

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Aaron Dawson

Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 2025

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS/WELCOME

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (pg. 56 LBW)

P: 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

P: 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.

P: Most merciful God, C: 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

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives the sins of all who trust on the merit of Jesus Christ alone. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen

P: However, to all unrepentant sinners and despisers of God, of His Words, and of His Holy Sacraments, I say from God's Word and in the name of Jesus Christ, that God has kept their sins and will certainly punish in time and eternity, so long as they, during this time of grace, refuse to turn from them and to repent. We wish them from the heart that they would repent.

C: Amen

OPENING HYMN

LBW #23 "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

(Vs. 1, 2, & 4)

GREETING (pg. 57 LBW)

P: 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)

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

C: Amen

SALUTATION (pg. 62 LBW)

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. C: Amen

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH - PEACE

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-10

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

L: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son;

C: that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;

L: that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the little hills bring righteousness.

C: He shall defend the needy among the people; he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.

L: He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

C: He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.

L: In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

C: Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous deeds!

L: And blessed be his glorious name forever, and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 15:4-13

**Please stand for the procession of the cross, bowing as it passes by,
and remain standing until the cross is returned to its base.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (pg. 62 LBW)

(Please stand)

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

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 3:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 3rd chapter. Congregation sings: Glory to you, O Lord. (After Gospel is read) P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Aaron Dawson

HYMN OF THE DAY

LBW #36 "On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry"

DEDICATION OF PARAMENTS

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (pg. 66 LBW) (Please rise) **Congregation Sings: 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 now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER (pg. 67 LBW) *P: Merciful Father, C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

GREAT THANKSGIVING (pgs. 68-69 LBW)

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them 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 indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth....as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

LORD'S PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD (pg. 72 LBW) **Congregation Sings: 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.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING, CANTICLE & PRAYER (pgs. 72 LBW) (Please rise as you are able) **Congregation sings: Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

BENEDICTION (Sung)

P: 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

LBW #35 "Hark, the Glad Sound!"

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
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amluthoffice@gmail.com www.alc-rantoul.org

“Help us have quiet and joyful spirits as we worship you, our loving Creator.”

NEWEST PRAYER CONCERNS:

Family of Clarence Stanfill

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	Robert 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	Martha Stanfill	LouAnn Baugher

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

ALTAR GUILD

ACOLYTES

GREETERS

LECTOR

PRAYER LEADER

WORSHIP STEWARD

USHERS

Sue Coffin, Lloyd Schluter

Connor Suits, Eli Schluter

Jim & Pam Cheek

Pam Cheek

Terry Doyle

Terry Doyle

John & Rhonda Keith, Kyndall Cox

WELCOME TO WORSHIP On this second Sunday of Advent, we eagerly welcome all who have joined with us in anticipation of the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May this time of worship be encouraging and inspirational to all.

FLOWERS TODAY are provided for *DeAnn McMorris* in celebration of her Birthday on December 11th by her family.

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.

CHRISTMAS QUILTS will be on sale today and next Sunday, December 14th, at a cost of \$40 each.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE will be held today during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday school hour along with costume fittings. This Friday, December 12th, there will be a 5:30 p.m. meal, followed at 6:00 p.m. by a full run through practice. The Christmas program will be next Sunday, December 14th, 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 with decorate-your-own cookies in the Youth Hall! Any questions, please call or text Kristin Dawson, 618-638-6506.

PRESCHOOL FUNDRAISER ORDERS will be available to pick up tomorrow after 1:00 p.m. at the preschool. Payment is due at time of pick-up.

WEDNESDAY ADVENT SERVICES are being held on December 10th & 17th, 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.

PORTALS OF PRAYER for the first quarter (January-March) will be available to pick up in the Narthex and outside of the church office this Friday, December 12th.

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES will be available to pick up in the Narthex starting next Sunday, December 14th.

EDEN PARK CEMETERY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Monday, December 15th, at 6:30 p.m. in the ALC Youth Hall. All lot owners are encouraged to attend.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 24th. Christmas Day Service will be held at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel on December 25th.

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION If you are a baptized believer, trusting that the life giving and sustaining power and presence of Christ is truly present in bread and wine, we welcome you to the Lord's table. Children who commune in their home congregations are welcome to commune; those who are not currently communing at the Lord's table are invited to come forward for a blessing keeping their hands to their sides. The center of each tray holds light colored, non-alcoholic juice for those with special circumstances. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request for those with allergies.

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.

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

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 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 7

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

Monday, December 8

12:30 p.m. NO Quilting

Wednesday, December 10

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

Thursday, December 11

9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Friday, December 12

5:30 p.m. Children's Christmas Program Practice & Meal

Sunday, December 14

9:00 a.m. Worship Service w/Children's Program
10:00 a.m. Reception in Youth Hall
 Adult Sunday School
 Women's Bible Study

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 14th.

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 11th

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 _____