

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD NOVEMBER 30, 2025 8:00 & 10:30 AM

AS WE GATHER

Today is not only the First Sunday in Advent but also the commemoration of St. Andrew, whose day governs the start of Advent. In this way, Andrew continues to point to Christ as we begin a new Church Year. How odd it is, then, that the Gospel for the First Sunday in Advent is the same as the Gospel for Palm Sunday! This reminds us that Jesus came for the cross and empty tomb, and this is the only Gospel that can save us from sin and death. The cry of Advent is “prepare the way of the Lord.” We will echo the words of John the Baptist, heralding Christ’s coming. We will join in the chant of the crowd: “Hosanna to the Son of David!” (Matthew 21:9). We will hear Him speak to us through the voice of His Word. We will feast upon His flesh for the life of the world and His blood that cleanses us from all sin. In all our preparations, we acclaim Him as Lord and receive Him and all His benefits.

PRE-SERVICE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN “Hark the Glad Sound” LSB 349, sts. 1-4

Please stand

INVOCATION

P. In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C. **Amen.**

P. Lift up your heads O gates! And be lifted up, O everlasting doors.

C. **that the King of Glory may come in!**

P. Who is this King of Glory?

C. **The Lord of Hosts, the Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!**

P. Lift up your heads O gates! And be lifted up, O everlasting doors.
C. **that the King of Glory may come in!**

P. Who is this King of Glory?
C. **The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory!** *Psalms 24: 7-10*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Romans 13:12; Philippians 1:6*

P. For peace in our hearts, for peace in the church, and for peace in the world, let us pray to the Lord:

C. **Lord, have mercy.**

P. For grace to rule our unruly wills, for grace to prepare to receive the Lord in His Word and Supper, and for grace to be found faithful when He comes at the end of all time, let us pray to the Lord:

C. **Lord, have mercy.**

P. For hope to preserve us from despair, for hope to bear cheerful witness to Christ before the world, and for hope to sustain us in the hour of trial, let us pray to the Lord:

C. **Lord, have mercy.**

P. Holy and gracious God,

C. **I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that I may rest in peace.**

P. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C. **Amen.**

P. He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

C. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE “In Thee Is Gladness” *LSB 818, sts. 1-2*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. The Lord be with you.

C. **And also with you.**

P. Let us pray together:

C. **Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the punishment of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance. You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Please sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 2:1–5*

(Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.)

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

²It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,

³and many 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 the law,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and 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 anymore.

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

L. This is the Word of the Lord.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Romans 13:8–14* (Put on the armor of light.)

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and

any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

(continued...)

¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual

immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

L. This is the Word of the Lord.

C. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 24:36-44* (The coming of the Son of Man)

P. The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³⁶[Jesus said:] "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ³⁷As were the days of Noah, 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 when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. ⁴¹Two women

will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. ⁴²Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But know this, that if the master 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 hour you do not expect.

P. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please sit

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY "The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"

LSB 348, sts. 1-5

SERMON "STAY AWAKE AND BE READY" (Text: *Matthew 24:36-44*)

The Rev. Rudy Maurer

Please stand

NICENE CREED (*See screens or inside cover of the hymnal*)

Please sit**TITHES AND OFFERING** “There Is No Rose of Such Virtue” *Instrumental***Please stand****PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

P. Let us pray on behalf of the world, those with special needs, and for all the faithful. Thank you dear Lord, for bringing us to the beginning of another church year. We wait eagerly for Your coming in glory and majesty and pray that as we are still on earth, You will protect us from the dangers of sin all around us. Enlighten our walk in the way of Your salvation. Hear us, O Lord;

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. Bless our churches and all of the pastors, teachers and workers who serve us and give You glory through their faithful work. Hear us, O Lord,

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. Bless and protect our government in all their doings. Give us wise and faithful leaders, and grant peace among all the people of our nation and all people in the world. Hear us, O Lord.

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. We bring before You, dear Lord, those in our congregation who have requested our prayers. If it is Your will, grant healing and comfort to those troubled in body, mind or soul— [*especially . . .*], Guard and protect all those who are in hospice care and in nursing home facilities that they may find rest and safety and that all may be preserved in faith and holiness to the day of Christ, Hear us, O Lord;

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. We give You thanks for the good and gracious gift of Your Sacrament. May the unity of this Table and all who here receive the Sacrament be refreshed and renewed in knowing that through Your body and blood, we will receive the strengthening of our faith, and life everlasting with You. Hear us, O Lord;

C. Lord, have mercy.

Additional petitions may be inserted here.

P. Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. We pray together as You have taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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.

HYMN FOR COMMUNION PREPARATION “Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God”
(Tune from The Lutheran Hymnal)

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 unto me the joy of Your salvation,
and uphold me with Your free Spirit. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P. Dear Lord, in the dawn of time, You spoke creation and all things into being and proclaimed them good. In many and various ways, O Lord, You spoke through the prophets the promise of a Savior to restore Your people from the exile of sin and death. In the fullness of time, You sent forth Your Son, born of a virgin by the Holy Spirit. Now, You continue to send forth to us the fruits of His redeeming work in this Holy Communion of His body and blood, according to His own promise and testament: Hear now, the Words of our Lord, as spoken at the time of the Last Supper:

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

- P. Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

- P. As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

- P. Welcome to the Lord’s Table.

Please sit

HYMNS FOR COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent” | <i>LSB 621, sts. 1-4</i> |
| “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness” | <i>LSB 563, sts. 1-5</i> |
| “O Jesus, Blessed Lord, To Thee” | <i>LSB 632, sts. 1-2</i> |

COMMUNION DISMISSAL

- P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in Peace.

C. Amen

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

- P. Dear Lord God, heavenly Father, we give You thanks that You have set before us this feast, the body and blood of Your Son. Send us forth in the power of Your Spirit, that we may proclaim Your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C. Amen

BENEDICAMUS

- P. Let us bless the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

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.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

HYMN “God Loved the World So That He Gave” *LSB* 571, sts. 1,2,6△

* * * **TO GOD BE THE GLORY** * * *

Acknowledgments

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