



Halfway Creek

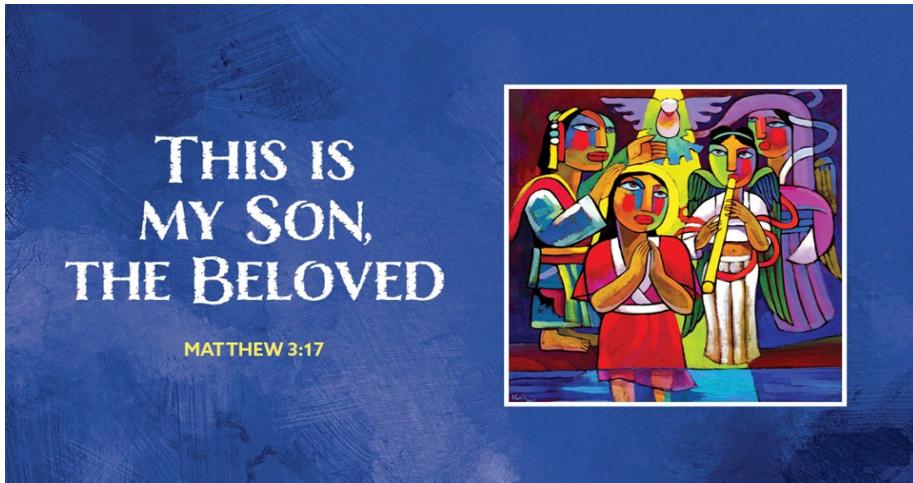
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to Worship!

January 11, 2026 —10:00 a.m.

Worship Leaders: Ron Christensen and Patti Happel, SAM

Accompanist: Lynn Wegner



Order of Worship

(ELW—Evangelical Lutheran Worship—**red hymnal**; WOV –With One Voice—**blue hymnal**)

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. Amen.

Mighty God, lover of justice, **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Gathering Song

Greeting

Prayer of the Day

“Shall We Gather at the River”

ELW 423

c: And also with you.

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

Gospel Acclamation

“Listen God is Calling” (refrain)

ELW 513

[A leader sings the words in parentheses]

(Listen,) **listen, God is calling, through the Word inviting, offering forgiveness, comfort and joy.** (Repeat)

Gospel

Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

ELW 249

Apostles’ Creed

Prayers of Intercession

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Peace

c: And also with you.

Offering Song

“Brightest and Best of the Starts” v4

ELW 303

**Vainly we offer each ample oblation, vainly with gifts would his favor secure;
richer by far is the heart’s adoration, dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.**

Offering Prayer

c: Amen.

Words of Institution

Lord’s Prayer

ELW p 112

Invitation to Communion

Communion Hymn

“Spirit of Gentleness”

ELW 396

“We are Baptized in Christ Jesus”

ELW 451

Post Communion Blessing

c: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

c: Amen.

Blessing

c: Amen.

Sending Song

“I’ve Just Come from the Fountain”

WOW 696

Dismissal

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Announcements

Birthdays this week: Cody Smith, Mary Jane Nelson

Noisy Offering: The January Noisy Offering will support the La Crosse Warming Center. Thank you to Lacey Hein from Catholic Charities for sharing information about the Warming Center with us last weekend. We've collected \$85.35 so far!

Our Annual Congregation Meeting and Halfway Creek Cemetery Meeting are on February 1st. Please save the date. We'll have a potluck as well. Please sign up in the gathering space.

Our Card Ministry will meet this week on Wednesday, January 14 at 11 AM. We'll be writing to members and friends on our prayer list. If you can join us, please let Shari in the office know. We'll be sharing a light lunch together, too!

Join us on Wednesday, January 28 (6:00 – 7:30 PM) for a special safety presentation led by Sgt. Kevin Bauer. This session is designed to equip our church family with the knowledge to stay safe, covering "Run, Hide, Fight" protocols and intruder response strategies. While this training is open to all HCLC members and volunteers, we highly recommend attendance for our Vision Board, staff, worship team, and youth educators. We are grateful to Michelle Olson and the Vision Board for prioritizing the safety of our congregation by organizing this meeting.

It's Pizza Time! Our Super Bowl Pizza Fundraiser is officially underway! You can grab an order form in the Gathering Space anytime this month. You'll have two chances to pick up your fresh pizzas: Wednesday, Feb 4th at Journey Lutheran (6:00–6:45 PM) or Sunday, Feb 8th right here at HCLC. A huge thank you for helping us raise money for our youth!

Annual Committee and Team Reports should be dropped off or emailed to assistant@halfwaycreek.org by Tuesday, January 13th at the latest. Thank you!!

In Our Prayers:

We pray for friends and family of those who have recently passed: Bob Cottrell, Amanda Anderson, Beulah Sanders, Harvey Miller

We pray for Bill Baxter, Jackson Ammerman (grandson of Les and Susan Kolbo), Gayle "Susie" Johnson, Laurie Gillespie, Diane Jostad, Betty Bender, Stacey Fredricks, Robin Ruhbusch, Pat Martin, Laurie Noelke, Megan Sacia Ulrich, Perry Voshage, Marjorie Lee, Jean Latham, Joan Vaughn, Bridget Ferk, Thema Severson, Katie Wier, Phoebe & Bill Kitzke, Gayle Kuespert, Cary Heyer, Jenny Lee, Mary Dokkebaken, Karla Johnson, Coats family

Welcome to Worship!

Thank you for being here today. We want you to feel at home when you are here at HCLC, so please remember:

As you participate: Bolded words on the screen are for you to speak. Even though the pastor indicates when to stand up or sit down, that is not mandatory. We do not judge when it's done differently. Move around as you need to and please worship as *your* body demands it.

Offering

The offering is our way of showing that when we come to the table, we bring ourselves as well as all we have been given by God to be blessed for service in God's world.

The offering plate is passed around during the offering song.

The cake pan is for our Noisy Offering. Each month we choose a cause to support.

Offerings can also be made through our website or by using this QR code. Thank you for the many ways you support HCLC and our mission.



Halfway Creek Lutheran Church ELCA
W6016 County Rd W, Holmen, WI 54636
Phone: 608-526-3701
Website: halfwaycreek.org
Office Hours: Tues, Wed, Thu: 9 a.m.–3 p.m.
Worship: Sundays at 10 a.m.

Synod Authorized Minister: Patti Happel
pastor@halfwaycreek.org, 608-317-9525
Administrative Assistant: Shari Ireland
assistant@halfwaycreek.org

Holy Communion

All are welcome to the table today when communion is offered. It is not our table, but Jesus is the host. So, in this place **all** are welcome to Jesus' table.

Pre-packaged communion kits, regular and gluten-free, are available for communing in your seats or bringing them forward with you. The ushers will have them in a basket.

Communion in the front aisle will be baked bread and both wine and juice (the wine is red, juice is clear).

Kids

We welcome kids to participate fully in any part of the service! You may pass the offering plate or noisy offering, and we have activity bags as you enter church.

An **AED is available** in case of an emergency. It is located just outside the sanctuary doors.

Please join us for coffee and fellowship each week after service. Guests and members please take a moment to fill out the Welcome Card in the pew. We want to know how we can best minister to you.

Financial Assistant: Jodi Anderson
jodi.anderson@halfwaycreek.org

Music Ministry: Lynn Wegner
lwegner2005@yahoo.com

HCLC Vision Board Members:
President: Bette Pedretti
Vice President: Nicole Stumlin
Secretary: Amy Noel; **Treasurer:** Carrie Payne
Members: Andrea Baxter, Nancy Holley, Michelle Olson, Wayne Atchley, Ema Nedoba, Oliva Nedoba

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