

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2024

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS/WELCOME

INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Congregation: Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (pg. 56 LBW)

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.

Congregation: Amen.

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Most merciful God,

ALL: We confess that we are in bondage 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 you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

LBW #22 "The Advent of Our God"

GREETING (pg. 57 LBW)

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.

KYRIE (pgs. 57-58 LBW) - Spoken

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mercy. L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mercy. L: 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. C: Lord, have mercy. L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. C: Lord, have mercy. L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. C: Amen

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH - HOPE

L: Let us pray: **C: O Lord our God, open our eyes and hearts to the hope we find in your Word and through prayer and worship. You are always with us and preparing a place for us to be with you for eternity. In You alone do we trust. Amen.**

SALUTATION (pg. 62 LBW)

L: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: AMEN**

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Pew Bible pg. 831

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 25:1-10

L: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in you; let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

C: Let none who look to you be put to shame; let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

L: Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

C: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

L: Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

C: Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

L: Gracious and upright is the LORD; therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

C: He guides the humble in doing right and teaches his way to the lowly.

L: All the paths of the LORD are love and faithfulness to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

C: For your name's sake, O LORD, forgive my sin, for it is great.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Pew Bible pg. 1238

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (pg. 62 LBW)

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

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 19:28-40

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 19th chapter. **Congregation sings: Glory to you, O Lord.**

L: The Gospel of the Lord. **Congregation sings: Praise to you, O Christ. (Please be seated)**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON (Written by Rev. Dr. David M. Wendel)

Dennis Albers

HYMN OF THE DAY

LBW #400 "God, Whose Almighty Word"
(Please rise as you are able)

NICENE CREED

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: And also with you.

OFFERING

Monica Carico & Melanie Drudge

“Love of God” – Brandon Lake/Phil Wickham

OFFERTORY (pg. 75 LBW) (Please rise) **Congregation Sings: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord, in Your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

LORD’S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

LBW #35 “Hark, the Glad Sound!”

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

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*“On this first day of Advent, Lord, we are eager for your coming — at Christmas,
at the end of time and in the present moment. Amen.”*

NEWEST PRAYER CONCERNS:

Family of Ted Valentine Family of Marla Osterbur

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:

Dave Howe	Pen Pendleton	Denny Doyle	Pr. Barb Busboom
Rodney Larkin	Rich Friemel	Geraldine Gorecki	Lee Briggs
Debbi Dietz	Carla Adkins	Kim Wyre	Jessica Hawn
Earl Smith	Cindy Williams	Gabbi Reynolds	Ben Moser
William Benton	Steve Ritchie	Sharon Lohen	Mary Mallicoat
Bob & Jenny Hobby	Nick Shepherd	Michael Markarian	Joyce Keith
Merrill Wattjes	Joan Percival	Joyce Williamson	

NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING:

Keith Dohleman	Rita Buenting	Ruth Lutz	Joan Mathis
Genet Dixon	Dave Overholt	Loretta Overholt	Joyce Higgins

MILITARY (Bolded names are known to be in an area of higher danger):

Jon Stiebner	Alex Short	Brandon Elrod	Kasey Fenimore
Brian Griswold	Levi Loschen	Ryan Falletti	Riley Falletti

TABLE GUILD

ACOLYTES

BULLETIN GREETERS

GREETERS

LECTOR

PRAYER LEADER

WORSHIP STEWARD

USHERS

Terri Kirby, Lloyd Schluter
Jack Flesner, Kyndall Cox
Ron & Janie Howe
Mary Peters, Phyllis Hafermann
Aubrie Albers
Sally Bauer
Richard Peavler
David & Debbie Keith

WELCOME TO WORSHIP “Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation” (Psalm 25:4-5).

BROADCAST OF THE SERVICE & FLOWERS TODAY are provided by *Jim & Pam Cheek* in memory of their daughter, Michelle Tatar.

FLOWERS TODAY are provided by *Earl Smith*.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will be held today immediately following the service to vote on extending a call to Aaron Dawson to be the Pastor of the American Lutheran Church.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING will take place immediately following the Congregational Meeting today. Please plan to help if you can.

CHRISTMAS QUILTS are on sale today in the Narthex at a cost of \$40.

PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER ALC Preschool is selling Butter Braids before and after church today. All orders need to be placed by December 2nd. For any questions or to place an order please email preschoolatalc@gmail.com or call 217-893-8773. Thank you all, for supporting the preschool.

TOY DRIVE is being conducted by the NALC Disaster Response for children ages infant to 18 years old who are victims of Hurricane Helene. Gifts should be new and unwrapped and brought to ALC, attention Terry Doyle, no later than December 3rd. Amazon gift cards, particularly for the teens, may either be brought to church or shipped directly to the NALC National Disaster Response Warehouse c/o Mary Bates, 16500 Noble Ave., Caldwell, OH, 43724. Please contact Terry Doyle with any questions (815-258-8474).

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY The midweek Advent Bible Study is The Light of Grace. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. this Wednesday, December 4th. The lessons begin with a study on hope and peace, followed by peace and joy, and finally love. Since there are four lessons and only three Wednesdays, we will do one and a half lessons on the first two Wednesdays. Prior to the Bible study, a light meal will be served beginning at 5:15 p.m. in the Youth Hall.

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES will be available to pick-up in the Narthex starting Sunday, December 15th. Please DO NOT start using these envelopes until January of 2025. If you would like envelopes and none have been provided, please contact Judy Peck in the office.

QUILTERS will not meet for the remainder of 2024. They will resume meeting on Monday, January 6th, 2025.

UPCOMING PULPIT SCHEDULE:

December 8th – Pr. Jim Lehmann (Communion)

December 15th – Children’s Christmas Program

December 22nd – Neal White

ATTENDANCE FROM LAST WEEK:

9:00 a.m. Worship Service – 120

BROADCAST/FLOWER CHART If you would like to sponsor the weekly radio broadcast on WPXN, the cost is \$50. To provide flowers for Sunday, the cost is \$25. Please sign up on the appropriate chart outside the Narthex then notify the church office the details to print in the bulletin prior to that date.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for the fourth quarter (October-December) are still available to pick up in the Narthex and outside the church office.

STUDENT CLOTHING DONATIONS We are again partnering with Northview Grade School collecting gently used clothing, and new socks, underwear and shoes for children ages K - 5th Grade (size 5T to Men's & Women's size small). A donation tub is in the Narthex.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Malachi 3:1-7b; Psalm 66:1-12; Philippians 1:2-11; Luke 3:1-20

THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 1

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting
Following
Cong. Mtg.: Sunday School, Women's Bible Study
& Decorating for Christmas

Monday, December 2

12:30 p.m. NO Quilting

Tuesday, December 3

6:00 p.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, December 4

5:15 p.m. Fellowship Meal
5:30 p.m. Confirmation
6:00 p.m. Advent Bible Study

Thursday, December 5

9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, December 8

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Sunday School & Women's Bible Study

Radio Broadcast Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m. on WPXN 104.9FM

Daily Prayers & Lessons – First Sunday in Advent
December 1, 2024 – December 7, 2024

Prayer: Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN

Daily Lessons:

Sunday	Isaiah 1:1-9	Psalm 23	Matthew 25:1-13
Monday	Isaiah 1:10-20	Psalm 24	Luke 20:1-8
Tuesday	Isaiah 1:21-31	Psalm 25	Luke 20:9-18
Wednesday	Isaiah 2:1-4	Psalm 26	Luke 20:19-26
Thursday	Isaiah 2:5-22	Psalm 27	Luke 20:27-40
Friday	Isaiah 3:1-4:1	Psalm 28	Luke 20:41-21:4
Saturday	Isaiah 4:2-6	Psalm 29	Luke 21:5-19

Morning Prayer We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all danger and harm. We ask you to preserve and keep us, this day also, from all sin and evil, that in all our thoughts, words, and deeds we may serve and please you. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen

Mid-Day Prayer Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God, at this hour you bore our sins in your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness. Have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death, and grant to us, your servants, with all others who devoutly remember your blessed Passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and, through your grace, eternal glory in the life to come; where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, God forever. Amen

Evening Prayer We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have this day so graciously protected us. We beg you to forgive us all our sins and the wrong which we have done. By your great mercy defend us from all the perils and dangers of this night. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen



It's time to order your poinsettias.
They will be placed around the church by
Sunday, December 8th.

If you wish to order a Poinsettia plant, please fill out the form below
and place in the offering plate.

The cost for each plant is \$17.50. You may place the money in an envelope
in the offering plate. Please mark on the outside of the envelope,
“Poinsettia”, and include your name.

ORDER DEADLINE — Thursday, December 5th

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO ORDER A POINSETTIA PLANT
AT A COST OF \$17.50 A PLANT.

(Please write your name below as you would like it to appear in the bulletin.)

NAME _____