy, Vern Soderstrom, Marilynne Smith, Dawn Steele, Nick Torres, Kelly Van Jen. Let us pray for our homebound members: Beverly Gift, Janice Phillips, and Carol Schwartz. We also continue to pray for: Pacifica Synod Bishop David Nagler and ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

Thank you for supporting the ministry of San Marcos Lutheran Church! **Your generosity enables us to do God's work in our community.** Your contributions to our general fund support our budgeted expenses—we cannot do it without your support!

You can contribute in any of the following ways:

- Place a check or cash in the silver offering plates at the back of the sanctuary on Sundays;
- Mail a check to the church office (3419 Grand Ave. San Marcos, CA 92078);
- Set up a recurring donation through your bank;
- Make a one-time or recurring donation with your credit or debit card or bank account through Tithe.ly, our online giving portal. Visit [sanmarcoslutheran.org/give](https://sanmarcoslutheran.org/give) to get started.



Your smartphone's QR reader can take you there by scanning this code. *San Marcos Lutheran Church is a 501(c)(3) organization, and your gift may be tax-deductible.*

### **Audio & Visual Volunteers Needed**

Help enhance our Sunday Worship experience! Our Communications Coordinator, Adriana Alfaro, is seeking volunteers to assist with Audio and Visual equipment. No experience necessary - training provided! Contact us to learn more and sign up! email: [comms@sanmarcoslutheran.org](mailto:comms@sanmarcoslutheran.org)

### **Registration is Open for the Women's Retreat!**

We are heading up to Luther Glen Farm & Retreat Center February 28-March 2 for a Women's Retreat. Our theme this year is *Restore* and we'll be wondering about how God works to restore our spirits, bodies, communities, and the earth. The registration form is available on the SMLC website, can be emailed to you, or you can fill one out on paper; get more info in the narthex on your way out. Today, there will be a table at coffee hour for FAQ with retreat committee members and previous retreat-goers. Contact Pastor Casey with any questions about registration or the cost, as assistance is available.

### **ALL SAINTS FOOD PANTRY**

For February, we would love if you would continue to donate jelly or jam as well as spaghetti sauce. We continue to serve approximately 35 households, approximately 100 family members. Most have housing but are struggling financially. This mutual ministry with All Saints Episcopal is a blessing to many people. Thank you for continuing to be a part of this program.

### **Community Time, Today!**

Please join us to make Sack Lunches during our 11:00 community time. The lunches will be taken to Interfaith for distribution locally. Donations of supplies are always appreciated: Juice boxes, Small individually wrapped snack (e.g.: cookies, raisins, jerky stick, etc) Soft granola bar, Bread, Cuties (easy peeling oranges)

### **Synod Assembly Lay Voting Members**

Have you always wanted to serve as a voting member to Synod Assembly. Synod Assembly is May 16-17 at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Dana Point. (We're entitled to two lay voting members of different genders.) If you are interested in representing SMLC, talk to Pastor Casey! We will elect two voting members at the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 23rd.

Here's the website for details: <https://www.pacificasynod.org/2025-pacifica-synod-assembly/>

### **Annual Congregational Meeting Part 2- Feb 23rd**

We will hold our Annual Congregational Meeting Part 2 on Sunday, Feb. 23rd in Luther Hall immediately after worship (Approx. 11:15 am) to vote on (hopefully) 2 items of business: 1) approve the 2025 SMLC Budget, and 2) to elect a Treasurer. If a Treasurer cannot be identified, we will not elect one. Part 2 is the longer portion of our Annual Meeting where we review 2024 and set plans for 2025. Please plan to attend.

**Pastor Casey's Book Club is back!** For Lent, we're moving away from scarcity with Robin Wall Kimmerer's 2024 book *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World*. We'll discuss the book in two parts, on March 23 and on April 6, both at Community Time after worship. It's a very short book (105 small pages, under 2 hours on audio) so consider sharing a copy with a friend between now and then! Questions? Contact Pastor Casey.