

# AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Aaron Dawson

First Sunday in Advent

November 30, 2025

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK

Deanne Rosenbeck, Christmas Parade

INVOCATION

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

OPENING HYMN

LBW #25 “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

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*

SALUTATION (pg. 62 LBW)

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

*L: 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*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH – HOPE

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 2:1-5

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 122

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

**C: Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

*L: Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;*

**C: to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**

*L: For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.*

**C: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.**

*L: Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.*

**C: For my brethren and companions sake, I pray for your prosperity.**

*L: Because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to do you good."*

SECOND LESSON: Romans 13:11-14

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: Matthew 24:36-44

*L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 36<sup>th</sup> chapter. Congregation sings: Glory to you, O Lord.*

*(After the Gospel is read) L: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Dennis Albers

HYMN OF THE DAY

WOV #725 "Blessed Be the God of Israel"

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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**

*L: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith; C: pray in the Holy Spirit.*

*L: Keep yourselves in the love of God;*

**C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

*L: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:*

**C: Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**

*L: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.*

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

*L: Gracious God, C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

*L: The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins.*

**C: Amen**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

Monica Carico

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" by Meredith Andrews

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 (Spoken)

*L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. C: Amen*

CLOSING HYMN

**WOV #779 "You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord"**

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

**AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**500 Church Drive, Rantoul, IL 61866**  
**(217) 893-4550 (217) 892-8024 (fax)**  
**amluthoffice@gmail.com    www.alc-rantoul.org**

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*“Today we begin the season of Advent — a time of waiting, hope and preparation.  
As we worship, let us open our hearts to the Light that is coming,  
rejoice in the promises of God and prepare the way for Christ our Lord.”*

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**CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:**

Sondra Sipes	Rich Friemel	Barb Corbly	Jeff Holsinger
Ethan Kempfer	Marty Mirocha	Melvina Heap	Breen Sipes
Paul Albers	Karen Bruns	Ray Hoff	Daniel Rodriquez
Kim Wyre	Annette Carlson	Marlys Morris	Wilma Suits
Brian Dietz	Karen Flessner	Roberta Arthur	Steve Schluter
Eugene Schmidt	Tracie Sisneros	Glenn Behnke	John Keith
Pen Pendleton	Denny Doyle	Pr. Barb Busboom	Rodney Larkin
Geraldine Gorecki	Lee Briggs	Carla Adkins	Jessica Hawn
Earl Smith	Gabbi Reynolds	Ben Moser	William Benton
Steve Ritchie	Sharon Lohen	Mary Mallicoat	Nick Shepherd
Michael Markarian	Joyce Keith	Merrill Wattjes	Joan Percival
Joyce Williamson	Bob & Jenny Hobby		

**NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING:**

Keith Dohleman	Joan Mathis	Luella Loschen	Genet Dixon
Dave Overholt	Loretta Overholt	Clarence Stanfill	Martha Stanfill

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

Jon Stiebner	Alex Short	Brandon Elrod	Kasey Fenimore
Levi Loschen	Ryan Falletti	Riley Falletti	Eli Baker

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**ALTAR GUILD**

**ACOLYTES**

**GREETERS**

**LECTOR**

**PRAYER LEADER**

**WORSHIP STEWARD**

**USHERS**

Terri Kirby, Sally Bauer

Aubrie Albers, Jake Holland

Jack & Brenda Spitz

Andrew Peck

Justin Kaiser

Terry Doyle

Tom Edwards, Logan Suits, Emily Holland

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP** This last Sunday in November is also the first Sunday of Advent. We are delighted that you have come to worship. Let us now begin to spiritually prepare ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth.

**FLOWERS TODAY** are provided in memory of the November 26<sup>th</sup> birthday of Thomas W. Hammon, father of Midge Seim.

**FLOWERS TODAY** are provided by Dave & Loretta Overholt in celebration of their 55<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on November 30<sup>th</sup>.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICES** will be held this Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, & next Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday school hour along with costume fittings. On Friday, December 12<sup>th</sup>, there will be a 5:30 p.m. meal, followed at 6:00 p.m. by a full run through practice. Immediately after practice, we will be decorating Christmas cookies for the reception that will be held immediately following church the day of the program. The Christmas program will be on December 14<sup>th</sup>, during church. Kids should arrive no later than 8:30 a.m. to get into their costumes. Families and the congregation are welcome to stay after service for a brief reception and cookies! Any questions, please call or text Kristin Dawson, 618-638-6506.

**PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER** ALC Preschool is selling Butter Braids, pizzas and cookies. All orders need to be placed by tomorrow, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**WEDNESDAY ADVENT SERVICES** will be held on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, & 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel. A light meal of soup and sandwiches will be held in the Youth Hall before services at 6:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Narthex for these meals.

**CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT EXCHANGE** The WNALC (Women of North American Lutheran Church) will be hosting a Christmas Ornament Exchange on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10:00 a.m. This is open to ALL women (no age requirement). You will need to bring a Wrapped Christmas Ornament valued between \$5-\$10. The exchange is similar to a White Elephant gift exchange. We ask that you bring a brunch item of your choice to share. We will have a time of fellowship, eating and fun as we start the joyous time of Christmas. If you have any questions, you can reach out to Deanne Rosenbeck at 217-621-8816. We look forward to sharing this time with you.

**CHRISTMAS QUILTS** will be on sale next Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, and also on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, at a cost of \$40 each.

**2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES** will be available to pick-up in the Narthex starting Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

**ATTENDANCE FROM LAST WEEK:**

9:00 a.m. Worship Service – 130

**ADVENT DEVOTIONALS** are available for you to pick-up in the Narthex. A limited number were printed. If you want one and none are available, please call Nikki in the church office tomorrow and she will make you a copy.

**QUILTERS** will not meet for the remainder of 2025. They will resume meeting on Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**BROADCAST/FLOWER CHART** The cost to sponsor the broadcast on WPXN is \$50. The cost to provide flowers for Sunday is \$25. Please sign up on the chart outside the Narthex and call the office with the details to print in the bulletin.

**VIALS OF LIFE** are available to pick-up in the Narthex on the top shelf of the bookcase. If you need help filling them out or have any questions, please contact the church office and they will get you in contact with Debbi Dietz or Sheila Sherman.

**NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

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**THIS WEEK**

**Sunday, November 30**

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

**Monday, December 1**

12:30 p.m.    NO Quilting

**Wednesday, December 3**

4:00 p.m.    Bell Choir Practice  
5:00 p.m.    Choir Practice  
6:00 p.m.    Advent Meal  
7:00 p.m.    Advent Service

**Thursday, December 4**

9:00 a.m.    Bible Study

**Saturday, December 6**

10:00 a.m.    WNALC Ornament Exchange

**Sunday, December 7**

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

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



It's time to order your poinsettias.  
They will be placed around the church by  
Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>.

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 \$18.25. 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 11<sup>th</sup>

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YES, I WOULD LIKE TO ORDER A POINSETTIA PLANT  
AT A COST OF \$18.25 A PLANT.

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

NAME \_\_\_\_\_