



Memorial Lutheran Church and School

Westheimer Road
Houston, Texas

Church
School

Rev. Dr. Scott R. Murray
Senior Pastor
smurray@mlchouston.org

Rev. Charles P. St-Onge
Associate Pastor
cstonge@mlchouston.org

Rev. J. Bart Day
Associate Pastor & Headmaster
revday@mlchouston.org

Rev. Thomas F. Obersat Sr.
Assistant Pastor & Dean of Instruction
tobersat@mlchouston.org

Rev. Victor A. Atsinger, Sr.
Assistant Pastor

Ms. Janet J. Muth
Cantor
janet@mlchouston.org

Mrs. Brenda Stancik
MLC Administrator
brenda@mlchouston.org

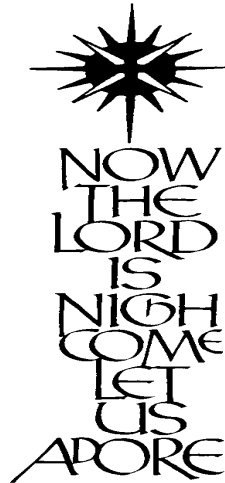
Mrs. LouAnn Webber
MLS Director of Admissions
lwebber@mlchouston.org



DID YOU NOT KNOW
THAT I MUST BE IN MY
FATHER'S HOUSE?

God Has Made Himself Like Us

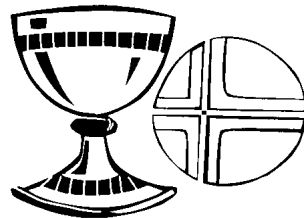
Today's liturgy repeats and enriches themes already presented during the Christmas season. The Gospel, indeed, is repeated from the Second Service for Christmas Day. In the incarnation God has made Himself like us according to our physical nature so that our human nature might be restored to holiness. In fact, His chosen people have been predestined that we might enter the heavenly realms as His



adopted children. The reading from Isaiah suggests the theme of God's marriage to Israel. By God's saving work we are adorned in the beauty of His righteousness and given a new name. The eschatological (end times) nuptials are anticipated in our weekly celebration of the Holy Communion where we gather with the whole heavenly host in a glimpse of the wedding feast which will have no end.

Communion Information

Memorial Lutheran Church is a member of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a family of congregations who pledge themselves to teach and confess the same teachings. Members in good standing of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregations and those who belong to congregations that are in altar and pulpit fellowship with the LCMS are welcome to commune. We believe that we are given a great responsibility to distribute the holy body and blood of Christ only to those persons who are members of our confes-



sional fellowship (Corinthians and) lest the sacrament be taken for harm. We want to express our sincere welcome to our guests and assure them that for their spiritual welfare we practice closed communion. For those who do not receive the sacrament this day we ask that you continue to pray that through the power of the Holy Spirit our Lord would through the truth of His Word destroy all the walls that yet divide us. If you desire to learn more about this teaching of the church, please speak with one of the pastors.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

January ,
(*Lutheran Service Book*, -)

Preservice Music	Es ist ein Ros	P. Manz
i Prelude	Lasst uns alle	D. Busarow
Hymn	Let Us All with Gladsome Voice	390
Confession and Absolution		

Service of the Word

Introit (*sung responsively*) Ps. : , , - ; antiphon: *John* :

P. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his | glory,*
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of | grace and truth.

C. **Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;***
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.

P. Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;*
his understanding is beyond | measure.

C. **But the LORD takes pleasure in those who | fear him,***
in those who hope in his | steadfast love.

P. Praise the LORD, O Je- | rusalem!*

C. **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son***
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

P. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his | glory,*
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of | grace and truth.

Kyrie

Gloria in Excelsis

Salutation and Collect

P. Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your
incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives;
through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and
reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. **Amen.**



The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between

good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?” ¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.” ¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

Gradual

To us a child is born, to us a son is | given;*
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder.
And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God,*
Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.
Sing to the Lord a | new song,*
for he has done | marvelous things!

Epistle Reading

Ephesians : -

ESV

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his

purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

i Alleluia and Verse

Holy Gospel

Luke : -

ESV

The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. ⁴¹Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they

began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us

Servants of the Word

Presiding Minister
Preacher
Organist

Rev. Charles St-Onge
Rev. Dr. Scott R. Murray
Cantor Janet Muth

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Sunday (1st Day of Christmas— rd)

Isaiah : -
Luke : -
Psalm

Monday (2nd Day of Christmas)

Isaiah : - :
Luke : -
Psalm

Tuesday (3rd Day of Christmas)

Isaiah : -
Luke : -
Psalm



Wednesday (The Epiphany of our Lord)

Isaiah : -
Luke : -
Psalm

Thursday

Ezekiel : - , -
Romans : -
Psalm

Friday

Ezekiel : - :
Romans : -
Psalm

Saturday

Ezekiel : -
Romans : -
Psalm

Sunday (January 1st ,)

Ezekiel : - , -
Romans : -
Psalm

IN THE NAME OF OUR REDEEMER, Jesus Christ, we welcome you. We encourage our visitors to worship with us often and to let us know if we can be of service. If you do not have a church home, the pastors will be happy to talk with you about membership here at Memorial. Please sign our Rite of Friendship booklet prior to leaving this morning so we may acknowledge your presence and also pick up one of our visitor information packets on the east narthex wall table.

THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS that grace our chancel are given to the glory of God by Debbie Jauregui in memory of her son, Timothy Escobar and in thankfulness for the many blessings received over the last year.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets from : a.m. to : a.m. High School Class meets in the youth room with Pastor St-Onge. Middle School Class meets in the school building, room , with Mr. Jeffers. Elementary School Classes (st- th grades) meet in the Music Suite with Cantor Muth for Sunday School opening which lasts fifteen minutes. Students are then picked up by their teacher and will be dismissed at : a.m. to the Commons. Arrive no later than : a.m. so not to miss or interrupt opening. Preschool age children (and Kindergartners) meet in room in the Sunday School hallway for opening

with Mrs. Lamberson. Children follow their teachers to class and are picked up in the Sunday School hallway promptly at : a.m. NOTE: Arrive on time so teachers attending late service may arrive on time for church. Two year olds, bring a parent and join Ms. Patti in Room .

GROWING IN CHRIST: In Sunday School today, the lesson is about the boy Jesus in the temple (Luke : -). As a boy, Jesus was found in His Father's house. In God's house I hear His Word, see that Jesus is my Savior, and receive His gifts of forgiveness and salvation. Because of sin, we are like Jesus' parents and do not understand what God says to us. We don't recognize who Jesus truly is—our Savior. Talk about how through Baptism and the power of God's Word, the Holy Spirit makes clear to us that Jesus is God's Son and our Savior.

THE CHURCH NURSERY is located in the blue nursery room in the building north of the sanctuary. Children up to three years of age may be left in the nursery. Do not bring your child to the nursery if he/she has had a fever within the last hours, has a cough or might be contagious.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Hard Words with Pastors Cholak and Day meets in meeting room ; The Proverbs of Solomon with Paul Lodholz and Albert Allen

meets in the Church Library; and English as a Second Language with Jane Obersat meets in the School Library at : a.m. today.

ADULT INSTRUCTION meets today at : a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Pastor Murray by email at smurray@mlchouston.org, for questions regarding the class or to register for the next class beginning January .

BAGELS AND BIBLE STUDY meets on Tuesday morning at : in the Fellowship Hall.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets at : a.m. in the church library. The class is studying st and nd Peter.

HANDBELL AND ADULT CHOIRS: Hand bells will meet this week on Thursday at : p.m., and the Adult Choir will meet Thursday at : p.m. Call Cantor Muth, . . . , if you are interested in joining.

MEMORIAL MOMENTS is a daily devotion written and distributed by Pr. Murray. To join the mailing list, log on to www.memorialmoments.org and put your email address in the sign-up box provided.

DYING TO LIVE: Join Pr. Murray Sundays on KKHT . FM at : p.m. Programs are available on demand at: www.mlchouston.org and by podcast at iTunes.

STEWARDSHIP EVERY SUNDAY: In Jesus

God has chosen us to be His followers and children who do the right things for the right reasons, and delight in doing so. What an encouragement for us to grow spiritually in our journey of life and use everything God has blessed us with to His glory and the good of those around us.

PASTOR ST-ONGE'S BLOG can be found at houstonbelief.com. Click on blogs and look for Lutherant and his picture. Or go to www.chron.com/channel/houstonbelief/commons/lutherant.html.

JR. CONFIRMATION meets today from : p.m. to : p.m. in the church library.

GUEST PREACHER: Rev. Dr. Daniel Preus, executive director of Luther Academy will be our guest preacher next week, January th.

LUTHERAN HIGH NORTH OPEN HOUSE: All prospective students and their families are invited to attend an Open House on January th from 2-4 p.m. at Lutheran High North. A tour of the school will be presented, and teachers and administrators will be on hand to answer questions.

LUTHERAN HIGH NORTH CHOIR SINGS AT THE TOYOTA CENTER: Join the LHN Choir on January th as they open the Aeros game with the National Anthem. Game time is : p.m.

WINTER CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NIGHT
JANUARY 13-FEBRUARY 10



**See
You
There!**

Evening Schedule:

: - :

Private Confession
& Absolution
Sanctuary

: - : Dinner & Fellowship

: - : Classes

: Vespers
Sanctuary

The winter term of CEN begins Wednesday, January and will end February (the week before the start of Lent), lasting five weeks. This is the perfect length of time for you to commit yourself to a special study of God's Word or theological topic. A number of children have been coming with their parents and doing special activities with school teachers. If you have a good suggestion for a potential class, please let the church office know, and we will consider your suggestion.

Pastor Murray will be continuing his class on the Formula of Concord. The class will concentrate on articles - (including Christ's descent into hell, election, church rites, and heresies against the church).

Pastor St-Onge will teach a class on the Quran and the New Testament. The class will read through passages from the Quran using a couple of different translations, looking at how Muslim scholars interpret them, comparing them with teachings on similar issues in the New Testament.

Pastor Cholak and Cantor Muth will teach, "Theology and Music of J. S. Bach." The class will explore Bach's life, his upbringing, his theological training, and his different jobs around Germany. The class will take a look at some of his great cantatas and other works and his use of theology in the writing of such.

If you would like to sign up to provide a dinner for your fellow students, let the church office know, and we will put you on the schedule.



YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY—THE BOOK OF ACTS

TUESDAYS - : p.m.

The meeting place is the MLC YOUTH ROOM

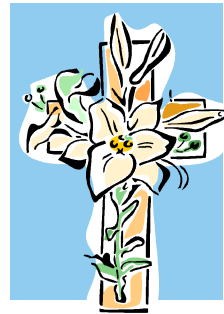
For information email Pastor St-Onge at cstonge@mlchouston.org



ALTAR FLOWERS

To sign up for altar flowers, please use the Flower Chart located in the narthex. The cost is for one arrangement of flowers and for two.

Do not forget to remit your payment in the weekly collection plate and please indicate flowers in the memo section of your check. Payment envelopes are available with the Flower Calendar. If you have questions, contact Dorothy Williamson by phone at . . or by e-mail at williamson1609@sbcglobal.net.



Thank you to everyone who ordered poinsettias this Christmas season!

Please pick up your plants after the service today.



Epiphany



Come Join Us Wednesday!
Epiphany of our Lord
Divine Service

January ,
: p.m.



Memorial Lutheran Church & School

5800 WESTHEIMER @ BERING HOUSTON, TX 77057 713.782.6079 SCHOOL 713.782.4022

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 3 - JANUARY 10

TODAY:

- : Divine Service
- : Adult Instruction, Adult Bible Study, & Sunday School
- : Divine Service
- : Young Adult Lunch
- : Junior Confirmation

MONDAY:

- : Memorial Lutheran School Resumes
- : English for Beginners

TUESDAY:

- : Bagels & Bible Study
- : Tuesday Eucharist Service
- : English Conv. & Pronunciation
- : Bible Study
- : Young Adult Bible Study

WEDNESDAY:

- : English for Beginners

THURSDAY:

- : English Conv. & Pronunciation
- : Adult Handbell practice
- : Adult Choir practice

FRIDAY:

- : English for Beginners
- : MLS JV Girls Basketball Game
- : MLS JV Boys Basketball Game
- : MLS Varsity Boys Basketball Game

SATURDAY:

- : Men's Bible Study Breakfast
- : Men's Bible Study Class

SUNDAY:

- : Divine Service
- : Adult Bible Class, Sunday School
- : Adult Instruction
- : Divine Service
- : Youth Group
- : Jr. Confirmation

Attendance: Dec. :

Offering Dec. : ,

Through Dec. :

Year-to-date Budgeted Offerings: ,

Year-to-date Actual Offerings: ,

Amount above/(below) Budget: (,)

ELDERS ON DUTY

Early: Joel Kuhlmann **Late:** Albert Allen
 Timothy Taylor Mark Tackett

USHERS ON DUTY

Early: Michael Albert **Late:** C.D. Stenberg
 Ken Zimmerman Adam Helleck
 Jim Keller Ross Bartley
 David Moeller Steve Reavis
 David Browne

ALTAR GUILD

Early: Molly Salazar **Late:** France Stenberg
 Janet Taylor Dorothy Williamson

ACOLYTES ON DUTY

Early: Tom Harvey **Late:** Brian Trieglaff