



1074 N Fairfield Rd  
Layton, UT 84041  
801-444-1591  
[www.lotvlayton.org](http://www.lotvlayton.org)



## **Kids' Christmas Worship Service**

December 18, 2022

# LIGHT OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1074 N Fairfield Rd, Layton, UT 84041

[www.facebook.com/lotvlayton](https://www.facebook.com/lotvlayton)

**Worship:** Sundays 10:30 am; Mondays 7:00 pm

**Church Office:** 801-444-1591

**Office Assistant's E-mail:**

[secretary@lotvlayton.org](mailto:secretary@lotvlayton.org)

[www.lotvlayton.org](http://www.lotvlayton.org)

[www.youtube.com/lotvlayton](https://www.youtube.com/lotvlayton)

**Bible Study for All:** Sundays at 9:15 am

**Pastor's Mobile:** 385-319-1026

**Pastor's E-mail:**

[pastorklein@lotvlayton.org](mailto:pastorklein@lotvlayton.org)

## Welcome

We have many traditions here at Light of the Valley, even though we have only existed as a congregation since 1992. One of those traditions is to have the children share the good news of the Savior's birth through recitations, songs, and dramatic performances. This year, they share with us the story of Christ through the origin, symbolism, and purpose of the traditional Christmas tree.

## Guests & Visitors

We are so thankful that you joined us for worship! Please fill out a guest card located underneath the second and fourth chair in front of you and give this card to the pastor or fill out our [online guestbook](#) on our church website. If there is any other way that we can serve you, please let us know. God bless your worship!

## Information

**Restrooms** are located on your right as you exit the back of the sanctuary.

The **Fellowship Hall** is located to the left of the sanctuary.

A **Playroom & Nursery** are available for small children, located to your right as you exit the back of the sanctuary, near the entrance to the Ladies' Restroom.

**Worship Folders & Children's Bulletins** and crayons are available on the table to the right of the center doors of the sanctuary.

**Prayer Requests** can be made by filling out the prayer request book as you enter church or by speaking with the pastor.

## Serving in Worship

**Music:** Grant Fleming

**Ushers:** John Geasler & Nathaniel Geasler

**Worship Leader:** Pastor Jon Klein




*Light of the Valley is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS).*

# Order of Worship

*In our worship, God comes to us in his Word and his Sacraments, and we respond with our praise and thanksgiving to him. All are welcome to participate by singing the congregational hymns.*

## INTRODUCTION

*Narration*

**All:**  **Behold, a Branch is growing  
Of loveliest form and grace,  
As prophets sang, foreknowing;  
It springs from Jesse's race.  
Repeat the hymn again:  
"To God on high be glory  
And peace on earth to men."**

## PART ONE: BEFORE THE TREES

**Recitation:** Hebrews 13:8

<sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

*Narration*

**Reading:** John 1:1-5, 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>14</sup>The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

### **Lower Grades Song: God's Love**


*God's Love is like a circle,  
A circle big and round.  
And when you see the circle  
No ending can be found.  
And so the love of Jesus  
Goes on eternally,  
Forever and forever  
I know that God loves me.*

### *Narration*

**Narrator:** When we see the green needles of a Christmas tree, let it remind us of God's eternal and unchanging nature: how He was, and is, and ever will be.

### **C: Your throne is established from of old: you are from everlasting.**

*(Psalm 93:2)*

**All:**  **A great and mighty wonder, CW 36:1**  
**A glorious mystery:**  
**A virgin bears an infant**  
**Who veils his deity.**  
**Repeat the hymn again:**  
**“To God on high be glory**  
**And peace on earth to men.”**

## PART TWO: TREES OF CREATION

**Recitation:** Genesis 1:1

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

*Narration*

**Reading:** Genesis 1:27a, 29, 31a

<sup>27</sup> ...God created mankind in his own image.

<sup>29</sup> Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food....And it was so.

<sup>31</sup> God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

**Lower Grades Song:** My God is So Great

*My God is so great, so strong and so mighty!  
There's nothing my God cannot do!  
The mountains are his, the rivers are his,  
The stars are his handiwork, too.  
My God is so great, so strong and so mighty!  
There's nothing my God cannot do!*

*Narration*

**Narrator:** As Christians, when we see the seed-bearing cones of a Christmas tree, let it remind us of the care God took in creating all things, so that we would always have what we need.

**C: The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.**  
*(Psalm 145:15)*

**All:** 🎵 **While thus they sing your monarch, CW 36:3**  
**Those bright angelic bands,**  
**Rejoice, O vales and mountains,**  
**And oceans, clap your hands.**  
**Repeat the hymn again:**  
**“To God on high be glory**  
**And peace on earth to men.”**

## **PART THREE: THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE**

**Recitation:** Genesis 3:15

<sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

*Narration*

**Reading:** Romans 5:12, 15, 16b, 18-19

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned.

<sup>15</sup> But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God’s grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!

<sup>16</sup>The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification.

<sup>18</sup>Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. <sup>19</sup>For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

### **Lower Grades Song:** Standing on the Promises


*Standing on the promises of Christ my King,  
Through eternal ages let his praises ring;  
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,  
Standing on the promises of God.  
Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my savior;  
Standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.*

### *Narration*

**Narrator:** When we see the brightly colored ornaments hanging from a Christmas tree, let it remind us of the tree in the Garden of Eden and God's amazing love that promised a rescuer from sin, death, and the devil.

**C: If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.**

*(Psalm 130:3-4)*

**All:**  **Since all he comes to ransom, CW 36:4**  
**By all be he adored,**  
**The infant born in Beth'lem,**  
**The Savior and the Lord**  
**Repeat the hymn again:**

**“To God on high be glory  
And peace on earth to men.”**

## **PART FOUR: TREES OF IDOLATRY**

**Recitation:** Psalm 51:5

<sup>5</sup> Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

*Narration*

**Reading:** Romans 8:20-25

<sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

<sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. <sup>23</sup> Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

**C:     Lord, have mercy on us.  
        Christ, have mercy on us.  
        Lord, have mercy on us.**

*Narration*



**Narrator:** When we see the warped branches, knots, and imperfections of the Christmas tree, let it remind us of how sin warps our hearts and let us, too, yearn for God's compassion.

**C:** **Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.** (*Psalms 51:1*)

**All:** 🎵 **All idols then shall perish** **CW 36:5**  
**And Satan's lying cease,**  
**And Christ shall raise his scepter,**  
**Decreeing endless peace.**  
**Repeat the hymn again:**  
**"To God on high be glory**  
**And peace on earth to men."**

## PART FIVE: ROOT OF JESSE

**Recitation:** Romans 15:4

<sup>4</sup> For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.

*Narration*

**Reading:** Isaiah 11:1-6

<sup>1</sup> A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. <sup>2</sup> The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him— the Spirit of wisdom and of

understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD— <sup>3</sup> and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked. <sup>5</sup> Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.


<sup>6</sup> The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them.

**Handbell Choir:** Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel

*Narration*

**Narrator:** When we see the roots of a Christmas tree, let it remind us of the Root of Jesse, the promised Savior whom the world awaited for so long.

**C:**      **Return to us, God Almighty! Look down from heaven and see! Watch over this vine, the root your right hand has planted, the son you have raised up for yourself. Restore us, Lord God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.**                      *(Psalm 80:14-15, 19)*

**All:**       **Isaiah had foretold it  
In words of promise sure,  
And Mary's arms enfold it,  
A virgin meek and pure.  
Repeat the hymn again:  
"To God on high be glory  
And peace on earth to men."**

## PART SIX: BETHLEHEM & CALVARY

**Recitation:** John 3:16

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

*Narration*

**Reading:** Luke 2:1-20

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup>(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup>And everyone went to their own town to register.

<sup>4</sup>So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. <sup>5</sup>He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup>and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

<sup>8</sup>And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup>An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup>Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

<sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

<sup>16</sup> So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

### **Children's Song:** Away in a Manger


*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.*

*Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care  
And take us to heaven to live with you there.*

### *Narration*

**Narrator:** When we see the star or the angel atop a Christmas tree, let it guide us to the babe in Bethlehem. But let us also remember to look deeper, to the wooden trunk, which reminds us of the cross He carried for us and the sacrifice He paid.

**C: Great are the works of the Lord; He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever – holy and awesome is his name.** *(Psalm 111:19)*

**All:**  **The shepherds heard the story, CW 47:3  
Proclaimed by angels bright,  
How Christ, the Lord of glory,  
Was born on earth this night.  
To Bethlehem they sped  
And in the manger found him,  
As angel heralds said.**

## **PART SEVEN: SHINING GOD’S LIGHT**

**Recitation:** John 8:12

<sup>12</sup>When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

*Narration*

**Reading:** Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

<sup>2</sup> The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> Of the greatness of his government and peace there

will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

### **Lower Grades Song:** This Little Light of Mine

*This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine.  
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.*

*Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm going to let it shine.  
Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm going to let it shine.  
Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm going to let it shine.  
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.*

*All around the neighborhood, I'm going to let it shine.  
All around the neighborhood, I'm going to let it shine.  
All around the neighborhood, I'm going to let it shine.  
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.*

### *Narration*

**Narrator:** When we see the lights on a Christmas tree, let it remind us that Jesus is the light of the world, and that even when things look dark here on earth, He is with us to guide us, comfort us, and protect us with his love.

**C:      The Lord is my light and my salvation – whom shall I fear? The Lord is  
the stronghold of my life – of whom shall I be afraid?      (Psalm 27:1)**

**All: 🎵      This flow'r, so small and tender  
With fragrance fills the air;**

**CW 47:4**

**His brightness ends the darkness  
That kept the earth in fear.  
True God and yet true man,  
He came to save his people  
From earth's dark night of sin.**

## **PART EIGHT: TREE OF LIFE**

**Recitation:** Matthew 28:19-20

<sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

*Narration*

**Reading:** Revelation 22:1-5

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup> down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup> No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. <sup>4</sup> They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

**Lower Grades Recitation:** The Lord's Prayer

## *Narration*

**Narrator:** When we see the three-sided shape of a Christmas tree, let it remind us of the Trinity – the Father who created us, Son who was born and lived and died to redeem us, and Holy Spirit who brings us into his family and makes us heirs of eternal life. And when we look up to where it points to heaven, let it remind us of our true home – at peace and at rest with our loving and merciful God.

**C:      Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does. Amen!**      *(Psalm 145:13)*



*The offering is an opportunity for us to return thanks to God for all that he has done for us. You can also set up electronic giving with Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement, which you can find on our website ([www.lotvlayton.org](http://www.lotvlayton.org)) under the "Worship" tab or download it from any app store and start using it today. Another way is to "Give By Text" by texting to 833-946-1361 the amount you wish to donate, using the \$ before the amount; then follow the instructions in the reply text. If you encounter any problems, contact our Financial Secretary, Brian Koopman (801-510-1467; [finsec@lotvlayton.org](mailto:finsec@lotvlayton.org)).*

*After the thank offerings are placed on the altar, the pastor will offer a prayer of thanksgiving, concluding with a blessing.*

**Pastor:** Let us rejoice and give thanks at Christmastime and always for God's unfailing love! May he bless us and keep us. May he make his face shine on us and be gracious to us. May he look on us with favor and give us peace.

**C:      Amen.**



**All: 🎵 O Savior, Child of Mary,  
Who felt our human woes,  
O Savior, King of glory,  
Who conquered all our foes,  
Bring us at last, we pray,  
To the bright courts of heaven  
And to the endless day.**

**CW 47:5**

*Take a moment to reflect on today's message, one of the Bible readings, or on a hymn during the service. Following the announcements, greet the people that you have worshiped with, and then feel free to leave the chapel when you wish. Have a blessed week!*

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## **Christmas “Thank You” Donations**

The Church Council is asking if LOTV members would like to contribute toward a monetary gift to thank our Pastor and specific LOTV volunteer positions. If so, please place donations along with a note stating the purpose of the contribution in a plain sealed envelope by Dec. 18. Gifts can be placed in the collection plate or given to any of the Council members. Your generosity is very much appreciated. If you have questions, contact Joel Schwarz, Council President ([president@lotvlayton.org](mailto:president@lotvlayton.org); 801-540-8351).

## **Angel Tree**

If you grabbed an angel, please place the gifts unwrapped and with the angel under the tree today, Sunday, December 18. If you have any questions, contact Harry Short ([elder@lotvlayton.org](mailto:elder@lotvlayton.org)). Thank you!

## **Christmas Caroling and Potluck**

All are invited to join the choir at 1:30 pm today, December 18, as we go door-to-door caroling in select neighborhoods. There will also be a pre-caroling potluck lunch at in the fellowship hall starting at 12:00 pm. A potluck sign-up is available on the bulletin board between the restrooms.

## **Christmas Eve Gift Assembly**

Every Christmas Eve, we assemble a take home gift for those who come to worship with us. We will assemble the gifts (a mug with hot cocoa packets and candy canes) in the kitchen today, December 18, at noon. Stick around and help as you are able!

## **Congregational Assistant Program Class: Intro to World Religions**

The Congregational Assistant Program (CAP) does what the name says: trains people to assist the ministry of our congregation in various areas of service such as evangelism, youth and family ministry, visitation, or mentoring roles. The next series of classes covers the teachings of major world religions and begins Wednesday, January 4 at 6:00 pm. The class is open to everyone. If interested, put your name on the sign-up sheet so that materials can be provided. Learn more at [mlc-wels.edu/cap](http://mlc-wels.edu/cap). Please note there will be homework assigned for this class.

## **No Monday Night Worship December 19 & 26**

Our Monday night worship will take a break on December 19 and 26. Regular Monday night worship will resume January 2, 2023.

## **No Sunday Bible Studies for All Ages December 25 & January 1**

Our Sunday Bible studies take a break on December 25 and January 1 for the Christmas and New Year's weekends. All Sunday Bible studies resume January 8, 2023.

## **Adult Volleyball Team**

Looking for a way to stay active this winter? If you are at least 16 years old, you can join Light of the Valley's adult co-ed indoor volleyball team! Games are on Monday nights, starting January 9. If you would like to play, contact Wendy Klein by December 15, texting her at 616-706-5694.

## Volunteer Opportunity: Window Washing

Our exterior windows are in need of washing. If anyone is interested in beautifying our building in this way, please see Pastor Klein.

## Christmas Postcard Outreach

Did you know that more than 50% of people who don't attend church say that they would attend a Christmas service if they were invited? There's an opportunity to be the Light of the Valley! Postcards are available on the welcome table in the front entry for you to use to invite people to our Christmas Eve candlelight worship. Make a change for the better for someone this Christmas by hand delivering this postcard invitation or sending it through the mail with one regular stamp.



## This Week at LOTV

Sunday, December 18	9:15 am	Bible Study for All Ages
	9:45 am	Parent & Toddler Bible Time
	10:30 am	Children's Christmas Program
	12:00 pm	Caroling Potluck
	12:00 pm	Christmas Gift Assembly
	1:30 pm	Christmas Caroling
Tuesday, December 20	6:00 pm	Bible Information Class
	7:00 pm	Lutheran Recovery Group (Online)
Wednesday, December 21	6:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, December 22	5:00 pm	College-Age Bible Study
	7:00 pm	AA Meeting
Saturday, December 24	3:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
	7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
Sunday, December 25	10:30 am	Worship w/ Holy Communion



## EVERYONE OUTREACH

BUILDING A CONGREGATIONAL OUTREACH CULTURE

Join us for an engaging program designed to help your congregation examine its thought habits and develop new thinking and behaviors that build a culture of outreach!

FRI JAN 27,  
6-9PM &  
SAT JAN 28,  
9AM-3PM

Childcare provided!  
Saturday lunch  
provided!



**EXERCISES:** Memorable activities designed to help participants discover and consider their thought habits.



**DISCUSSIONS:** Thought-provoking discussions and questions to help participants think differently about resources, roles and mindsets.



**GROUNDING IN GOD'S WORD:** Each culture concept explored in the workshop is supported by the transforming power of scripture.



**READY TO GO:** Participants will leave the workshop with sustainable ways that they can personally help build the congregation's outreach culture.



**ENGAGEMENT & SUPPORT:** A system designed to provide ongoing engagement and implementation of the program beyond the workshop.

### QUESTIONS? CONTACT

*Melinda Geasler*  
801-690-4929

### LEARN MORE AT

*LOTVlayton.org*

