

The First Sunday in Advent

November 30 and December 1, 2024



THE WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Rev. David O. Stecker

Liturgist: Rev. Scott A. Zeckzer

Organist: Lynne Eifert

Choir: Handbell Choir

Acolytes: Leah Werling, Kinsley Nicholson (8:00)

Isabella Gillingham, Avary Vincenski (10:30)

Elder: Ben Koeneman (5:00); Mark Schuller (8:00, 10:30)

Ushers: Group S3 (Jay Melcher) (5:00)

Group 6 (Greg Peters) (8:00)

Group 5 (Mike Schultz) (10:30)

Communion Assistant: Jay Melcher (5:00)

Ryan Abbott (8:00)

Brian Lepper (10:30)

Emanuel Lutheran Church

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Vision Statement

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

† The First Sunday in Advent †
Divine Service I with Communion – LSB page 151

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.

AS WE GATHER ~ Though a full month remains before we turn our calendars to 2025, today we can wish a "happy new year" in the life of the church. The Advent season begins a new church year and is a time of preparation, as the Latin "Adventus" means an arrival or coming of someone. More than preparing for the coming of just anyone, here we prepare for our Savior. As we get hearts and minds ready for the Christmas crescendo to come celebrating Christ's humble birth, we also remain prepared in this season and always as He promises to come again.

PRELUDE *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending (Kolodziej)*

GREETING AND RINGING OF THE BELLS

♪ **OPENING HYMN** ↓ *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending* *LSB 336*

**Lo! He comes with clouds descending, once for ev'ry sinner slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of His train;
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.**

**Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him robed in glorious majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold Him, pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall their true Messiah see.**

**Those dear tokens of His passion still His dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation to His ransomed worshipers.
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars!**

**Yea, amen, let all adore Thee, high on Thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory, claim the kingdom as Thine own.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone!**

INVOCATION - Page 151 ↑

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

(Matthew 28:19)

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CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION - Page 151 ↑

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:8-9)

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

Pastor: 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. (John 20:19-23)

People: Amen.

INTROIT FOR THE DAY ↑

Pastor: Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

(Zechariah 9:9b)

Pastor: Who in the skies can be compared to the Lord?

People: **Who among the heavenly beings is like the Lord?**

Pastor: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;

People: **steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.**

Pastor: Blessed are the people who know the festal shout,

People: **who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,**

Pastor: who exult in your name all the day

People: **and in your righteousness are exalted.**

Pastor: For our shield belongs to the Lord,

People: **our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

(Psalm 89:6, 14-16, 18)

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.**

Pastor: Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

(Zechariah 9:9b)

♪ KYRIE - Page 152 ↑

(Luke 17:13, Luke 18:38-39, Psalm 123:2, 3)

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: 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.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY ↑

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

(Ruth 2:4)

People: And also with you.

(Luke 1:28)

Pastor: 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.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC ↓

*Savior, of the Nations, Come (Moklebust)**Turn to LSB 332 to read the words of this meditation.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING ↓

Jeremiah 33:14-16 (ESV)

¹⁴“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING ↓

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (ESV)

⁹What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹²and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

♪ VERSE ↑

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.**Alleluia, alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL READING ↑

Luke 21:25-36 (ESV)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

♪ **People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁵[Jesus said:] “There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. ³⁰As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near.

³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place.

³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

♪ **People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

♪ 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 ↓ *Knowing It's Near* *Luke 21:25-36*

NICENE CREED - Page 158 ↑
 I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the

Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH ↑

(1 Timothy 2:1-4)



We welcome the opportunity to explain what we believe, teach and confess regarding the Lord's Supper. In order not to impose those beliefs on you, we ask that if you are not a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, you would speak with a Pastor before receiving Holy Communion.

♪ PREFACE - Page 160 ↑

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right and salutary....evermore praising you and saying:

♪ SANCTUS - Page 161 ↑

(Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9)

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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING ~ Page 161 ↑

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate

with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER ~ Page 162 ↑

(Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 11:2-4)

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

People: 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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD - Page 162 ↑

Pastor: 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; do this 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."

♪ PAX DOMINI - Page 163 ↑

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

(John 20:19)

♪ AGNUS DEI "Lamb of God" - Page 163 ↑

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.

(John 1:29)

♪ DISTRIBUTION ↓ (8:00) Communion Prayer (Mazzatenta)

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

LSB 621

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descending comes our homage to demand.**

**King of kings yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light descending from the realms of endless day,
Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanquish as the darkness clears away.**

**At His feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence as with ceaseless voice they cry:
"Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"**

The Clouds of Judgment Gather

LSB 513

**The clouds of judgment gather, the time is growing late;
Be sober and be watchful, our judge is at the gate:
The judge who comes in mercy, the judge who comes in might
To put an end to evil and diadem the right.**

**Arise, O true disciples; let wrong give way to right,
And penitential shadow to Jesus' blessed light:
The light that has no evening, that knows no moon or sun,
The light so new and golden, the light that is but one.**

**The home of fadeless splendor, of blooms that bear no thorn,
Where they shall dwell as children who here as exiles mourn;
The peace of all the faithful, the calm of all the blest,
Inviolable, unfading, divinest, sweetest, best.**

**Oh, happy, holy portion, relief for all distressed,
True vision of true beauty, refreshment for the blest!
Strive now to win that glory, toil now to gain that light;
Send hope ahead to grasp it till hope be lost in sight.**

BLESSING – Page 164 ↑

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

People: **Amen.**

♪ POST COMMUNION CANTICLE - Page 164 ↑

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.

POST COMMUNION COLLECT - Page 166 ↑

Pastor: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

♪ BENEDICTION - Page 166 ↑

Pastor: 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.

People: **Amen.**

(Numbers 6:24-26)

♪ CLOSING HYMN ↑

Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

LSB 663

Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; from your sleep awaken!

Be not by the evil day unawares o'ertaken;

For the foe, well we know, is a harvest reaping while the saints are sleeping.

Watch against the devil's snares lest asleep he find you;

For indeed no pains he spares to deceive and blind you.

Satan's prey oft are they who secure are sleeping and no watch are keeping.

Watch! Let not the wicked world with its lies defeat you

Lest with bold deceptions hurled it betray and cheat you.

Watch and see lest there be faithless friends to charm you, who but seek to harm you.

Watch against yourself, my soul, lest with grace you trifle;

Let not self your thoughts control nor God's mercy stifle.

Pride and sin lurk within, all your hopes to shatter; heed not when they flatter.

But while watching, also pray to the Lord unceasing.

God protects you day by day, strength and faith increasing,

So that still mind and will shall unite to serve Him and forever love Him.

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come (Ore)