



First Sunday of Advent

10:30 am - November 30, 2025

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS & TEMPLE TALK

Welcome to Messiah

We are a community of grace where we live out Jesus' commandment to love God with our whole heart and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We also seek to be a welcoming community for all people. This includes people of every race, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnic background, economic grouping, religious affiliation, and political persuasion. We do this simply because God created all people in God's own image and Christ Jesus came so all people might have abundant life. We may not always be perfect, but this is our intention--all are welcome!

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

In a world full of fear, where do you see hope?
I see hope when I look to the next generation. I feel hopeful when we gather together. I know hope, deep in my bones, when we dream of a better world.
You are right. Even in a fearful world, hope is all around us.
Today we light the candle of hope as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that we have reason to hope.

Hear these words of the Prophet Isaiah:

*"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined."
—Isaiah 9:2*

Thanks be to God! Amen.

266 "All Earth Is Hopeful" verses 1 and 2



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra, al Sal - va - dor

- 1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
- 2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
- 3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
- 4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



yel sur - co - a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
"A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our

The presid-
ing minister
will read the
sections in
plain text.
**You are
invited to
read the
bold por-
tions.**



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

GATHERING HYMN

#949 "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning"



1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your
2 Dark - er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er
3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the
4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your



lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps
mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er mid - night
morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing
lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps



trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.
lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.
soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.
trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.

Refrain



Chil - dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil - dren, don't grow wea - ry;



chil - dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al - most done.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Friends, if you long to feel closer to God, then the Prayer of Confession is a step in the right direction. For in the Prayer of Confession, we lay our hearts before God. We pour out the truth of our lives. We do not hide anything from our Creator, and in that simple act, God somehow always feels closer.

So join me in this prayer. Join me as we invite God to draw closer, to break in here.

**Ever-present God,
we long to feel you close.
We long to feel your presence in our lives.
We long for you to break through the chaos and suffering of this world.
However, if we're honest, we rarely stand still long enough to feel you in our midst.
Forgive our rushing and distractions.
Forgive our wandering hearts, and center us in this space.
Remind us that even in the time of Herod,
even on the longest nights, you are always there. Amen.**

Family of faith,
even when we doubt God's presence,
even when we fail to notice God's fingerprints in this world,
God is always moving closer to us.
Hear and believe the good news this Advent season:
**Nothing can keep God's love away.
We are seen. We are forgiven. We are not alone. Amen.**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE

INTRO **VERSE 1**

$\text{♩} = 74$ Dm F B $\flat$ F Dm C/E F F/C B $\flat$ (#4) Dm F B $\flat$ F

Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

VERSE 2

7 Dm C/E F C B $\flat$ B $\flat$ Dm B $\flat$ /F F

Lord, have mer - cy. Chri - ste, e - le - i - son.

VERSE 3

13 Dm C/E F C Gm7 Gm7 Bbmaj7 Bb/D F
 Christ, have mer - cy. Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

19 Dm C/E F C Bb C F
 Lord, have mer - - cy. Lord, have mer - - cy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

With-us God, In the time of Moses, you spoke through water in the desert and a pillar of smoke. In the time of the judges, you spoke through the prophets. In the time of Herod, you spoke through angel choruses and unlikely miracles. In every time you have been speaking. So today, in our time, we ask that you would speak again. Break through the chatter and the distraction of our weary minds and speak to us once more. With hope we pray, **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

Please
be seat-
ed

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

² In days to come
 the mountain of the LORD's house
 shall be established as the highest of the mountains
 and shall be raised above the hills;
 all the nations shall stream to it.

³ 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 forth instruction
 and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations
 and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
 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 any more.

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

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please
stand as
you are
comfortable
in body
or in spirit.

CHORUS

F Gm Dm F/A B♭ F Gm *Last time to Coda*

♩ = 130

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu, al - le -

VERSE

1, 3 2 Dm C Dm C Dm Gm7

lu - ia. lu, al - le - lu - ia. *(Cantor intones appropriate verse with melody shown)*

15 C7 Fmaj7 Dm Gm7

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for

Please
be
seated

you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner 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. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

Please
stand as
you are
comfort-
able in
body or
spirit.

MEDITATIVE MUSIC (*instrumental*)

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”
Jacob Schmeltzer, *Pianist*

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

God of the people, we come seeking wisdom and instruction. Uphold and strengthen lay leaders, teachers, deacons, pastors, and bishops. Teach us your ways and lead us in your paths. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of the earth, we seek your goodness in the grandeur of creation. Empower us to care for forests and oceans, as we see you in the world around us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, grant wisdom to leaders, judges, and mediators. Cast out words of hate and transform them into words for building up community. Remake implements of war to sow peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of healing, bring comfort and strength. We pray for our kindred and companions who are ill or despairing, especially... Surround all with care and consolation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of new possibilities, when addiction wounds, jealousy tears down, and relationships fray, show us how to journey with one another. Nurture therapists, counselors, and sponsors in their care for others. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of all time, build up our lives that we would reflect your grace. At the last, bring us with all the saints to your holy city where peace and goodness make a home. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. **Amen.**

Please be
Seated.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Please stand
as you are
comfortable
in body or
spirit.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Twas the Moon in Wintertime” *Handbell Choir*

OFFERING PRAYER

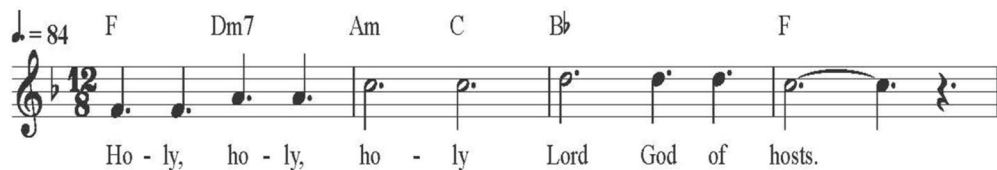
Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. **Amen.**

THE LORD’S SUPPER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.



We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is

5 $B\flat$ F C Dm $B\flat$ maj7 F/C Csus
 Heav - en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high -
 8 F $B\flat$ F C Dm
 est. Bless - ed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 11 $B\flat$ maj7 F/C C Dm F F/A $B\flat$ maj7 F/C C F
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. _____
 15

right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and it is necessary —

... and join their unending hymn:

...As we eat this bread and drink from this cup,
 we remember the mystery at the heart of our faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

... Until that day when every fear is undone,
 and every table is filled,
 and every voice sings again:

Amen.

**Please be
 seated.**

of
Christ,
Who
before
ways.
Amen.
THE

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world, mi - se - re - re ... In the name of goes us al-
no - - bis. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
sins of the world, mi - se - re - re no - - bis.
Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world, do - na no - bis pa - -
cem, do - na no - bis pa - - - - cem.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Lamb of God"

Please stand
as you are
comfortable in
body or spirit.

Benediction:
*God blesses us
and sends us in
mission to the
world.*

INTRO $\text{♩} = 94$ E Esus E Esus E

1. Pre - pare the way of the Lord.

6 Esus E Esus C $\sharp$ m

Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord.

10 A E B B

Come and wor - ship Him. let His King - dom in. 1. Pre (King) - dom in. Make

CHORUS E/G $\sharp$ A C $\sharp$ m B E/G $\sharp$ A

straight in the des - ert a high - way for God. Each moun - tain made low, each

17 C $\sharp$ m B E/G $\sharp$ A C $\sharp$ m B

val - ley raised up. The Lord God Al - might - y will nev - er be stopped. His

VERSE 2 F $\sharp$ m A B E Esus

glo - ry will be re - vealed. 2. Je - sus Christ is the Lord.

25 E Esus C $\sharp$ m A

Je - sus Christ is the Lord. Je - sus Christ is the Lord. Come and wor -

CHORUS 1 2 E B B E/G $\sharp$ A

ship Him, let His King - dom in. (King) - dom in. Make straight in the des - ert a

33 C#m B E/G# A C#m B
 high - way for God. Each moun - tain made low, each val - ley raised up. The
 36 E/G# A C#m B F#m A B
 Lord God Al - might - y will nev - er be stopped. His glo - ry will be re - vealed.

INSTRUMENTAL**BRIDGE**

40 F#m A E B F#m A
 Come see the Lamb of God

47 E B F#m A E
 lift - ed high. Make room in your heart, the King is a - live.

(1)

2

CHORUS

52 B E B E/G# A
 Come (King) is a - live. Make straight in the des - ert a

57 C#m B E/G# A C#m B
 high - way for God. Each moun - tain made low, each val - ley raised up. The

1

60 E/G# A C#m B F#m A B
 Lord God Al - might - y will nev - er be stopped. His glo - ry will be re - vealed. Make

2

TAG

64 F#m A B F#m A B
 glo - ry will be re - vealed. His glo - ry will be re - vealed. Pre -

ENDING

E Esus E Esus
 pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre -

#252 “Each Winter As the Year Grows Older”

#438 “My Lord, What a Morning”

BENEDICTION

Whatever fear you carry,
you do not carry it alone.

Preacher:	Pr. Andrew Plocher
Liturgists:	Pr. Molly Hunter
Assisting Minister:	Marina Shinkarenko
Reader:	Nancy Hamlin
Ushers:	Nancy Raisanen
Communion Assistants:	Gayle Mack, Marina Shinkarenko
Greeters:	Marina Shinkarenko, Ellen Symons
Songleaders:	Sara Parks
Pianist:	Jacob Schmeltzer
Band Members:	Tom Bronken, Darren Smith, Ross Larson
Bell Choir Director:	Judy Quirk
Audio Technician:	Dan Zini
Livestream Technician:	Traci Zini
Projection Technician:	Inga Banitt
Nursery:	Maddie Dykema
Flower Delivery:	

Acknowledgements:

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Thank you for your generosity!

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**venmo**