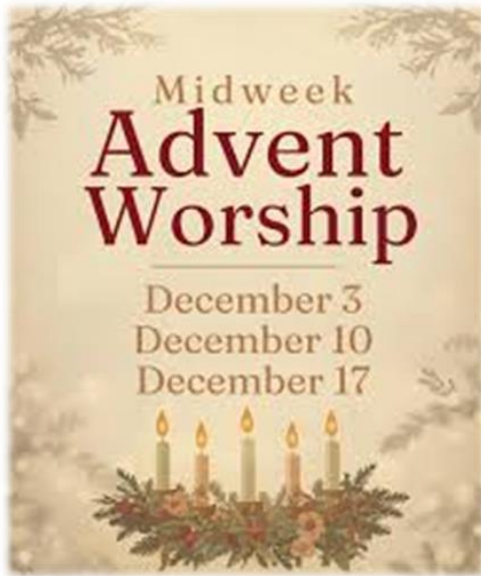




TO WHOM DOES JESUS COME?

Join your Emanuel family at either 10:30am or 7pm on Wednesdays in December to learn each week about who it is that Jesus comes for:

December 3: To the one who doubts - Zechariah

December 10: To the one who needs clarity - Mary

December 17: To the one who doesn't understand - Joseph

The *Lutheran Lunch Ladies* will be serving Soup, Salad, Sandwiches, & Sweets each week after the 10:30am service, and working with the youth to serve supper at 6pm before the 7pm service.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Rev. Chad E. Hoover

Liturgist: Seminarian Adam Holtz

Organist: Doug Reynolds, Director of Parish Music

Acolytes: Eli Fink, Landon Carter (8:00)
Isaac Pranger, Martin Georges (10:30)

Elder: Ben Koeneman (5:00)
David Herman (8:00, 10:30)

Ushers: Group S3 (Jay Melcher) (5:00)
Group 6 (Don Lambert) (8:00)
Group 5 (Mike Schultz) (10:30)

The First Sunday in Advent

November 29 and 30, 2025



Emanuel Lutheran Church

www.emanuelnh.org

749-2163

Central Lutheran School

www.cluth.org

493-2502

Emanuel Lutheran Church is a united and growing family of Christians joyfully dedicated to furthering God's Kingdom.

† The First Sunday in Advent †

Service of Prayer and Preaching ~ Page 260

WELCOME to those visiting us this Lord’s Day. It is our joy to have you worshipping with us. We invite you to come again and worship the Lord.

FELLOWSHIP DIRECTORY ~ Everyone, please sign in! We ask guests to include your address, zip code and phone number so that we may acknowledge your visit.

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.

PRELUDE

GREETING AND RINGING OF THE BELLS

♪ OPENING HYMN ↓ *The Advent of Our King* *LSB 331*

The advent of our King our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing in strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son incarnate deigns to be,
Himself a servant's form puts on to set His servants free.

O Zion's daughter, rise to meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise the peace He comes to bring.

As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again
And His true members all unite with Him in heav'n to reign.

Before the dawning day let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away, the new self now put on.

2

All glory to the Son, who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one through all eternity.

OPENING VERSICLES ~ Page 260 ↑

Liturgist: This is the day which the Lord has made;

People: let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Psalm 118:24)

Liturgist: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

People: the name of the Lord is to be praised. (Psalm 113:3)

Liturgist: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

People: Our God shall come; He does not keep silence. (Psalm 50:2-3a)

Liturgist: Prepare the way of the Lord.

People: Make His paths straight. (Isaiah 40:3)

Liturgist: Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

People: Let the earth open, that salvation may sprout forth. (Isaiah 45:8)

Liturgist: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

People: the name of the Lord is to be praised. (Psalm 113:3)

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT CANTICLE ~ Page 261-262 ↑ (Isaiah 12:2b-6)

Please turn to Page 261-262 in the front part of your hymnal for music.

Refrain: The Lord God is my strength and my song,
And He has become my salvation.

With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation.
And you will say in that day: “Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name,
Make known His deeds among the peoples, proclaim that His name is exalted.”

Refrain

Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously;
Let this be made known in all the earth.
Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion,
For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Refrain

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

OLD TESTAMENT READING ↓

Isaiah 2:1-5 (ESV)

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.

Liturgist: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

♪ HYMN ↓

The Night Will Soon Be Ending

LSB 337

**The night will soon be ending; the dawn cannot be far.
Let songs of praise ascending now greet the Morning Star!
All you whom darkness frightens with guilt or grief or pain,
God’s radiant Star now brightens and bids you sing again.**

**The One whom angels tended comes near, a child, to serve;
Thus God, the judge offended, bears all our sins deserve.
The guilty need not cower, for God has reconciled
Through His redemptive power all those who trust this child.**

**The earth in sure rotation will soon bring morning bright,
So run where God’s salvation glows in a stable’s light.
As old as sin’s perversion is mercy’s vast design;
God brings a new creation – this child its seal and sign.**

**Yet nights will bring their sadness and rob our hearts of peace,
And sin in all its madness around us may increase.
But now one Star is beaming whose rays have pierced the night:
God comes for our redeeming from sin’s oppressive might.**

**God dwells with us in darkness and makes the night as day;
Yet we resist the brightness and turn from God away.
But grace does not forsake us, however far we run.
God claims us still as children through Mary’s infant Son.**

EPISTLE READING ↓

Romans 13:11-14 (ESV)

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.

Liturgist: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING ↑

Matthew 21:1-11 (ESV)

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

⁵“Say to the daughter of Zion,
‘Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” ¹⁰And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” ¹¹And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”

Liturgist: This is the Word of the Lord.
 People: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY ~ Page 263 ↑ (Jeremiah 23:5, 6b)

Liturgist: Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.
 People: This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.
 Liturgist: He shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.
 People: This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.
 Liturgist: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
 People: This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.

APOSTLES’ CREED ~ Page 264 ↑
 I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER ~ Page 264 ↑
 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. (Matthew 6:9-13)

♪ HYMN OF THE DAY ↓ *Savior of the Nations, Come* LSB 332
 Savior of the nations, come, Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
 Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.

Not by human flesh and blood, by the Spirit of our God,
 Was the Word of God made flesh -- woman's offspring pure and fresh.

Here a maid was found with child, yet remained a virgin mild.
 In her womb this truth was shown: God was there upon His throne.

Then stepped forth the Lord of all from His pure and kingly hall;
 God of God, yet fully man, His heroic course began.

God the Father was His source, back to God He ran His course.
 Into hell His road went down, back then to His throne and crown.

For You are the Father’s Son who in flesh the vict’ry won.
 By Your mighty pow’r make whole all our ills of flesh and soul.

From the manger newborn light shines in glory through the night.
 Darkness there no more resides; in this light faith now abides.

Glory to the Father sing, glory to the Son, our king,
 Glory to the Spirit be now and through eternity.

SERMON ↓ *The Light Shines in Darkness*

PRAYER ~ Page 265 ↑
 Liturgist: In peace let us pray to the Lord:
 People: Lord, have mercy.
 Liturgist: For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
 People: Lord, have mercy.
 Liturgist: For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
 People: Lord, have mercy.
 Liturgist: For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
 People: Lord, have mercy.

Liturgist: For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Liturgist: For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Liturgist: For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Liturgist: For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Liturgist: Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY ~ Page 265 ↑

Liturgist: Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE WORD ~ Page 265 ↑

Liturgist: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER ~ Page 266 ↑ (5:00) (Small Catechism)

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER ~ Page 266 ↑ (8:00, 10:30) (Small Catechism)

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings in life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT CANTICLE ↑ *My Soul Rejoices* **LSB 933**

My soul rejoices, my spirit voices – sing the greatness of the Lord!

For God my Savior has shown me favor – sing the greatness of the Lord!

With praise and blessing, join in confessing God, who is solely mighty and holy –

O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

His mercy surely shall rest securely on all who fear Him, love and revere Him –

O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

His arm now baring, His strength declaring – sing the greatness of the Lord!

The proud He scatters, their rule He shatters – sing the greatness of the Lord!

Oppression halted; the meek exalted. Full are the hungry; empty the wealthy –

O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

Here is the token all that was spoken to Abr'ham's offspring God is fulfilling –

O sing the greatness of God the Lord!

BLESSING ~ Page 267 ↑

Liturgist: The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

People: Amen.

♪ CLOSING HYMN ↑ *Once He Came in Blessing* **LSB 333**

Once He came in blessing, all our sins redressing;

Came in likeness lowly, Son of God most holy;

Bore the cross to save us; hope and freedom gave us.

Now He gently leads us; with Himself He feeds us

Precious food from heaven, pledge of peace here given,

Manna that will nourish souls that they may flourish.

Soon will come that hour when with mighty power

Christ will come in splendor and will judgment render,

With the faithful sharing joy beyond comparing.

**Come, then, O Lord Jesus, from our sins release us.
Keep our hearts believing, that we, grace receiving,
Ever may confess You till in heav'n we bless You.**

POSTLUDE



*Please remember to place your offering for the work of the Lord at Emanuel in the
offering plate as you leave.*