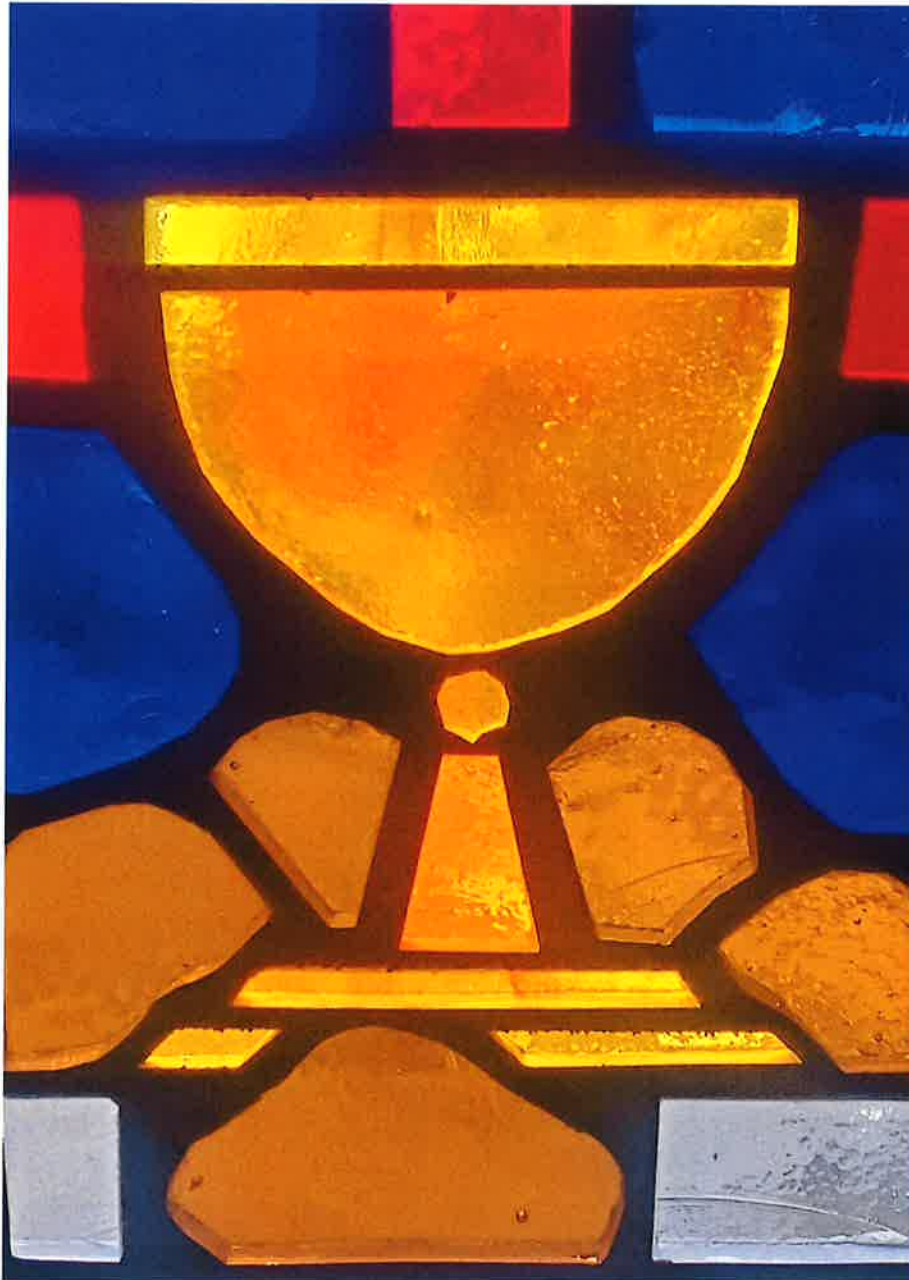


MAGNOLIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 3, 2023



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Advent 2

December 3, 2023

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Comfort, Comfort, Now My People

John Leavitt

GATHERING HYMN

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

#249 ELW



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

GREETING

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

KYRIE

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord,

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord,

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH



2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah,

"Here is your God!"

¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Holy Words. Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

refrain



¹You have been gracious to your ¹land, O LORD;
you have restored the good for- ¹tune of Jacob.

²**You have forgiven the iniquity ¹of your people
and blotted out ¹all their sins.**

⁸I will listen to what the LORD ¹God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their ¹hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to ¹those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell ¹in our land. R**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have ¹met together;
righteousness and peace have ¹kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up ¹from the earth,
and righteousness shall look ¹down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed ¹grant prosperity,
and our land will ¹yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go be- ¹fore the LORD
and shall prepare for ¹God a pathway. R**

SECOND READING: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Holy Words. Holy Wisdom. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

Before the reading: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.’”

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

After the reading: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

SERMON

HYMN

All Earth is Hopeful

#266 ELW



1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
"A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offering Music

Come, My Light

Anne Krentz Organ

Offertory Hymn

Let the Vineyards be Fruitful

#182 ELW



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

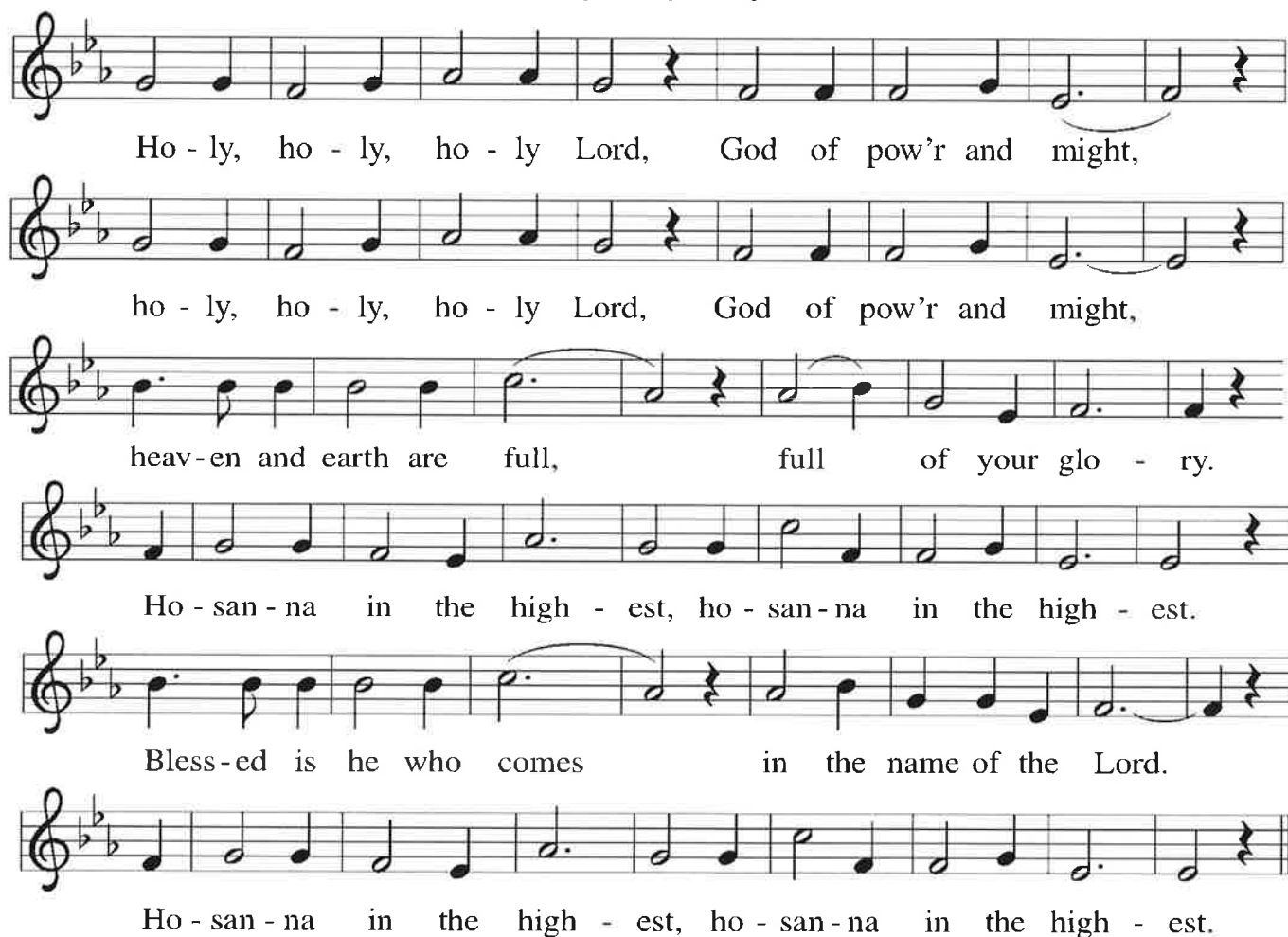
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Preface: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW #190



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

Words of Institution (In the night he was betrayed...)

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.**

**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.**

The Distribution, Singing during Communion: Lamb of God

#199 ELW

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

Comfort, Comfort, Now My People

#256 ELW

1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.

Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign.

To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,

Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.
 Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

SENT OUT FOR MISSION

SENDING BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

#264 ELW



- 1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
- 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
- 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
- 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace! Serve your neighbor!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Comfort, Comfort, Now My People

Jonathan Reuss

Servants Schedule for Upcoming Dates

Assisting Minister

Dec 10 — Kimberly Milham

Dec 17 — Valinda Morse

Lector

Dec 10 — Jeanne Moussette

Dec 17 — Valinda Morse

Altar Preparation

Dec 10 — Serena Severance & Tom McIntosh

Dec 17 — Ronnie Beckerleg & Kay Kurtzweg

Counters

Dec 10 — Noah Wittner

Dec 17 — John Valiton

Coffee Hour Hosts

Dec 10 — Ronnie Beckerleg

Dec 17 — Jeanne & David Moussette and
Kay & Cliff Kurtzweg

Ushers

Dec 10 — Rob Rowan and Noah Wittner

Dec 17 — Rob Rowan and Noah Wittner

This Week at MLC

Sunday, December 3

8:15am Worship Service

10am Worship Service

Tuesday, December 5

9am Bible Study

7pm Magnolia Big Band

Wednesday, December 6

5:15pm Bell Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 7

7-9pm AA, Fireside Room

Friday, December 8

8pm AA Speakers Meeting,

Saturday, December 9

9am Fall Clean Up—Please
Come help!

7:30 Magnolia Chorale Concert

Sunday, December 10, Santa Lucia

8:15am Worship Service

10am Worship Service

2pm Magnolia Chorale Concert



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH
9AM TO 1PM**

Magnolia Lutheran Church will hold their annual Fall Clean Up party! The leaves should hopefully have all fallen by then!

MLC strives to make the outside of the church look as welcoming as the inside! So **please come help!** Even if you can only stay for an hour! Many hands make light work!

Rumor has it there may be doughnuts and coffee involved!

COME JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

Bible Study and Discussion happens on Tuesday at 9am. We meet by zoom. The link is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82169366579> This class is for all people—those who are new to faith, and those with theology degrees. We ask questions, contemplate the ancient texts and apply it to our daily life. This class is for everyone, members of Magnolia Lutheran and friends of our faith community. **As always, all are welcome.**



WREATHS AND GARLANDS ARE HERE!



If you placed an order for a wreath(s), or garland(s) you may pick them up in the breezeway any time!

CHRISTMAS EVE 2023 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year. There will only be one service on the morning of December 24th. That service will be a service of the word.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES CAROLS, CANDLES AND COMMUNION

5PM AND 7PM

AS ALWAYS, ALL ARE WELCOME!!



GINGERBREAD HOUSES AT MLC!!

HOW FUN!!

What is more fun than making a gingerbread house with your kids, or just to have as a decoration for the holidays!? Come make one at Magnolia Lutheran Church!! You don't need to have kids!

Georgia Backman will be heading up this fun event and is looking for volunteers! Please see the insert included



Please Remember In Prayer

Donna Hegstrom
 Dave Larson
 Family of Don Goertzen
 Family of Bob McIntosh
 Family of Pauline McIntosh
 Gail Hendrickson
 Kelly and Linda Kellenberger
 Heidi Carpine
 Rick Dagg (friend of the Nagys)
 Family of Susan Engquist (sister of Jennifer Kroeger, aunt to Katherine and Kasey Kroeger).
 Sandy Bennis
 Russ Long
 Family of Carolyn Simonson (Ann Simonson's mother-in-law)
 Vern Lindquist
 Frank Edmondson
 Karla Lefferson
 Lon Pilichowski (cousin of the Searles)
 Beth Harwood
 Kathleen Rowan
 Roger Taber
 Andrew Tucker

If we have inadvertently removed someone whom you wish to remain on the list or if you wish to add someone new, please contact the church office..

Last Week's Attendance

8:15am — 18

10am — 44



RETIREMENT BLESSINGS!!!

MLC's music director, Ann Simonson has announced her retirement! We celebrate with Ann as she makes this transition.

Ann has worked at Magnolia Lutheran Church for over 27 years. She has worked with Pastor Langholz, Pastor Reiff and Pastor Bates, as well as interim pastors. Her calm demeanor has been a delight. Her gifts on the organ and piano are phenomenal.

Ann will continue with her musical calling by working with piano students in her home studio.

Plans are underway to honor and celebrate Ann and the 27 years of work she has given to Magnolia Lutheran Church.



DECEMBER 2023 SCHEDULE



- Saturday, December 9 9am to whenever Fall Cleanup Party
Come join us as we spruce up the place for Christmas visitors.
Come when you can. Leave when you must.
- Saturday, December 9 7:30pm Magnolia Chorale at Magnolia Lutheran Church
- Sunday, December 10 10am Santa Lucia Festival with Scandinavian Coffee Hour
- Sunday, December 10 2pm Magnolia Chorale at Magnolia Lutheran Church
- Saturday, December 16 Time TBD Dress Rehearsal for Christmas Play
- Sunday, December 17 Christmas Play
- Sunday, December 17 11:30am Gingerbread House Party
- Sunday, December 24 10am Last Sunday in Advent—Morning Worship
- Sunday, December 24 5pm & 7pm Christmas Eve Worship
Carols, Communion and Candlelight

MAGNOLIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Share your God-given gifts by giving generously

Options for sharing God's gifts:

- Sunday offering
- Estate planning, stock/bond gifts
- Online banking through your financial institution

Payee – Magnolia Lutheran Church
2414 31st Ave W, Seattle, WA 98199
Telephone – 206-284-0155

- Computer or smartphone
online giving:

⇒ Credit, Debit, Checking account

⇒ One-time or recurring gifts

Set up online giving on our website
www.MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com/give

MLC Has WiFi!

For those of you who may not know, MLC has wifi available for all who wish to use it! Select "MLC Guest" on your device, the password is:

TumbleRibs398

Financial Update

As of October 31, 2023

*Income — \$ 287,098

Expenses—\$ 306,431

*Includes some prepaid pledges

Congregation Council 2022-2023

Council Officers:

President -- Lyle Morse
Vice President -- Megan Hamshar
Secretary -- Robert Bergeron
Treasurer -- Dwight Dively
Financial Secretary -- Alice Pease

Council members:

The year listed is when the member's term ends, in June.

Audit Committee

Victoria Watson (2024)

Columbarium Committee

Robert Bergeron (2025)

Fellowship Committee

Kimberly Milham (2023)

Finance Committee

Shane Ruegamer (2024)

Nominating Committee

TBD

Outreach Committee

TBD

Personnel Committee

Kay Thoreson (2024)

Property Committee

Johnny Searle (2025)

Social Action Committee

Shane Ruegamer (2024)

Lyle Morse (2025)

Stewardship Committee

All Council

Women of the ELCA

TBD

Worship & Music Committee

Kay Thoreson (2024)

Faith Formation

TBD

MAGNOLIA LUTHERAN CHURCH

2414 31ST AVENUE WEST
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98199
206-284-0155
ParishAdmin@MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com
www.MagnoliaLutheranChurch.com

OUR CORE VALUES

- All are welcome here.
- Everybody does something.
- There is no minimum, or maximum, age for ministry.
- This is a safe place for all God's children.
- We are good stewards of God's creation.

Altar greens today are given to the
Glory of God in honor of Advent

SERVANTS TODAY

Asisting Minister — Serena Severance
Lector — Serena Severance
Ushers — Thor & Amy Sigmar
Cantor — David Moussette
Altar Guild — Amy Sigmar
Counter — TBD
Audio— Johnny Searle
Live Stream—Aaron Stevens
Coffee Hour Host(s) — Valinda & Lyle Morse and
Susan & Paul Swenson

Pastor — Kevin Bates
Director of Music Ministry — Ann Simonson
Parish Administrator — Nancy Searle
Caretaker — Mara Meloy

Affirmation of Welcome

Magnolia Lutheran Church is a place where everyone can find a welcoming, caring, friendly home. Here is a sanctuary filled with the love and grace of our Lord and modeled by our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We believe God's love is for everyone and so commit to provide inclusive acceptance, spiritual nourishment, inspiring kindness and a gracious and loving faith community.

We believe all of God's creations are holy and welcome to receive the sacraments, and to share in fellowship and service here. All people of every ability, race, family or marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic condition and background belong here, **Reconciling In Christ**, as children of God.

All are beautiful as they are.
All are part of God's masterpiece.
All are loved as they are.
All are welcome here.

