

4th of Advent — December 21, 2025

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

The Lighting of the 4th Advent Candle— The candle of Love -

The Boscarinos

Hymn

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

ELW 240 vs. 4

Confession and Absolution

Pg 94-95

L Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
C Amen.

L Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C Amen.

L Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

All: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

L In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God Forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Children's Sermon

Opening Hymn

People, Look East

ELW 248

Apostolic Greeting

ELW Pg. 147

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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

L The Lord be with you

C And also with you

L Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

¹⁰ The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹ "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." ¹³ Then Isaiah said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶ For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted." Holy Wisdom, Holy Word

C Thanks be to God!

Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19 *chanted*

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph ¹ like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- ¹ on the cherubim.

² **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, ¹ and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and ¹ come to help us.**

³ Restore ¹ us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

⁴ **O LORD ¹ God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your ¹ people pray?**

⁵ You have fed them with the ¹ bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of ¹ tears to drink.

⁶ **You have made us the derision ¹ of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh ¹ us to scorn**

⁷ Restore us, O ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.

¹⁷ **Let your hand be upon the one at ¹ your right hand,
the one you have made so strong ¹ for yourself.**

¹⁸ And so will we never turn a- ¹ way from you;
give us life, that we may call up- ¹ on your name.

¹⁹ **Restore us, O LORD ¹ God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we ¹ shall be saved.**

Second Reading: Romans 1: 1-7

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ² which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³ the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴ and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵ through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶ including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷ To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Holy wisdom, holy word. **C Thanks be to God**

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation

ELW Pg. 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel according to Matthew in the 1st Chapter. C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³ "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Christmas Pageant

The Chris. Ed. Kids

Hymn of the Day

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW 257 vs. 1-4

Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son,
our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the
Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and
the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
catholic church,
the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life
everlasting. Amen.**

Hymn 245 vs. 1 Marcia plays a brief intro, then we sing once. Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light, O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you hear us when we call.

Prayers of the Church

L: Trusting the promise of the of Christ's saving grace, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we lift our intercessions for ourselves and our neighbors.

AM: For Christ's holy church, that we may embrace our role as the Body of Christ, bringing healing, joy, reconciliation, and love to all, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

AM: For the nations of the world, that oppression will be replaced by justice, poverty by abundance, and war by peace, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

AM: For our planetary home, that while we live and breathe, we may tend the gracious gift of this land, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

AM: For all the children across the globe, that we may pass on to them a social order that treasures them, and seeks their well-being in every way, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

AM: For ourselves, that we may be uplifted by this season's promise, and that our grateful hearts may become wells of generosity, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

AM: For any other needs you now raise.....Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

L: For these, and all other needs we have, Lord in your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

Amen

Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

The offering is received

Anthem: Did You Hear the Story Words & Music: Stan Pethel

Did you hear the story about the baby boy? Born in a manger in Bethlehem. Did you hear about the angels when they sang for joy? Singing about the baby in Bethlehem. Did you know that he came from up above? With peace on earth to all and heavenly love. Did you hear the story about the baby boy? Born in a manger in Bethlehem. Shepherds out watching all their flocks of sheep, heard the news and then they came to see; a little tiny baby, it was just a sight, for the Son of God was born that night. Did you hear the story about the baby boy? Born in a manger in Bethlehem. Did you hear about the angels when they sang for joy? Singing about the baby in Bethlehem. Did you know that he came from up above with peace on earth to all and heavenly love? Did you hear the story about the baby boy? Born in a manger in Bethlehem. Stars, they were shining in the evening sky, folks just stood around and wondered why. Because everyone felt different everything seemed new it was God himself, a miracle true. Did you hear the story about the baby boy? Born in a Manger in Bethlehem. Did you hear about the angels when they sang for joy? Singing about the baby in Bethlehem. Did you know that he came from up above? With peace on earth to all heavenly love. Did you hear the story about the baby boy? Born in a manger in Bethlehem, born in a manger in Bethlehem. Did you hear the story about the baby boy? Born in Bethlehem.

Offertory Hymn

ELW 184

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

Great Thanksgiving – page 152

- L The Lord be with you. C And also with you.
L Lift up your hearts. C We lift them to the Lord.
L Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Proper Preface is chanted.

- L 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 name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus Pg. 152

- C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Great Thanksgiving

LORD'S PRAYER

- 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

Agnus Dei Pg. 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion is distributed.

Communion Music

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW 257 vs. 5-8

Post Communion Prayer

Benediction

L The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

ELW 272

Dismissal

AM Go now in peace, to love and serve the Lord and your neighbors.

C Thanks be to God

Postlude

Thank you for coming.

May God's peace be yours today.



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

The following is a listing of those who need your prayers. Our hope is that you will take this listing home with you and in your daily prayers remember those listed below.

Ben, Sheryl & Nik Ahrens
Connie Aparo
Phil Bascetta
Charlie Blakeslee

Kathleen Bowler
Cherie Brown
Sharon Cable
Kathy Ann Campbell
Angelo & Nicole Capasso

Carol Cianciolo
Leif Dallaire
Emily Decker
Linda Dellano
Carla Derrickson

Winifried Diorio
Irene Douglas
J.J. Eby
Judy Elliott
Walt Esker

Jan Eucalitto
Jennifer Ezzo
Weston Faith
Bruce & Liz Falls
Tommy Fitzpatrick

Bob Frantz
Ashley Friday
John Fox
Joan Gerard
Danise Hall

Jack & Barbara Heintz
Brayden Herzberg
Renate Higgins
Charles Hilton
Kathleen Hilton

Shannon Hilton
Jake Hoadley
Sven Holmgren
Erma Horn
Eunice Jones

Rusty Judd
Colin Keeley
Marilyn Killingbeck
Jason Lashbrook
Gail Lavoie

John Lewis
David Little
Rebecca Little

Amy & Dave Louen
Kari Machowski

Mary Ellen Mackinnon
Jerry MacManus
Irene Madore
Audrey Marquard
Abigail Marine

Richard Marine
Janis Martin
Gil & Marilyn Martin
Gladys Medina
Michael Meyers

Kate Merrow
Colin Moore
Brigitte Mueller
Bob Murphy
Barbara Nalette

Karen Ness
Tom O'Brien
Lea Orriola & family
Karen Pagano
Russell Palmer

Maria Payne
Lisa & Dennis Polzun
Caroline Quintal
Ed & Susan Regner
Jonathan Richard

Louise Roche
Baerbel Roehl
Patricia & Richard Sawitzke
Holly Schaff
Rosemary & Otto Schibi

Denae Seelye
Sara Seelye
Matt Simpson
Lori Sola
Dana Steele
Sigrid Smitley

Paul Smith
John Sproat
Dana & George Steele
Jennifer Stella

Deb & Jon Sterling
Tom Sterling Sr.
RuthAnn Stone
Patricia Switzer

Gloria Thibault

Andy Thomas
Julia Thompson Carroll
Susan Tycieski
Carol Vrlík

Eveyn Walters
Steve Warner
Sue Watkins
Kim Weissman
Renee Woodard
Bruce Yauney

Clayton Young
Clarence & Priscilla
Ed
Jen O.
Jaiden

Steve
Lou W.
Steve
Todd
Robert K.

Diane A.
Terry
Joe
Carol G.
Kristen & Jared

Vinny
Hagbard
Carolina
Robert P.
Peanut

Colleen
Ken
Kathy
Jaxson
Gail

F.C.H.
Stephan
Jason R.
Diane L.

Holly L.
Al & Mary

Family and Friends of Kay Ackley

Our Nursing Home Members

Dee Gammon
Midge Rosenbeck
Judy Schaller
Ernest Marquard
Mae Fay
Francine Ahrens
Betty Hilton
Walter Joray

Our Military Friends

Lord Jesus, Savior of the World and King of Peace, watch over our sons and daughters in the service of their Country. Protect them from the physical and moral dangers. Keep them close to you and help them live the commandments. Lord, Jesus give them courage to serve their country with honor and dignity. Be with them when they are in danger; strengthen them when they face hardship. Above all Lord, grant that when their service is finished that they may return to us, sound in mind, body and soul. Amen.

Tyler Quinn
Eric Beyus
Major Zachary Fulton
Brandan Holbrook
Jonathan Connell
Tom Gregg, Jr.
Eric Bremer
Peter Hutchinson
SPC Dominic Boscarino
PVT Noah Braatz
PVT 2 Christian Braatz
Aiden Avenia USCG
2nd Lt. Ben Speaker
Pvt. Noah Roy

Around the Church

Event	Date	Time
Blue Christmas Service	12/21	4 pm
Christmas Eve	12/24	10 am 4 pm
Lessons & Carols	12/28	10 am
Council	1/19	7 pm
WELCA game night	1/23	6 pm

Bible Study

No Bible studies Dec 24, 30 or 31

Tuesday via Zoom 6:00 pm

In person Bible Study Wednesdays

10:00 am

Wednesdays

Tai Chi 11:00 am

Quilting Group 1:00 pm

Offerings Summary:

Needed Weekly	\$4,561
Received	\$2,251
Shortfall	(\$2,310)
YTD shortfall	(\$67,875)

Minimalist bulletin

Prelude

Announcements

Confession

Children's Sermon

Opening Hymn

Apostolic Greeting

Kyrie Pg 147

Prayer of the Day

First Reading

Psalm

Second Reading

Gospel Acclamation Pg. 151

Reading of the Holy Gospel

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Creed

Prayers of the People

Peace

A Capella Choir Anthem

The Offering is received

Offertory Hymn ELW 184

Offertory Prayer

Great Thanksgiving

Sanctus pg. 153

Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) pg. 154

Communion is Distributed

Post-communion prayer

Benediction

Closing Hymn

Dismissal

Postlude

In other news...

Please fill out commitment sheets if you have not done already.

If you can share food for those in need, we would be grateful. The food will be distributed between the social service agencies in our area.

Sunday helper rotation for 2026- Anyone who would like to do any of the roles - Asst Min, Comm Asst, usher, slides, healer - should contact Pastor via email, text, or sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Those interested in becoming official members please fill out a form found in the Narthex. We will find a convenient date early next year to welcome you during worship.

Our new website is up. Please check it out. It should help you stay informed. If you have suggestions for any improvements, please let us know. We are working on adding a calendar with all the meeting dates of committees, groups and other events that are happening.

Bulletins - The full text bulletin is intended for those who have trouble following the service with only the monitors. The abbreviated bulletin is sufficient for most members. Also, there is a milk carton under the desk near the right hand exit door. Please recycle either bulletin there unless you are taking it to someone who would like it. The prayer list, for example, is on both the full and abbreviated bulletin.

Don't forget Name Tags are in the Narthex!

