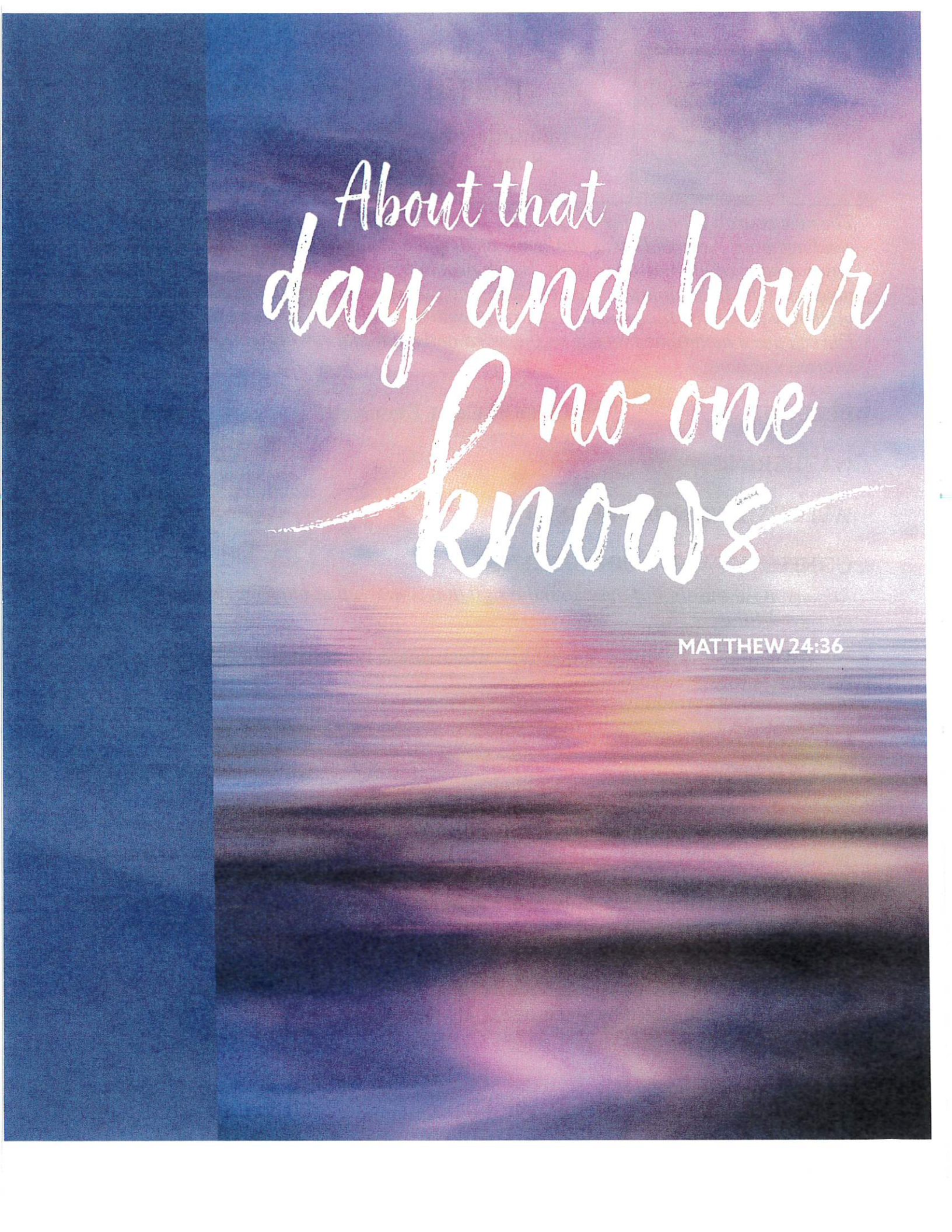




About that
day and hour
no one
knows

MATTHEW 24:36



The First Sunday of Advent

Saturday, November 29, 2025 ~ 5:00pm

Sunday, November 30, 2025 ~ 9:00am

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

PRELUDE

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Jubilation

GATHERING

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God,
we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. † You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

FIRST SUNDAY - *The Wonder of Christmas*

Candle Lighting

Today we light the **first candle**. The first candle reminds us that the season of Advent is a time of unspeakable wonder. As we begin our Advent journey, let us stand amazed at the promise God has fulfilled, the love God has shown, and the joy God has given through the birth of Christ

Responsive Litany

Advent is a time to remember the wonders of our faith.

God has done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

Advent is a time to be amazed at God's wondrous love.

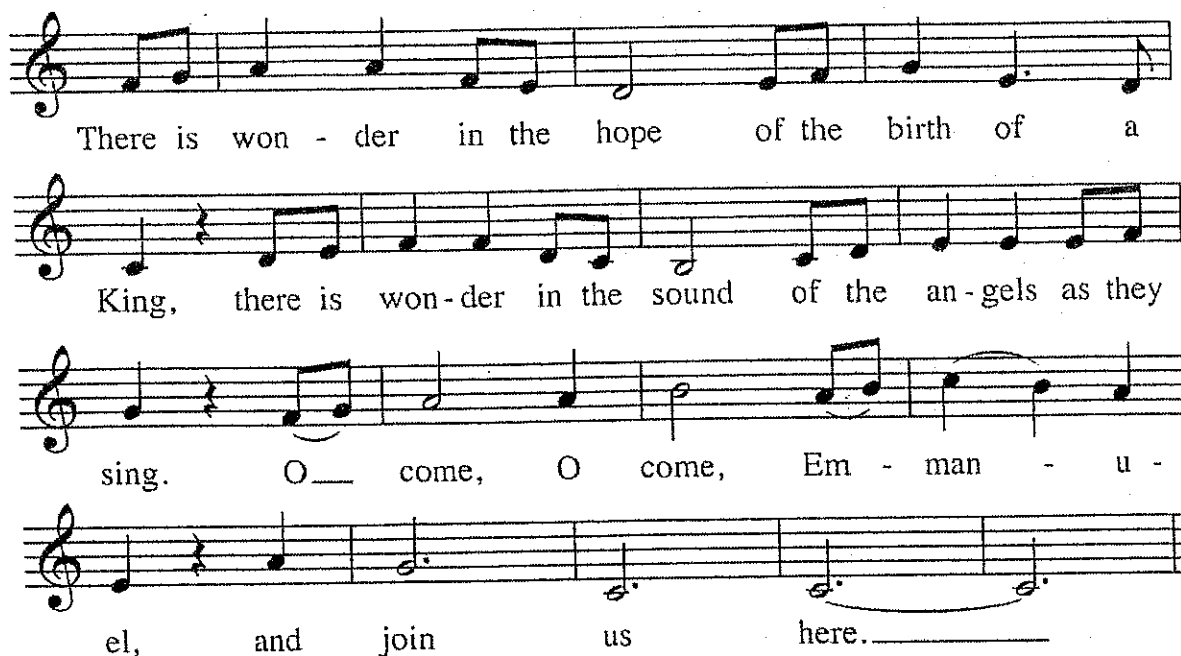
God has done wonderful things, thing planned long ago.

Advent is a time to retrace our past, and reclaim the hope of our future.

God has done wonderful things, thing planned long ago.

Advent is a time to be awed by God's unfolding plan for creation.

God has done wonderful things, thing planned long ago.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 122

¹I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

²Now our feet are standing
 within your gates, O Jerusalem.
³Jerusalem is built as a city
 that is at unity with itself;
⁴to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,
 the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.
⁵For there are the thrones of judgment,
 the thrones of the house of David.
⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
 "May they prosper who love you."
⁷Peace be within your walls
 and quietness within your towers.
⁸For the sake of my kindred and companions,
 I pray for your prosperity.
⁹Because of the house of the LORD our God,
 I will seek to do you good."

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

A reading from Romans.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Help Us O Lord"

Help us O Lord to hear your word. O-pen our hearts to

(Continued on the next page.)



Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

ANTHEM

“We Wait”

Jubilation

HOLY BAPTISM (5:00 pm) Maya Ashley Pesanti
Reese Harper Donaubauer

ELW pg 227

NICENE CREED (9:00 am)

We confess our faith.

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

*Each prayer petition will conclude, "God of grace,"
The congregation responds, "hear our prayer."*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THE OFFERING

OFFERING SONG

"Help Us Oh Lord"

vv. 1 & 3

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 108. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into four measures, each with a chord symbol above it: Em, C, D, and Em. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The lyrics are: 'Help us, oh Lord, to do what is right and wise. Teach us to live your king - dom come here on earth. of - fer in joy what you first to us gave:'.

Help us, oh Lord, to do what is right and wise.
Teach us to live your king - dom come here on earth.
of - fer in joy what you first to us gave:

(Continued on the next page.)

Help us to see our bro - thers' needs that are in dis - guise.
 O - pen our lives to treat each per - son with e - qual worth.
 Our - selves, our time, the ver - y things that our hands have made.

Help us, oh Lord, to feel the
 Re - mind us we're fam - i - ly; we're
 Re - ceive them all now, this is our

pain bound in our sis - ters' eyes.
 prayer by bap - tis - mal birth.
 in Je - sus' name. We

Chords: Am, C, D, Em, B7

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OFFERING PRAYER

Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name.

Holy God, the Beginning and the End, our Salvation and our Hope, we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.

When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair, you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.

At the end of the ages your Son, Jesus, came to bring us your love and to heal all the suffering world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death and resurrection, we await his coming again in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us and on this bread and wine we share: strengthen our faith increase our hope, and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

COMMUNION SONG "Lamb of God"

$\text{♩} = 100$ $E\flat$ (D) (guitar: capo 1) $B\flat m/G$ (Am/F $\sharp$) $A\flat$ (G)

Lamb of God,
Bread of Life,
Prince of Peace,
Lamb of God,

$E\flat/G$ (D/F $\sharp$) $A\flat Maj7$ (G Maj7) $Gm7$ (F $\sharp$ m7)

you take a way the sin of the

1, 2, 3 $C7$ (B7) $E\flat$ (D) F (E) F7 (E7) $B\flat7$ (A7)

world: have mer-cy on us.

4 $C7$ (B7) $E\flat$ (D) F (E) F7 (E7) $B\flat7$ (A7) $E\flat$ (D)

world: grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. Please follow the directions of the pastors to receive communion. Both wine and grape juice are available for communion. The grape juice is the darker color in the middle of the tray. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion will receive a blessing. Those who are worshiping with us online are invited to have bread and wine or juice available for worship, and we will commune you at the end of communion.

COMMUNION ANTHEMS

**"Light Shines in the Darkness"
"Come, Emmanuel"**

Jubilation

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.
Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

BLESSING

May God who comes among us, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

"Messiah"

Someone's shouting from the des-ert. Someone's shouting from the sea.
 Someone's shouting from the cit-y. I am young,— I am cold.
 Someone's shouting I am brok-en. Someone's shouting make me whole.

Someone's shouting from the mountain. Someone's shouting from the val-ley. Mes-
 Someone's shouting from the country. I am lone-ly, I am old.
 Someone's shouting come and change me. Someone's shouting save my soul.

si ah, come and be our King.

Mes - si ah, come and be our

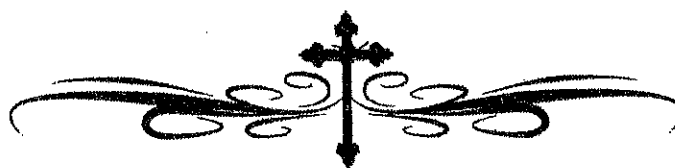
King.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.





THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SHARE IN OUR WORSHIP

SATURDAY	5:00 pm Worship Service
Ushers	Doug & Michele Olson
Reader	Donna Darnall
Communion Assistant	Donna Darnall
Counters	<i>Not determined at the time of printing</i>

SUNDAY	9:00 am Worship Service
Ushers	Mike & Chris Copley
Reader	Chris Copley
Communion Assistant	Chris Copley
Counters	Mary Ann Anderson & Nina Looney

Choir Director	Susan Becker
Organist	Teri Wittkowski and Susan Becker
Jubilation Leader	Neal Becker
Online Streaming Crew	Lucas Golinghorst, Scott LaPlante, & Kevin Zidarich

Advent Signs

Few things in life are as jarring as awakening to the shriek of a fire alarm. Of course, that is by design. The safety of those gathered indoors calls for a blaring warning of impending danger so that all might be delivered from harm. Jesus offers a similar signal to his beloveds today, begging us to pay attention to the seriousness of the message he bears: *Be ready! Keep awake! Pay attention to your surroundings! Deliverance is coming soon!*

Advent is a season of preparation, directing our focus toward the incarnation, toward Christmas, when God becomes human and the weary world rejoices. Sometimes preparations take the form of monthslong laborious planning, as we might do for an international trip or the renovation of a home. Other times, preparations must happen immediately, within hours, minutes, or seconds. When a fire alarm sounds, there's no time to plan: We must act quickly, gathering what is most important to get to safety together.

This first Sunday of Advent is a chance to take stock of what is most important in life, to attune our spirits to the reign of heaven that God is birthing in our world. We may be unsettled by these gospel images of the great flood and of field workers being disappeared. Such stories indeed may spark fear, anxiety, and distrust. Yet God comes to be with us amid all the great uncertainties of life, amid the atrocities of human violence, amid the worst of our losses and fears. Jesus reminds us that God is always drawing near to the world, always extending mercy, always acting with love. Mercy and love are Advent signs worth paying attention to, worth staying awake for. Be ready, beloveds, and fear not! God's deliverance is coming soon.

FAITH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Senior Pastor Carrie La Plante Pastor Heather Geest
Worship: Saturday 5 pm Sunday 9 am
Telephone: (563) 285-4501 Email: faitheldridge@netins.net



GRACE - GIFTED FAITH - LIFTED
CALLED TO SHARE, SEEK AND SERVE CHRIST.

First Sunday of Advent
November 29 & 30, 2025

WELCOME TO WORSHIP Today we gather to celebrate God's love and grace as revealed to us through Jesus Christ. For those that might be interested in knowing more about the ministries and activities of the congregation there are some printed materials available for you to take. The materials are located on the counter just inside the east entrance of this building. You can also find more information through the church website at faithlutheranelldridge.com.

CHILDREN are always welcome in worship. Special children's bulletins are available for their use.

VISITOR? CHANGE OF ADDRESS? INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES? HAVE A PRAYER REQUEST? Please feel free to complete the information card located in front of you next to the hymnals and pass the card to the outer aisle during announcements and an usher will pick them up during the call to worship.



**The flowers on the altar this weekend are given by
Dan & Karen O'Flaherty in loving memory of their parents.**

*If you are interested in providing altar flowers, please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex, or by using the link on our web site,
www.faithlutheranelldridge.com*



Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these
people and all who are in need in our prayers.

Steve Mixdorf	Meyer Mixdorf	Linda Demuth	Dave
Henry Storjohann	Cheryl Torey	Marilyn	Linda
Jim Schneider	Anderson Sears	Kelly	
Gary Oerman	June Mephram	James	
Patty Denner	Anna Mundy	Cindy	
Barb Conklen	Rebecca Casson	Thad	



This weekend we will be collecting a "noisy" offering for ELCA World Hunger. Please drop any change into the cans and make a joyful noise to the Lord!



During the Saturday, November 29 worship service, we welcome to our Faith family through the waters of holy baptism, Maya Ashley Pesanti, daughter of Stephen Pesanti and Sally Donaubauber. Her sponsors are Scott and Brook Donaubauber.

During the Saturday, November 29 worship service, we welcome to our Faith family through the waters of holy baptism, Reese Harper Donaubauber, daughter of Scott and Brook Donaubauber. Her sponsor is Sally Donaubauber.

The roses on the altar are given in celebration of the baptisms in loving memory of Mary House, Maddie Mess, and Jackie Snyder.



The Sunday School Christmas program will be on **Sunday, December 14th**, at 9:00 am. We will practice during Sunday School on **November 30 and December 7.**

Sunday School will be on Christmas break December 21 and 28. We will resume on Sunday, January 4, with our Winter Rally Day and Congregational Breakfast!



Ushers and those interested in becoming Ushers...

Our Church Council recently adopted a security plan. The Ushers have a important role in the safety and security of our church. Part of the plan requires quarterly training for the Ushers. The next Training will be held on **Sunday, November 30 @10:15 am** in the Sanctuary. Please plan to attend! **Contact Tom Bauer at (563) 505-5776 for more information.**



The cooler weather is rapidly approaching. A box collection box is located in the gathering area for donations of new or gently used coats, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, snow pants, socks and hand warmers for Humility Homes to distribute to their clients all winter long. The collection box will be in place here at church until Sunday, December 7th. Any donation will be warmly accepted. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Betty Strom.



Cinnamon Roll Sunday

Youth who will be attending the mission trip to Denver next summer will be making and selling cinnamon rolls the **weekend of December 13 & 14** to help raise funds for their trip. You can purchase these delicious rolls in person around worship December 13 & 14. Pre-orders will be taken beginning in the middle of November. The cost of cinnamon rolls will be 2 rolls for \$3, 6 rolls for \$8 and a dozen rolls for \$15. They will be available baked and unbaked.

Thank you for supporting our youth!



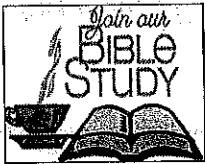
Christmas Poinsettias

If you wish to contribute toward Christmas poinsettias that will decorate the altar area this year, please list your name and the name(s) of those you wish to honor on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex area, or online using the link on our website. We are asking for a contribution of **\$10.00** to help offset the cost of the plants. **Please indicate 'flowers' on your envelope so we know how to allocate the funds.** Names must be received by **December 14** to be published in the Christmas Eve worship bulletin.



Thanksgiving Special Offering

Our Thanksgiving special offering will go to the Lutheran Lakeside capital campaign, For Every Season. More information about this campaign can be found on the Lutheran Lakeside Web Site, at <https://www.lutheranlakeside.com/for-every-season-lutheran-lakeside-camp/>



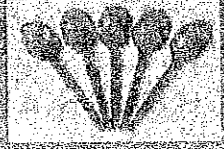
Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study

Join us this **Tuesday afternoon at 1:00 pm**, as we read and discuss the scriptures for the week ahead.



Feed Our Children

During the month of November we are asking for donations of napkins and plastic spoons.



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

WEEKLY

Sneak Peek

Saturday, November 29 *Noisy Offering*

5:00 pm Jubilation Worship in
Sanctuary & Online

Sunday, November 30 *Noisy Offering*

9:00 am Jubilation Worship in
Sanctuary
10:15 am Fellowship
10:15 am Sunday School

Monday, December 1 *Office Closed*

6:30 pm Lions Club Meeting

Tuesday, December 2 25

1:00 pm Bible Study
5:30 pm Food Pantry
6:30 pm Jubilation
6:30 pm VFW

Wednesday, December 3

0:15 am Resounding Joy
5:00 pm Confirmation Meal
5:30 pm Confirmation Conversations
6:00 pm People of Praise
7:00 pm High School Youth

Thursday, December 4

6:30 pm Team Night

Friday, December 5

9:30 am Food Pantry
1:00 pm Friday Fun Club

Saturday, December 6

5:00 pm Worship in Sanctuary &
Online

Sunday, December 7

9:00 am Worship in Sanctuary
10:15 am Fellowship
10:15 am Sunday School



Pastor Carrie and Pastor Heather are available for Pastoral Care, but we need your help to know when and where that is needed. Please contact us at the church office at (563) 285-4501. For after-hour emergencies, please contact Pastor Carrie at (641) 275-1326 or Pastor Heather at (563) 639-9606.



Faith Welcomes Christmas Brass Quartet

On Sunday December 7, our brass quartet returns to play many of your favorite Christmas carols before, during, and after the service. Come and enjoy the sounds of Advent and Christmas!