



# The Prairie Land Lutheran Parish Messenger

December 2018



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Friends in Christ:

*When they heard that Jesus was passing by, they shouted, "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!" Matthew 20:30b*

This year we continue our discussion of the elements of our worship service. Last month we talked about the confession and forgiveness. What usually comes next is music!

There are many ways music can start a service, depending on the culture and skills of the congregation. Some have elaborate down the aisle while singing a hymn; in other places a praise band might sing multiple songs while the community gathers. According to one pattern of worship, after a gathering song, it's common to sing either a Kyrie or a song of praise (or both).

The song of praise is kind of obvious, but what's a *Kyrie*?

Well, first of all, it's pronounced like "kee-ree-ay", with three syllables. You can this part of the service is ancient because it's named in Greek, which was probably the earliest common worship language of the church. "*Kyrie*" is short for "*Kyrie eleison*", which means "Lord, have mercy"—and that's exactly what we say (and sing) during the *Kyrie*.

"Lord, have mercy." By itself it's one of the simplest of prayers, a request that God would have mercy on us. Simple prayers can be good, especially if you want a large group of people to be able to learn their part easily without being able to look at the words in a book!

The leader could start with some introductory words, like "In peace, let us pray to the Lord". And then the assembly could respond, "Lord, have mercy", and that was all it took for newcomers to learn exactly what to do!

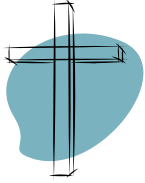
Chanted music was often used for the *Kyrie*, not just because it's fun to sing, but also because it's very practical. In a worship space without sound amplification, chant tunes often carry more easily than words. So even if you were too far away to make out what the leader was saying, you could still tell when it was your turn to join in with the *Kyrie eleison* part.

Nowadays, we also use many other styles of music in our worship. But we retain some of the chanting, most often during the *Kyrie* and then later on during the Great Thanksgiving. These are some of the oldest musical and spoken elements in our worship, and when we use them, we are sharing a tradition with many generations of Christians who have come before us.

In our parish we alternate which gathering elements we include seasonally, with just a hymn for the simplest services and the whole sequence (hymn + *Kyrie* + song of praise) for the festive Easter season. So we only sing the *Kyrie* during part of the year. When we do, I encourage you to think about what it means rather than just responding automatically!

Whenever we come before God in worship, it is fitting to first ask God to have mercy on us! After all, we have probably not been living our lives exactly as we should. We need God's forgiveness. We also need God's help with the problems of our lives and of our world. By asking for God's mercy together, we remind ourselves that it's part of God's nature to be "merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love". And that's always good to know!

Pastor Sarah Taylor



## December Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00a.m. Worship at Lake Hanska  
10:30a.m. Worship at Zion

Sunday School during worship at Zion  
December 2nd and 16th

Joint Worship, Sunday December 30, 2018  
10:00a.m. at Lake Hanska Church

### Vital Statistics

#### Lake Hanska

Oct 21st	26	\$801.00
Oct 28th	32	\$480.00
Nov 4th	19	\$750.00
Nov 11th	20	\$414.00
Nov 18th		\$2,127.00

#### Zion

Oct 21st	50	
Oct 28th	24	
October 21st and 28th		\$1,966.00
Nov 4th	42	\$567.00
Nov 11th	21	\$784.00
Nov 18th	44	\$775.00

### **Prairie Land Lutheran Parish Annual Meeting**

Thursday December 6, 2018  
7:00p.m.  
at Zion Church



### Sunday School

Sunday School at Zion Church

\* The first and third Sundays of the month \*

### **Children's Christmas Program**

Sunday December 2, 2018  
at Zion Church during worship



### **Christmas Eve Worship**

**Monday December 24th**

5:30p.m. Zion Church

9:00p.m. Lake Hanska Church



### **Baptism at Lake Hanska Church**

**Owen Robert Budahn**

**Parents:** Dani and Scott Budahn

**Sponsors:** Andy and Andrea Budahn



# Prairie Land Lutheran Parish Women of the ELCA

## Lake Hanska W-ELCA

**Altar Guild:** Beth Kral,  
Bonnie Lilleodden and Nancy Lilleodden

**Dec 6th at 12:30p.m. -**  
Holiday Potluck at Lake Hanska Church  
All Prairie Land Lutheran Parish  
members invited

## Zion W-ELCA

**Altar Guild:** Sonja Smesmo

**Communion:** Mary Paulson  
and Patty Paulson

**Flowers:** Mary

## All Are Welcome

The Women of Lake Hanska Lutheran would like extend an open invitation to all Prairieland Parish to join us for lunch.  
**Holiday Potluck :** December 5, 2018, 12:00 Noon at Lake Hanska Lutheran Church



## Annual Meetings are in January!!

Start gathering your information so you can drop it off at the Parish Office or email to Jill at [pllpsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:pllpsecretary@gmail.com)

**Please make note** that the phone number for both the Parish Office and Zion Church are 507-439-6201.

## Share God's Love. This Year, Give Gifts That Change Lives!

**If you are looking for a place to donate money over the Holiday Season here are some ideas! These are some local and church based groups. Let me know if you have any other suggestions!**

United Way in Brown County

Hanska Library/Madelia Library

Food Shelf in Watonwan County or Brown County

Hanska, LaSalle or Madelia Fire Departments

NUMAS House in New Ulm – New Ulm Ministerial Association Haus

Southern Minnesota Crisis Nursery in New Ulm

American Red Cross – [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

Habitat for Humanity - <http://hfh-mn-brown.huterra.org/>

Brown County Humane Society

Oak Hills Auxiliary

Luther Memorial Home Auxiliary

Relay for Life – Brown County or Watonwan County

American Legion- New Ulm, Madelia and St James

God's Global Barnyard - [www.ELCA.org/goodgifts](http://www.ELCA.org/goodgifts)

Lutheran World Relief – [LWR.org](http://LWR.org)

ELCA's – Young Adult in Global Mission

Green Lake Lutheran Ministries - [GLLM.org](http://GLLM.org)

Prairie Land Lutheran Parish  
PO Box 65  
Hanska, MN 56041

Non-Profit Organization  
Permit 7  
Hanska, MN 56041

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**December Sunday Worship Schedule**

**9:00a.m. Worship at Lake Hanska**

**10:30a.m. Worship at Zion**

**Sunday Dec. 30 Joint worship 10:00a.m.  
at Lake Hanska**

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**Christmas Eve Worship**

**Monday December 24th**

**5:30p.m. Zion Church**

**9:00p.m. Lake Hanska Church**



Prairie Land Lutheran Parish  
Parsonage Office  
213 Summit Avenue  
PO Box 65  
Hanska, MN 56041

**Come join us in Celebrating Jesus Birth!**