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December 7, 2025

Advent 2

*For whatever things were
written before were written for
our learning, that we through
the patience and comfort of the
Scriptures might have hope.*

Romans 15:4



advent

✝ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 130 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✝

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Advent Candle Lighting - #2 PEACE

We light the second Advent candle, the candle of PEACE.
Our HOPE is in God, and in His son Jesus Christ. Our PEACE
is found only in Him. We light this candle to remind us that
He brings the PEACE of forgiveness to all who trust in Him.



Opening Hymn: 344 *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

LSB 344

Order of Worship

Adapted from LSB Setting 4 – p. 203ff

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore we stand in awe of You.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and gives them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Kyrie *Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.*

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis *Latin for "Glory to God in the highest."*

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;





We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation ("Greeting") and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P We pray:

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to trust You with pure hearts serve You with pure minds. We pray this through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10 (ESV)

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

² And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear,

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist, and faithfulness the belt of his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

⁹ They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall
the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:1-12 (ESV)

P The Gospel reading is from Matthew 3:1-12.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ² "Repent,
for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." ³ For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet
Isaiah when he said,

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'"

⁴ Now John wore a garment of camel's hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his
food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about
the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the river
Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he
said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to
come? ⁸ Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹ And do not presume to say to
yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones

to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

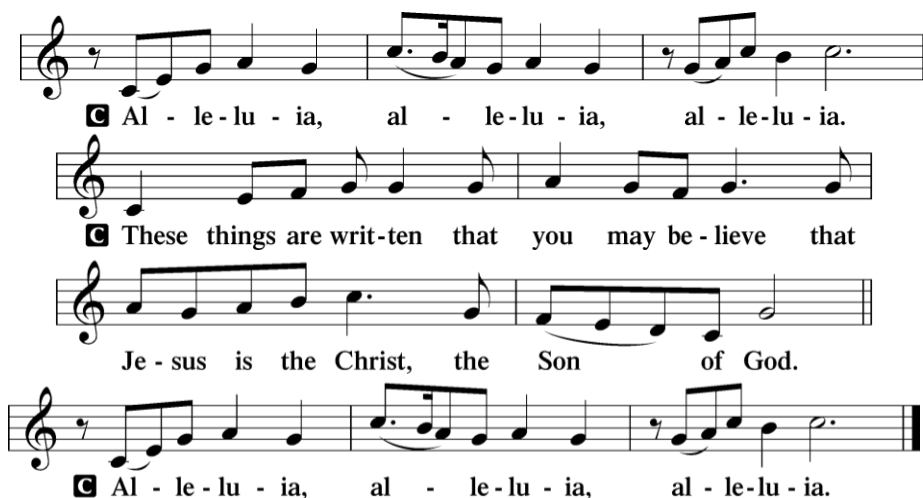
¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

Alleluia and Verse

When God speaks to us in His Word it is natural for us to respond. We sing "Allelujah!"—meaning, "Praise the Lord!"



The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff is an Alleluia, with the lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." written below the notes. The second staff is the beginning of the verse, with the lyrics "These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that" written below the notes. The third staff continues the verse, with the lyrics "Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God." written below the notes. The fourth staff is another Alleluia, with the lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." written below the notes. The notes are primarily eighth and quarter notes, with some rests and a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

G Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

G These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

G Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Nicene Creed *We boldly confess what we believe.*

LSB 206

G I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;

**who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Hymn of the Day: 359 *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

LSB 359

Sermon Text: Romans 15:4-13 (NKJV)

⁴ For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. ⁵ Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, ⁶ that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God. ⁸ Now I say that Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made to the fathers, ⁹ and that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy, as it is written: "For this reason I will confess to You among the Gentiles, And sing to Your name." ¹⁰ And again he says: "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people!" ¹¹ And again: "Praise the LORD, all you Gentiles! Laud Him, all you peoples!" ¹² And again, Isaiah says: "There shall be a root of Jesse; And He who shall rise to reign over the Gentiles, In Him the Gentiles shall hope." ¹³ Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Sermon Theme: "The Gifts of Christmas" - Hope

- † Why is **hope** so important, even from an earthly perspective (mentally and emotionally)?

- † **Hope**, in the Biblical sense, the **hope** that God gives us, can be defined as:
 - "joyful _____ and _____ in God's _____"

 - **Hope** is closely related to _____.

 - In fact, it could even be described as the _____ of faith.
(see **Hebrews 11:1**)

- † What is one of the reasons "**the God of hope**" (**v. 13**) had the Scriptures (the Bible) written down for us? (**v. 4**)?

- † What makes Jesus our one great true **hope**? (**v. 8, 12**)

Offertory

LSB 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;



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Sermon Hymn: 342 *What Hope! An Eden Prophesied*

LSB 342

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Prayer of the Church *We bring our prayers to God.*

Service of the Sacrament

*Now we approach the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in which Jesus comes to bless us with His very body and blood.
We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration.*

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up 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 truly fitting, right, and spiritually beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

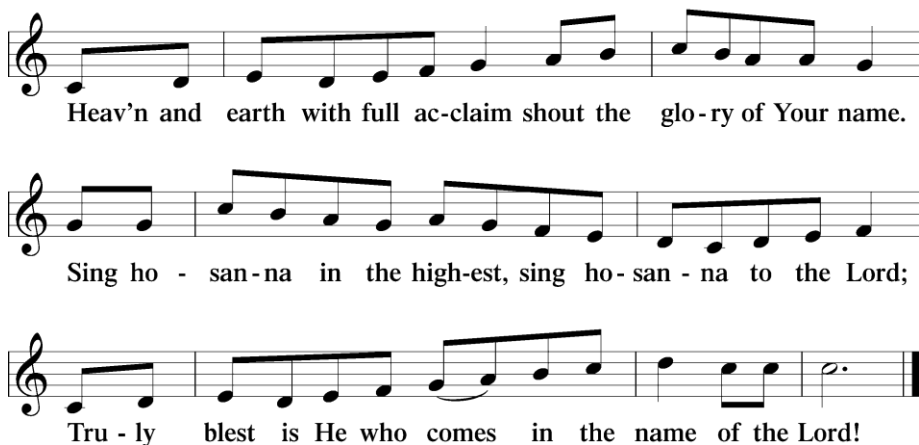
Sanctus *Latin: "Holy."*

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

→



Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** We give You thanks, O Lord our God, for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ and His cross. Give us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. In His name we pray, as we now join in the prayer that He taught us:

Lord's Prayer

LSB 209

- C** 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.

The Words of Institution

The words spoken by Jesus the night He instituted the Lord's Supper, by which our Lord assured to His Church the real presence of His body and blood in the Sacrament.

Pax Domini ("The Peace of the Lord")

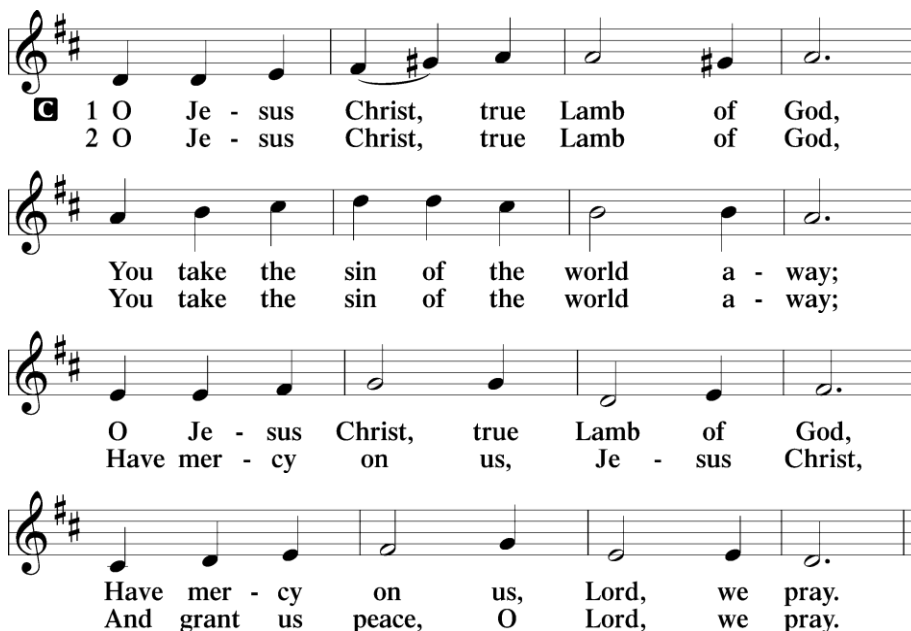
LSB 209

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

Latin: "Lamb of God." Jesus is the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29)



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

The Distribution

- † For the distribution we will start with those who would like to partake of the Lord's Supper from the pew. After that, those who would like to come up to the altar steps will partake as directed by our ushers.

Note to our Guests: We are so glad you are worshiping with us this morning. The Word of God treats the Lord's Supper with great care. The Word of God considers the Lord's Supper to be a wonderful Means of Grace – a way in which Christ forgives and blesses. It is also considered an opportunity for congregations to express unity and oneness (1 Corinthians 10:16-17) – that is, to say to the world "This is what we believe!" But God's Word also warns against taking the Sacrament to our judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). For these reasons our congregation asks that you fully understand our teachings before partaking. We respectfully ask that those who have joined this congregation through public confession of faith, or who are members of another congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) approach the altar at the usher's direction. By following this practice we do not make any judgment on your faith. Rather we do this out of love for you, as a public confession of our unity, and out of obedience to and love for God's Word. Speak to our pastor anytime and he will be glad to provide the information you would need – and want. We look forward to communing together, Lord willing, in the future.

Communion Hymns: "A Communion Hymn for Christmas" (see next page);

624 LSB; 630 LSB

A Communion Hymn for Christmas 402

As often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death. 1 Corinthians 11:26

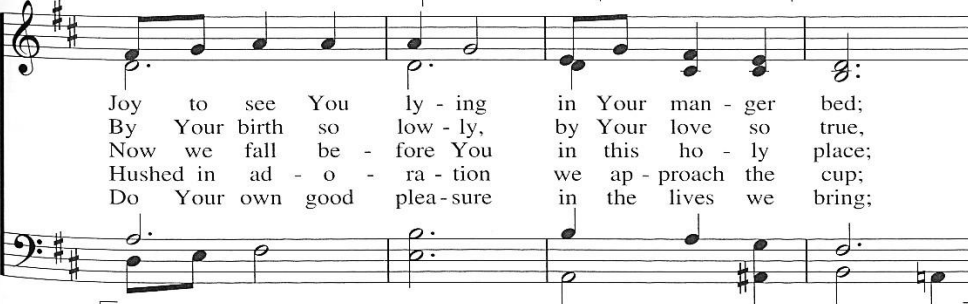
Unison



1. Gath - ered 'round Your ta - ble on this ho - ly eve,
 2. Prince of Glo - ry, grac - ing heav'n ere time be - gan,
 3. Beth - l'hem's In - car - na - tion, Cal - v'ry's bit - ter cross,
 4. With pro - found - est won - der we Your bod - y take -
 5. Christ - mas Babe so ten - der, Lamb who bore our blame,



View - ing Beth - l'hem's sta - ble we re - joice and grieve;
 Now for us em - brac - ing death as Son of Man.
 Wrought for us sal - va - tion by Your pain and loss.
 Laid in man - ger yon - der, bro - ken for our sake.
 How shall sin - ners ren - der prais - es due Your name?



Joy to see You ly - ing in Your man - ger bed;
 By Your birth so low - ly, by Your love so true,
 Now we fall be - fore You in this ho - ly place;
 Hushed in ad - o - ra - tion we ap - proach the cup;
 Do Your own good plea - sure in the lives we bring;



Weep to see You dy - ing in our sin - ful stead.
 By Your cross most ho - ly, Lord, we wor - ship You!
 Pros - trate we a - dore You for Your gift of grace.
 Beth - l'hem's pure ob - la - tion free - ly of - fered up.
 In Your ran - somed trea - sure reign for - ev - er King!

WORDS: Margaret Clarkson
 MUSIC: Tom Fettke

GREENRIDGE
 11.11.11.11.

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Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

Latin: "Now Dismiss." Simeon's words after seeing the Christ Child. (Luke 2:29-32)

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Benediction The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Announcements



Welcome! We welcome all our visitors this morning.
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

Today:
12/7/25

Choir Practice – 8am

Worship w/Communion – 9am

Children's Christmas Program Practice & Bible Class – 10:15am

Christmas Caroling & Chili Supper – 4pm

This week:

Tuesday – **Board of Education Meeting – 5:30pm**

Elders Meeting – 6pm

Wednesday – **Wednesday Advent Worship #2 – 6:30pm**

Thursday – **Board of Property Meeting – 5:30pm**

Church Cleaning: Team #7 (12/6-12/12); Team #8 (12/13-12/19)

Next Sunday:
12/14/25

Choir – 8am

Worship – 9am

Children's Christmas Program Practice & Bible Class – 10:15am

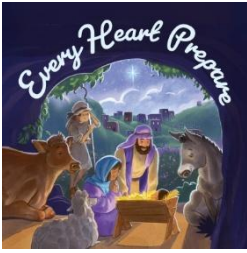
Children's Christmas Eve Program Practices Begin Today, Sunday, Dec. 7th @ 10:15am –

The Children's Christmas Eve Program practices will be held during the Sunday School hour during the month of December in the sanctuary: Dec. 7th, 14th, and 21st.



Christmas Caroling – Tonight, Sunday, Dec. 7th – Meet at Church @ 4pm –

Our Christmas Caroling will be held this evening **Sunday, Dec. 7th**. We'll plan to **meet at church at 4pm** and will be singing at The Villa in Greenfield (4:30pm) and New Perspective in Franklin (approx. 5:30pm). We plan to meet back at church afterwards for a chili supper. Please come and join us spread some Christmas cheer as we sing of our Savior, Who is the reason for the season!



Wed. Advent Worship 12/3, 12/10, & 12/17 @ 6:30pm – Please join us for our three Wednesday Advent Worship Services beginning on **Wed. Dec. 3rd @ 6:30pm**. Our series this year is entitled: "Every Heart Prepare." Advent is the church's season of preparation for Christmas, for the coming of the Lord. This Advent season, as part of our preparation, we reflect upon three common Christmas decorations and how they help us see Christ and prepare for His coming: evergreens, lights, and the nativity scene.

Rodebaugh's New Address – Kelsey Rodebaugh and her children will be moving to Washington after Christmas (her husband Josh has already moved out there for his work). We pray that the Lord would bless their move and this new chapter in their lives. Their new address in Washington will be:

**Josh & Kelsey Rodebaugh & Family
22387 Nordkyn Ln NW
Poulsbo, WA 98370**

CLC News – Pastor Johnathan Schnose of Bethel Ev. Lutheran Church, Morris, MN, has **returned** the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI. < > Pastor Emeritus Michael Eichstadt has **accepted** the vacancy call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. < > Pastor Dave Naumann of St. John's Lutheran Church, Clarkston, WA, and Peace Lutheran Church, Orofino, ID, has **received** the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA.

INSTALLATION Pastor Michael Gurath will be installed as pastor of Peace Thru Christ, Middleton, WI at a special 10am service December 21. There will be a meal to follow.

Immanuel Christmas Concert – Friday, December 19th @ 7pm - The choirs of Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary will be presenting "Light Born From Light" (O Nata Lux de Lumine) on **Friday, December 19, 2025** at **Messiah Lutheran Church, 2015 N Hastings Way, Eau Claire, WI 54703**. The evening will begin at **7:00 p.m.**, with the strings, band, and flute choir presenting several songs prior to the choral service. It is open to the public and admission is free. The service will also be streaming live at youtube.com/ilc.videos

Bible Readings:

12/7	Joshua 21:20-45 Psalm 131 Acts 7:35-53
12/8	Joshua 22:1-20 Psalm 132 Acts 7:54-8:8
12/9	Joshua 22:21-34 Psalm 133 Acts 8:9-25
12/10	Joshua 23 Psalm 134 Acts 8:26-40
12/11	Joshua 24:1-18 Psalm 135:1-12 Acts 9:1-19
12/12	Joshua 24:19-33 Psalm 135:13-21 Acts 9:19-31
12/13	Judges 1:1-21 Psalm 136 Acts 9:32-10:8



SCAN FOR
ONLINE
OFFERING

December Ushers

Joel Gerbitz
David Hein
Richard Davis

December Slideshow

Dave Albrecht

Cleaning Team 12/13-12/19

Team 8
K/B Ackerman
C. Reim
A. Albrecht
J/A Bailey

Fruits of Faith

Last Week:

To Date:

Budgetary Offerings:	\$5,921.30	\$168,272.12
Budgetary Needs:	\$8,642.65	\$190,138.30
Over (Under) Budget:	(\$2,721.35)	(\$21,866.18)
MDF:	\$50.00	\$575.00
Kinship:	\$50.00	\$1,076.56
ILCSAF:	\$100.00	\$600.00
MSAF:	\$25.00	\$400.00

Attendance Last Week:

Thanksgiving Day (11/27): **120**
Sunday – Advent 1(11/30): **102**

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