

# Living Word Lutheran Church

*The First Sunday after Christmas*

*December 30, 2018*



*“Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word;  
<sup>30</sup>for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation!” Luke 2:29-30*

**Pastor: The Rev. Gary R. Jepsen**

**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 30, 2018-January 5, 2019**

This week's activities:

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9:00 am 10:15 am</b>	<b>Worship Service Coffee Hour</b>
<b>Monday</b>		<b>Office Closed</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>		<b>Happy New Year!</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Women's Ministry Breakfast at Sunrise Baptist Church</b>



**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**- 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**- Sharlene Parker, Sharon Johnson; **Altar Setup/Take Down**- Jan Halverson, Kitty Jepsen;  
**Parking Lot**-Dennis Krumwiede; **Julian Estates Worship Leaders**-Tony & Linda Deas



***On behalf of the Worship & Music Committee, we would like to say  
A special Thank you to all the Worship Assistants, Sunday School staff and Children's Program  
organizers who have contributed immensely to make our worship services well organized and  
special. Our congregation has shown the true meaning of "church family" and you are  
appreciated and treasured.  
God Bless You All.***

**Women's Ministry:**

**A great way to start off the New Year!**

The next Women's Ministry gathering will be a **breakfast** on **January 2nd**  
at **Sunrise Baptist Church, small fellowship hall**  
from 9 am to 10:30 am.

Our speaker is **Janet Tobar**,  
**Director of Development from the St. Frances House.**

**Ladies, sign up sheets on in the ushers table in the back!**

**LWLC Semi-Annual  
Congregational Meeting will follow  
the January 27st service.  
2019 Budget will be available on Sunday,  
Jan 20<sup>th</sup> for membership review.**

***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***

***We Enter His Gates With Thanksgiving***

***“Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”***

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful,<br/>Joyful and triumphant!<br/>Oh come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem.<br/>Come and behold Him,<br/>Born the King of angels. <i>(Refrain)</i></p> | <p>3. Sing, choirs of angels.<br/>Sing in exultation!<br/>Sing, all ye citizens<br/>Of Heaven above!<br/>Glory to God in the highest! <i>(Refrain)</i></p>               |
| <p>2. The highest, most holy,<br/>Light of light eternal.<br/>Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes.<br/>Son of the Father,<br/>Now in flesh appearing! <i>(Refrain)</i></p>      | <p>4. Yea, LORD, we greet Thee,<br/>Born this happy morning.<br/>Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!<br/>Word of the Father,<br/>Now in flesh appearing! <i>(Refrain)</i></p> |

*(Refrain): Oh come let us adore Him. Oh come let us adore Him.  
Oh come, let us adore Him, Christ the LORD!*

***We Prepare Our Hearts to Hear God's Word***

**Pastor's Invocation:** Remembering the covenant God has established with us through 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.**

**Psalm of Praise**

**Psalm 98**

Pastor: <sup>1</sup>O sing to the LORD a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

Congregation: <sup>2</sup>His right hand and His holy arm have gotten Him victory.

P: <sup>3</sup>He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

**C: All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.**

P: <sup>4</sup>Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

**C: break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

P: <sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of melody!

**C: <sup>6</sup>With trumpets and horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!**

P: <sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell within it!

**C: <sup>8</sup>Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together.**

**“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”**

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled.”  
Joyful, all you nations, rise! Join the triumph of the skies.  
With angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem.” (*Refrain*)

Christ by highest heav`n adored, Christ the everlasting LORD.  
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of the virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the godhead see! Hail, the Incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel! (*Refrain*)

Hail the heav’n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris’n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that we no more may die.  
Born to raise each child of earth. Born to give us second birth. (*Refrain*)

(*Refrain*): *Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** (We pray together the Prayer of the Day):

**Almighty God, You make this holy day shine with the brightness of the true Light.  
Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus’ presence and in the last day wake  
to the brightness of His glory; through Your only Son, Jesus Christ our LORD,  
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

***We Hear and Read God’s Word***

**This lesson is from Paul’s letter to the Colossians, the first chapter.**

<sup>12</sup>We give thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. <sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup>For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created

through Him and for Him. <sup>17</sup>And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. <sup>18</sup>And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. <sup>19</sup>For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, <sup>20</sup>and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.

(Here ends this reading.)

**The Gospel Verse (LBW #70):**

***Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hill and ev-ry-where;  
Go tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.  
Down in a lonely manger, The humble Christ was born;  
And God sent down salvation That blessed Christmas morn.***

**The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.** (RSV) **C** (spoken): **Glory to You, O, LORD.**

<sup>22</sup>And when the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought Him (the baby Jesus) up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.”

<sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup>And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. <sup>27</sup>And inspired by the Spirit he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in

the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, <sup>28</sup>he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup>"Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; <sup>30</sup>for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation <sup>31</sup>which Thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Thy people Israel."

<sup>33</sup>And His father and His mother marveled at what was said about Him; <sup>34</sup>and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against <sup>35</sup>(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed."

<sup>36</sup>And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, <sup>37</sup>and as a widow till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of Him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup>And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

(The Gospel of our LORD)

**C (spoken): Praise to You, O Christ.**

### ***We Worship by Confessing Our Faith in the Words of the Nicene Creed***

**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.

### ***Hymn of the Day "Angels, From the Realms of Glory"***

1. Angels, From the Realms of Glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth.  
Once you sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth. (*Refrain*)

2. Shepherds in the fields abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night  
God with us is now residing,  
Yonder shines the infant light. (*Refrain*)

3. All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three-in-One. (*Refrain*)

(*Refrain*): ***Come and worship, Come and worship, Worship Christ, The newborn King.***

Sermon :

"Crisis of Identity"

Pastor Gary R. Jepsen

***We Worship In Thanksgiving By Offering Our Gifts***

**The Offering is received**     *As it is brought forward, the congregation stands and sings:*

***"What Child Is This?"***

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|--|---|
| <p>1. What Child is this, who laid to rest<br/>On Mary's lap is sleeping,<br/>Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,<br/>While shepherds watch are keeping?<br/>This, this is Christ the King,<br/>Whom shepherds watch and angels sing.<br/>Haste, haste to bring Him laud,<br/>The babe, the Son of Mary.</p> | <p>2. So, bring Him incense, gold and myrrh;<br/>Come, peasant, king, to own Him.<br/>The King of kings salvation brings;<br/>Let loving hearts enthrone Him.<br/>Raise, raise the song on high,<br/>The Virgin sings her lullaby;<br/>Joy, joy, for Christ is born,<br/>The babe, the Son of Mary.</p> |
|--|---|

**All Pray:**    Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us –ourselves, our time and our possessions – signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Prayers of the church**     (each petition ends with "Lord, in Your mercy"; the congregation responds, "Hear our prayer")

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

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

P: *The LORD be with you.*

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

P: *Lift up your hearts.*

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

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

**C:** *It is right to give 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:**

***"Emmanuel"*** (Sing twice)

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

***"It Came upon the Midnight Clear" LBW #54***

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**

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

***On Our Way Rejoicing!***

***"Joy to the World" (LBW #39)***

**Joy to the World, the LORD is come! Let earth receive her king.  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing.  
And heav'n and nature sing. And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**No more let sin and sorrow grow Nor thorns infest the ground.  
He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found.  
Far as the curse is found. Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love.  
And wonders of His love. And wonders, wonders of His love.**

***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

*Liturgical portions of this service reprinted from LBW,©1978, Reprinted under Onelicense.net #A-717731****Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!****If you are a visitor, please sign the Guest Book. We encourage you to pick up a 'Welcome' packet***SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY and CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** will resume Jan 6<sup>th</sup>.**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** will resume Jan 8<sup>th</sup>. Topic To Be Determined**THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY** will resume Jan 10<sup>th</sup>.**CHOIR PRACTICE** will resume Jan 10<sup>th</sup>.**YEAR END STATEMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE JAN 6<sup>th</sup> AND JAN 13<sup>th</sup>. IF NOT PICKED UP BY THEN THEY WILL BE MAILED OUT. PLS PICK THEM UP BEFORE OR AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE. SAVE STAMPS!**

**Quote of the Day:** *"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors and let each new year find you a better person."* Benjamin Franklin

**Special 'End of the Year' Notice:**

*IRS regulations state that all donations have to be **deposited in the bank no later than December 31<sup>st</sup>** for it to be counted towards the year 2018. Therefore, if you have contributions that need to be counted for this year, you can donate **TODAY ONLY** at our service offering*

***May God bless your family with prosperity,  
good health and happiness in the New Year***

**2019 Flower Chart** is available for sign up. Flowers for worship is a prime opportunity to **honor or remember loved ones or celebrate a special day with a gift that glorifies God.** Members and friends are encouraged to sign up to bring flowers for that special day.

**(Please take a look at the chart, we have a lot of empty dates.)**

**Spiritual nourishment**

Someone, feeling spiritually unfed, wrote a letter to a newspaper, saying that after some 30 years of attending church, he couldn't remember one sermon. The letter writer said he'd probably wasted his time, and the pastors were wasting theirs, as well.

A few days later, someone else wrote a rebuttal. This writer said he'd been married for 30 years but couldn't recall the entire menu of any one of the thousands of meals his wife had fixed, Yet, he knew those meals were nourishing and gave him strength to do his work. He also said that without eating those meals, his body would have been long dead. Without going to worship, he added, he'd be spiritually dead, too.

## Worship Assistants for January 2019

**Please note: If you are unable to meet your commitment, please switch dates with someone; inform your coordinator and Office.**

Coordinators	Jan 7	Jan 13	Jan 20	Jan 27	Feb 3
<b>SET-UP &amp; TEAR-DOWN TEAMS: #1, 2, 3 Bill Zavadil</b>	<b>Team #2:</b> Al Auge Ron Heilman Gary Gjerstad Joe Burdick Jim Gronhovd Daryl Olson Ron Johnson	<b>Team #1:</b> Bill Zavadil Andy Anderson Skip Whelan Dennis Krumwiede Rick Fields Alex Burdick Larry Vollmer	<b>Team #2:</b> Al Auge Ron Heilman Gary Gjerstad Joe Burdick Jim Gronhovd Daryl Olson Ron Johnson	<b>Team #1:</b> Bill Zavadil Andy Anderson Skip Whelan Dennis Krumwiede Rick Fields Alex Burdick Larry Vollmer	<b>Team #2:</b> Al Auge Ron Heilman Gary Gjerstad Joe Burdick Jim Gronhovd Daryl Olson Ron Johnson
<b>USHERS/ GREETERS Don Brennan</b>	Ron & Chalieo Heilman	Kaye Sims Bill Zavadil	Tom & Denise Alvord	Dick Schmidt Judy Williams	Tony & Linda Deas
<b>ACOLYTE Don Brennan</b>	Kailan Burdick	Olivia Vashchenko	Lydia Auge	Vivianna Vashchenko	Hannah Vashchenko
<b>LECTOR Barbara Griswold</b>	Heidi Sturdivant	Bonnie Socey	TBD	Skip Whelan	TBD
<b>COMMUNION ASST. Ardis Kilber</b>	Al Auge Gary & Barbara Gjerstad	Gary & Kitty Jepsen Nancy Martin	Gary & Kitty Jepsen Lorraine Stargel	Lorraine Stargel Tom & Denise Alvord	TBD
<b>COMMUNION Set-up/Clean up Ardis Kilber</b>	Barbara Gjerstad Yvonne Olson	Nancy Martin Lorraine Stargel	Lorraine Stargel Valerie Claiborne	Yvonne Olson Sue Fields	TBD
<b>Comm.BREAD</b>	Gayla Fenimore	Gayla Fenimore	Gayla Fenimore	Gayla Fenimore	
<b>TELLERS Al Auge Judy Krumweide</b>	Dave Ostendorf Al Auge	Kaye Sims Judy Krumwiede	Bonney Socey Al Auge	Larry Vollmer Judy Krumwiede	TBD
<b>COFFEE HOUR Ruth Anderson Valerie Claiborne</b>	Cynthia Faul, Linda Kupka	Nancy Martin, Mary Vollmer	Jan Halverson, Valerie Claiborne	Barbara Griswold, Judy Krumweide	TBD
<b>CHILDREN'S TIME Worship &amp; Music</b>		Lydia Auge		Pastor Eric	
<b>FLOWERS Lydia Auge</b>	Reuben & Heidi Sturdivant	Dan & Mary Kaye Owen	<b>No One Signed Up</b>	<b>No One Signed Up</b>	<b>No One Signed Up</b>
<b>ALTAR Setup/ Takedown Kitty Jepsen</b>	Judy Ostendorf Jan Halverson	Jan Halverson Mary Vollmer	Judy Williams Barbara Gjerstad	Judy Williams Lorraine Stargel	
<b>SOUND SYSTEM Joe Burdick</b>	Alex Burdick	Ron Heilman	Ron Johnson	Andy Anderson	Bill Zavidil
<b>PARKING LOT Tony Deas Gary Gjerstad</b>	Owen Loshbough	Gary Gjerstad	Tony Deas	Duane Claiborne	TBD
<b>Julian Estates Worship Leader Pastor Eric</b>	Mike & Gayla Fenimore (Communion)	Ron & Sharon Johnson	Ron Heilan Sharlene Parker	Skip Whelan Jeff DeBord	Mike & Debbie Stankovich (Communion)

TBD To Be Determined