



*The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent*

*December 16, 2018*



**PASTOR:** The Rev. Eric Hullstrom

**Sunday Morning Worship Service at 9 am at the Meridian Habitat & Community Center**  
(Children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Study available during the school year)

14422 Meridian East Puyallup, WA 98374

LWLC Office: 11707 101<sup>st</sup> Ave E, Bldg B 253-445-4292 Hours: 9:00am-3:00pm, M-F

Mailing address: PO Box 732005 Puyallup, WA 98373

[www.LivingWordLutheranChurch.com](http://www.LivingWordLutheranChurch.com)

**Mission Statement:** "We, God's people of Living Word Lutheran Church, grounded in Holy Scripture, are called to follow and share the inspired Word of God in Christ, to live as faithful and obedient servants, reaching out to all people with the love of Jesus Christ."

**Motto:** "Grace Alone, Faith Alone, Word Alone."

*Affiliated with LCMC (Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS/December 16-22, 2018

This week's activities:

<b>Sunday</b>	9:00 am 10:15 am 6:00 pm	<b>Worship Service</b> <b>Coffee Hour</b> <b>Acts 2 Church</b> meet at the home of Pastor Eric and Connie.
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00 am 6:30 pm	<b>Julian Estates Worship Leader</b> meeting at the LWLC Office <b>LWLC Board</b> at the LWLC Office
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:00 am 6:45 pm	<b>LWLC Prayer for Guidance</b> at the LWLC Office <b>Adult Bible Study</b> at the LWLC Office
<b>Thursday</b>	10:30 am 7:30 pm	<b>Midweek Bible Study</b> at the LWLC Office <b>Choir Practice</b> at the LWLC Office

**The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God by Ron & Gaye Anderson  
in celebration of their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.**

### Today's Worship Assistants

**Set up/Tear Down (Team 1)**- Bill Zavadil, Andy Anderson, Skip Whelan, Dennis Krumwiede, Rick Fields, Alex Burdick, Gary Heintz;  
**Ushers**- Jim & Sue Gronhovd; **Acolyte**- Kailan Burdick; **Lector**- Barbara Griswold; **Communion Set-up/takedown**- Lorraine Stargel, Nancy Martin; **Communion Assistants**- Gary & Barbara Gjerstad, Sharon Johnson; **Comm. Bread**-Gayla Fenimore; **Sound System**- Ron Johnson; **Tellers** – Sharon Johnson, Judy Krumwiede; **Coffee Hour**-Barbara Gjerstad, Clarice Liemohn; **Altar Setup/Take Down**- Yvonne Olson, Valerie Claiborne; **Parking Lot Duty**-Al Auge; **Julian Estates Worship Leaders**-Mike & Debbie Stankovich


**To the members and friends of Living Word  
Lutheran Church  
You are cordially invited to an 'Open House'  
at the home of Pastor Eric & Connie  
Dec 23 from 3:00 to 6:00 pm**



**We look forward to hosting you for an afternoon  
of hors d'oeuvres, treats and fellowship.**

### (Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>) Worship Assistants

**Set up/Tear Down (Team 2)** \*No tear down, leave for Christmas Eve service- Al Auge, Ron Heilman, Gary Gjerstad, Joe Burdick, Jim Gronhovd, Daryl Olson, Ron Johnson, Larry Vollmer; **Ushers**- Carole Williams-Wood, Zale Wood; **Acolyte**-Olivia Vashchenko; **Lector**-Dick Schmidt; **Communion Set-up/takedown**- Sharlene Parker, Valerie Claiborne; **Communion Assistants**- Sharlene Parker, Bob & Nancy Martin; **Comm. Bread**-Gayla Fenimore; **Sound System**-Andy Anderson; **Tellers** –Linda Kupka, Al Auge; **Coffee Hour**-Sharlene Parker, Judy Williams; **Altar Setup/Take Down**- Kitty Jepsen, Mary Vollmer; **Parking Lot**- Tom Groce; **Julian Estates Worship Leaders**- Dave & Judy Ostendorf; **Flowers**-Irene Feller

### Christmas Eve Worship Assistants-doors open at 4 pm for setup

**Set up/take down-Volunteers please!!!** **Ushers** -Lorraine Stargel, Don Brennan; **Acolyte**-Viviana Vashchenko; **Lector**-Ardene Bartness; **Communion Set-up/takedown (Intinction)**- Nancy Martin; **Communion Assistants**- Al Auge, Nancy Martin, Chat Poomnikom; **Comm. Bread**-Lonna Groce; **Sound System**- Bill Zavadil; **Tellers**-Bob Martin, Al Auge; **Altar Setup/Take Down**- Kitty Jepsen; **TBD**; **Parking Lot**-Ron Johnson

### December 30th Worship Assistants

**Set up/Tear Down (Team 1)**- Bill Zavadil, Andy Anderson, Skip Whelan, Dennis Krumwiede, Rick Fields, Alex Burdick, Gary Heintz;  
**Ushers**- Sharlene Parker & Ron Johnson; **Acolyte**-Hannah Vashchenko; **Lector**-Lori Schmidt;  
**Communion Set-up/takedown**- Lorraine Stargel, Barbara Gjerstad; **Communion Assistants**- Lorraine Stargel, Sharon Johnson, Carol Williams-Wood; **Comm. Bread**-Gayla Fenimore; **Sound System**-Joe Burdick; **Tellers** –Morgan Olson, Judy Krumwiede;  
**Coffee Hour**- Gaye Anderson, Sharon Johnson; **Altar Setup/Take Down**- Jan Halverson, Kitty Jepsen;  
**Parking Lot**-Dennis Krumwiede; **Julian Estates Worship Leaders**-Tony & Linda Deas

*Please silence all electronic devices, including cell phones, upon entering the sanctuary.*

Living Word Lutheran Church  
Order for Worship

When you hear the bell, please be seated for the announcements.

Announcements

Please sign the attendance register and pass it down the row.

*Our worship begins with the prelude as we enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!  
Let us give thanks to him and bless his holy name!*

Prelude

“O Come All Ye Faithful” (Viviana Vashchenko)

“Silent Night” (Aydiyan Vashchenko)

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” (Dillana Vashchenko)

Opening Hymn

“Word of the Lord”

1. Hear it thun - der thro' all times- The Word of the  
2. Thro' the fire and thro' the flood- The Word of the  
3. Thro' our strug - gles, thro' our fears- The Word of the

Lord. All a - round its won - ders shine- The Word of the  
Lord. Proph - ets die to lift it up- The Word of the  
Lord. Dai - ly we will bow to hear The Word of the

Lord. Be - fore the earth and all that is, Be -  
Lord. Thro' war and death and dark - est days, Thro'  
Lord. Soon all we see and touch and know Will

fore the worlds a - bove, Our Fa - ther spoke in might - y love  
li - ars, thieves, and kings, The faith - ful know the hope it brings-  
fade and fall a - way. But praise to God! The truth re - mains-

The Word of the Lord.  
The Word of the Lord.  
The Word of the Lord. All Lord.

*We Worship with Confession.*

Pastor: Remembering our baptism into Christ Jesus, we gather as we are to live – in the name of the Father, and of the (†) Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Congregation: Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for personal reflection and self-examination.*

P (facing altar which symbolizes God's presence): *Most Merciful God...*,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess to You that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted You with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and in truth. In Your compassion forgive our sin and uphold us by Your Spirit that we may live and serve You in newness of life through Jesus Christ our light and our truth. Amen.**

P: (*facing the congregation declares God's grace*): With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love, forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

We are sent to make disciples of all nations (Matt. 28:19). We begin by sharing the peace of the LORD with one another.

***We Worship with the Setting from "Now the Feast and Celebration"***

*Now the Feast and Celebration, by Marty Haugen. © 1990 by GIA Publications, Inc. ARR. Reprinted under onelicense.net # A-717731*

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***

Cantor: In peace, in peace, Let us pray to the...

**C: LORD, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, LORD have mercy.**

Cantor: For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all let us pray to the . . .

**C: LORD, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, LORD have mercy.**

Cantor: For Your people here, who have come to give You praise, for the strength to live Your Word, let us pray to the . . .

**C: LORD, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, LORD have mercy.**

Cantors: Help, save and defend us, O God.

**C: Amen.**

***Now the Feast***

*Refrain:*

***Now the feast and celebration,  
all of creation sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and freedom:  
praise and glory forevermore!***

**2. *Power and riches, wisdom and might,  
all honor and glory to Christ, forever. (Refrain)***

**1. *Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,  
whose blood has freed and united us  
to be one great people of God. (Refrain)***

**3. *For God has come to dwell with us,  
to make us people of God;  
to make all things new. (Refrain)***

P: *The LORD be with you.*

**C: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** (we pray together): **O God; Father, Creator and Redeemer, you promise restoration and wholeness through Jesus Christ. Give us faith to live joyfully, sustained by your promises as we eagerly await the day when they will be fulfilled for all the world to see, through the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***We Worship by Reading God's Word***

**A Liturgy of Light**

P: This season of Advent preparation is half done, and today we light the third candle of our wreath. In the darkness, this light reminds us that there is much about which we can feel joy, and in which we can rejoice.

All: **In the midst of all the parties and gatherings of the Christmas season, what we most want, and all too often cannot find, is the spirit of joy. We are people needing to be shown the true source of joy. And so, even as the nights continue to lengthen, we sense the coming of light that will brighten our days, so we listen for the Word in the words of the prophet.**

***"Ancient Words"***

**This reading is from the Book of Zephaniah, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.** (ESV)

<sup>14</sup> Sing, Daughter Zion;  
shout aloud, Israel!  
Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,  
Daughter Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup> The LORD has taken away your punishment,  
he has turned back your enemy.  
The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you;  
never again will you fear any harm.

<sup>16</sup> On that day  
they will say to Jerusalem,  
"Do not fear, Zion;  
do not let your hands hang limp.

<sup>17</sup> The LORD your God is with you,  
the Mighty Warrior who saves.  
He will take great delight in you;  
in his love he will no longer rebuke you,  
but will rejoice over you with singing."

<sup>18</sup> "I will remove from you  
all who mourn over the loss of your appointed festivals,  
which is a burden and reproach for you.

<sup>19</sup> At that time I will deal  
with all who oppressed you.  
I will rescue the lame;  
I will gather the exiles.  
I will give them praise and honor  
in every land where they have suffered shame.

<sup>20</sup> At that time I will gather you;  
at that time I will bring you home.  
I will give you honor and praise  
among all the peoples of the earth  
when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes,"  
says the LORD.

(Here ends this reading.)

**This reading is from the Book of Psalms, Psalm 85** (ESV)

(to be read responsively)

Reader: <sup>1</sup> You, LORD, showed favor to your land;

**Congregation: you restored the fortunes of Jacob.**

R: <sup>2</sup> You forgave the iniquity of your people  
**C: and covered all their sins.**

R: <sup>3</sup> You set aside all your wrath  
**C: and turned from your fierce anger.**

R: <sup>4</sup> Restore us again, God our Savior,  
**C: and put away your displeasure toward us.**

R: <sup>5</sup> Will you be angry with us forever?  
**C: Will you prolong your anger through all generations?**

R: <sup>6</sup> Will you not revive us again,  
**C: that your people may rejoice in you?**

R: <sup>7</sup> Show us your unfailing love, LORD,  
**C: and grant us your salvation.**

R: <sup>8</sup> I will listen to what God the LORD says; he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants—  
**C: but let them not turn to folly.**

R: <sup>9</sup> Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,  
**C: that his glory may dwell in our land.**

R: <sup>10</sup> Love and faithfulness meet together;  
**C: righteousness and peace kiss each other.**

R: <sup>11</sup> Faithfulness springs forth from the earth,  
**C: and righteousness looks down from heaven.**

R: <sup>12</sup> The LORD will indeed give what is good,  
**C: and our land will yield its harvest.**

R: <sup>13</sup> Righteousness goes before him  
**C: and prepares the way for his steps.**



**Joy, joy, joy, we praise You, Christ, with joy!  
 Our peace, our love and treasure,  
 Highest calling, deepest pleasure!  
 Joy, joy, joy, we praise You, Christ, with joy!**

All: O LORD our God, Your Word to us in scripture reminds us that the kingdom of God is righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. Let us pursue the things that make for peace and for building each other up (*Romans 14:17, 19*). Through the hearing of Your Word, and the turning of our hearts and minds toward You, we pray that You would fill us with the joy of hope in You. By Your Holy Spirit help us to live with the hope given through Your Son Jesus Christ. And stir up in us the desire and ability to share the spirit of joy with others through our words and deeds. Amen.

P: We, who are full with anticipation, feel joy rise up within us. And so we light this third candle and name it "**Joy**".  
 (The Hymn follows, please stand)

**These Candles Shine with Glorious Light**

*Tune: "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry." (LBW #36) Text: © 2006 Thomas F. Fischer and CreativeMusic.com.  
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**These candles shine with glorious light,  
 Give peace and hope to those in night,  
 The Joy they bring gives hope today,  
 And peace through Christ, in all our ways.**

**Give love, O LORD, to us this day,  
 Make in our hearts a ready way.  
 That Christ, our Hope, our King, may show  
 His love and grace from heav'n above.**

**The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter C: Glory to You, O LORD**

<sup>18</sup> John's disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them, <sup>19</sup> he sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

<sup>20</sup> When the men came to Jesus, they said, "John the Baptist sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?'"

<sup>21</sup> At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind. <sup>22</sup> So he replied to the

messengers, "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. <sup>23</sup> Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me."

(The Gospel of the LORD.)

**C: Praise to You, O Christ**

<b>We Worship by Confessing Our Faith in the Words of the Nicene' Creed</b>
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**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; by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made 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. With the Father and the Son, He is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one Holy Christian 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

<b>Children's Christmas Program</b>
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<b>We Worship in Thanksgiving by Offering Our Gifts</b>
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**Offertory**      **"Away in A Manger" (Aydian Vashchenko)**  
**"We Three Kings" (Viviana Vashchenko)**  
**"The First Noel, introduced with Giant Vines Growing" (Dillana Vashchenko)**

*The offering is received.*

The congregation stands as the ushers bring the offering forward.

**As the Grains of Wheat**

Refrain:

**As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill were gathered into one to become our bread; so may all Your people from all the ends of earth be gathered into one in You.**

1. **As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst, may we share the presence of Your love. (Refrain)**
2. **Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come when all creation shares this feast with You. (Refrain)**

*We pray together the offering prayer:* P: Merciful God, **C:** everything in heaven and earth belongs to You. We joyfully release what You have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to You, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Prayers of the Church** (Each petition ends with "LORD, in Your mercy"; the congregation responds, "Hear our prayer".)

***We Worship by Receiving Our LORD in His Holy Meal***

***The Great Thanksgiving*** (Spoken):

P: *The LORD be with you.*

P: *Lift up your hearts.*

P: *Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.*

**C:** *And also with you.*

**C:** *We lift them to the LORD.*

**C:** *It is right to give Him thanks and praise.*

P: It is our duty and delight... (Here the minister continues with the preface:)

***Holy, holy, holy are You, God of power and might;  
Heaven and earth are filled with Your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is the One who comes in Your name.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!***

***The Words of Institution & The 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.**

**(Please be seated)**

**Holy Communion:** Lutherans believe the LORD's Supper is a holy sacrament in which Christ comes to us with His grace, love, compassion, and forgiveness. The crucified and risen Christ is present in, with, and under the bread and wine – He promises: "This is my body... This is my blood". Therefore, the Apostle Paul says we should examine ourselves lest we eat or drink in an unworthy manner (1 Cor. 11:27ff.). Martin Luther wrote, "Anyone who does not believe these words ('this is My body given for you... this is My blood shed for you.'). is neither prepared nor worthy; for the words, 'FOR YOU' requires simply a believing heart." Therefore, all (including children who have received instruction) who believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and LORD and who see His presence in the sacrament are welcome to commune with us.

As you come forward for communion, you are invited to dip your fingers in the water of the baptismal font and then make the sign of the cross on your forehead as a reminder of Christ's claim upon you through your baptism.

(For those with gluten allergies, we now have gluten-free wafers available for Communion on the Baptismal Font.)

***Lamb of God***

1. ***Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.***
2. ***Lamb of God, You break the chains of hatred and fear: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.***
3. ***Lamb of God, You are the way of justice and peace: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.***
4. ***Lamb of God, You are the way of mercy and love: have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.***
5. ***Lamb of God You take away the sin of the world: grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.***

Communion Hymns:**"Song of Confession"**

Fa - ther, Fa - ther, Ho - ly and lov - ing, For - give, for - give.

Fa - ther, Fa - ther, I am un - wor - thy, For - give, for - give. *3rd time only*

know my thoughts, My anx - ious - ness and pride. You  
ate in me A heart that's clean and new. Re -

hear store my words, So care - less and un - kind.  
my love, And let me walk with You.

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**"I Surrender All"**

1. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der; All to Him I free - ly give;  
2. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der; Hum - bly at His feet I bow,  
3. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der; Make me, Sav - ior, whol - ly Thine;  
4. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der; Lord, I give my - self to Thee;  
5. All to Je - sus I sur - ren - der; Now I feel the sac - red flame.

I will ev - er love and trust Him, In His pres - ence dai - ly live.  
World - ly pleas - ures all for - sak - en; Take me, Je - sus, take me now.  
Let me feel the Ho - ly Spir - it, Tru - ly know that Thou art mine.  
Fill me with Thy love and pow - er; Let Thy bless - ing fall on me.  
Oh, the joy of full sal - va - tion! Glo - ry, glo - ry, to His Name!

*Refrain*

I sur - ren - der all, I sur - ren - der all;

All to Thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.

**"Emmanuel"** (Sing twice)

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel,  
God with us, revealed in us; His name is called Emmanuel.**

P: May the grace of our LORD Jesus Christ and the gifts of His body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

**Post Communion Canticle**

*Praise to You, O God of mercy,  
Thanks be to You forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly:  
Thanks be to You forever!*

*From of old You loved and sought us,  
Thanks be to You forever!  
Truth and justice You have taught us:  
Thanks be to You forever!*

*Strong is Your faithfulness,  
Strong is Your love, rememb'ring  
Your covenant of life with us.*

*Praise to You, O God of mercy,  
Thanks be to You forever!  
Raising high the weak and lowly:  
Thanks be to You forever,  
Thanks be to You forever!*

**The Post Communion Prayer**

**C: Amen.**

**The Benediction** (Pastor)

The congregation sings the **3-fold "Amen"**

***On Our Way Rejoicing!***

**Closing Hymn**

***"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"***

**LBW #551**

***We Worship by How We Live During the Week***

P: Go in peace; serve the LORD! **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

Musician: Mary Kaye Owen    Choir Director: Dan Owen

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***Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!***

*If you are a visitor, coffee hour will follow the worship service. Please join us.*

**THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS**

A few years ago, my Christmas season centered on the arrival of a baby — our second child, due December 23. Exhausted with pregnancy, I skipped out on holiday gatherings, did less decorating and baking than usual, didn't send cards and didn't plan a holiday dinner, assuming — correctly, it turned out — I'd be in the hospital then.

It was a strangely quiet Christmas season, with our focus on the impending arrival. But once our baby was born, in the last hour of Christmas Day, all the missed parties, caroling, cookie-indulging and even present-opening paled in comparison. All that truly mattered was God's gift to our family of this one very special baby.

Isn't this how Christmas should always be? Seasonal activities are fun, but they hold meaning only if they deepen our focus on the coming of one very special Baby — the Christ-Child. Hold him in your heart this season, as I held my newborn that Christmas night. If the hustle and bustle distract you from the Baby, put an end to it. If traditional activities prove more stressful than joyous, consider what you can let go of to embrace the true meaning of Christmas — the birth of Jesus, God's gift of love.  
—Heidi Mann



## Who Started Christmas?



This morning I heard a story on the radio of a woman who was out Christmas shopping with her two children. After many hours of looking at row after row of toys and everything else imaginable, and after hours of hearing both her children asking for everything they saw on those many shelves, she finally made it to the elevator with her two kids.

She was feeling what so many of us feel during the holiday season time of the year: overwhelming pressure to go to every party, every housewarming, taste all the holiday food and treats, getting that perfect gift for every single person on our shopping list, making sure we don't forget anyone on our card list, and the pressure of making sure we respond to everyone who sent us a card.

Finally, the elevator doors opened and there was already a crowd in the car. She pushed her way into the car and dragged her two kids in with her and all the bags of stuff. When the doors closed, she couldn't take it anymore and stated, "Whoever started this whole Christmas thing should be found, strung up, and shot."

From the back of the car everyone heard a quiet calm voice respond, "Don't worry---we already crucified him." For the rest of the trip down the elevator, it was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop.

Don't forget this year to keep the One who started this whole Christmas thing in your every thought, deed, purchase, and word. If we all did it, just think of how different this whole world would be.

**If my people who are called by my name humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 2Chronicles 7:14**

**Prayers for those who are serving our country (military, firefighters & police) and their families and keep them safe:** Josh Jepsen, Chase, Seth Heard, Powell, Evan Gregory Blodgett, Ken Solbrack, Michael Elliott, Chris Berentson, Cole Lufkin (Gjerstad's grandson), Brady Woodman (Relma Burmeister's grandson), Devlin Durkin; Curtis & Riley McKenzie, Jacob Ramsey (Fenimore's grandson), Richy (Larry and Mary Vollmer's grandson). *Our prayers for all those in harm's way are urgently needed during this time of turmoil and strife in this country.*

**Prayers for those with cancer or long-term illness.** Roger (Gary Gjerstad's brother), Dixie (Sharlene Parker's sister). Don Minnick (Harold & Clarice Liemohn), Bob Lungberg (Bob & Nancy Martin), Aunt Glenda (Lorraine Stargel), Cousin Sandy (Lorraine Stargel), Snookie Pankrantz, Taressa (Dennis & Judy Krumwiede's daughter-in-law). Tony Home (Bob Martin, Hal & Carolyn Martin, Lonna & Tom Groce), Robert Hawthorne (Jim & Mei Barker), Wane (Sharlene Parker), Mary Anne Horiskey (Bonnie DeBord), Dave & Judy's Ostendorf's daughter-in-law. Baby Eli and his parents (Jim & Sue Gronhovd). Rich Bogle, (Sharon Edward's cousin's husband) 5-year-old Lucas Bride (Heidi Sturdivant), Donna (friend of Harold & Clarice Liemohn). **Amy Roberts**, 41-year-old good friend in Virginia (Ruth Anderson) who has been recently diagnosed with colon cancer. **Dixie** (Sharlene Parker's sister) who is in great pain from her surgery, pray for quick healing and that her pain eases.

**Prayers for healing and strength for those with health concerns and those facing or recovering from surgery.** Continued prayers for **Ron & Sharon Johnson's son & daughter in law's** new son Elijah, pray for growth and healing without complications. Daughter **Jeanette** (Al & Darlene Luberts) having emotional problems and prayers for **Suzy** improving in a home for brain injured people. Pray for continued healthy pregnancy for **Sarah DeBord**. **Jill West** (Tom & Denise Alvord's daughter), prayers for doctor's discernment, strength and healing. **Tom DeBord** (Jeff DeBord's cousin) who is in stage 3 heart failure, pray for healing and comfort. Prayers for **son Jason and wife Cristi** (Dave & Judy Ostendorf) who are both experiencing medical issues. Prayers for **Cindy & Tim** for blessings, guidance and strength. Prayers for **all the people** in Paradise, California who were affected by the fires. God's healing and guidance for our nation in this troubled time.