



First Lutheran Church

Welcome ~ We're glad you are here!

Lead Pastor: Joe Skogmo | Associate Pastor: Matthew Engum | Music Director: Karen Bimberg

Sunday, December 1 · 8:30 AM · First Sunday of Advent



Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thessalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

GATHERING HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW #257, vs 1 & 2

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

2. O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way. **Refrain**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Merciful God, **C: have mercy on us according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out our offenses. Release us from the guilt and shame we carry, and renew a right spirit within us. Teach us your ways, and uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW #244, vs 1 & 4

1. Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear; the evening is advancing, and darker night is near. The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh. Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.
4. Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear; arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere. With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. **C: By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says 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 live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 25:1-10

R: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

C: O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

R: Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are want only treacherous.

C: Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

R: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

C: Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

R: Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

C: Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

R: He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way.

C: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

R: The word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg. 205

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL

Gospel: Luke 21:25-33

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21th chapter. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pr. Matthew Engum

HYMN OF THE DAY

People, Look East

ELW #248, vs 1 & 4

1. People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east, and sing today— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
4. Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth. Set ev'ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east, and sing today— Love, the Lord, is on the way.



STATEMENT OF FAITH

Apostle's Creed

C: 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 THE PEOPLE

P: Lord in your mercy **C: Hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF PEACE

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

NOISY OFFERING

December: FLC Agape Fund

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW #473

1. Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you. My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy God.
(Sing 2x)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Loving God, **C: receive this offering for the building up of your kingdom: the proclamation of your word and the loving of our neighbor. Amen.**

COMMUNION

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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.

Distribution

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

C: Gracious God, at this table you have nourished our body and soul with food and drink. As you have been food and drink for us, transform us to be food and drink for one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

Hark, the Glad Sound!

ELW # 239

1. Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long;
let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.
2. He comes the pris'ners to release, in Satan's bondage held. The gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.
3. He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure, and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.
4. Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace, your welcome shall proclaim, and heav'n's eternal arches ring
with your beloved name.

SENDING P: Go in peace and serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT MINI-CONCERTS. Join us for Advent Mini-Concerts on Wednesday, December 4, 11, & 18. The concerts are from 12:05-12:35 PM with a free will offering meal to follow each concert. For a list of musicians, check out the flyer downstairs, the weekly email, or the newsletter.

ADVENT DEVOTION HOUR. Join us for a discussion of *The First Advent in Palestine: Reversals, Resistance, and the Ongoing Complexity of Hope* led by Gary Goreham and sponsored by the FLC Adult Faith Formation Team. We meet in the FLC Library, 11:00-11:45 a.m. on the first three Wednesdays of Advent (Dec 4, 11, and 18). Devotion books are available in the church office.

SWEET SALE. The Women of FLC will be hosting a Christmas Sweet Sale on Sunday, December 15, from 9:30—noon/ between church services. For a freewill offering, you can take home a plate of your favorite goodies, proceeds to benefit various local charities and FLC ministries.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS. The Advent & Christmas season is made more beautiful when the church is filled with beautiful poinsettias. If you would like to share flowers, please complete an order form & return it to the church office by December 15. Cost is \$13.00 per plant. Order forms can be found on the volunteer table, or **pay online** through the link on the church website.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS STORE VOLUNTEERS. The Christmas Store is 12/7. Volunteer sign-up sheets are available outside the church office. Donations of new or gently used gift items can be dropped off at the office any time.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM. The children's Christmas Program is 12/18 at 6pm.

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available outside the church office. Due to the cost, we will only mail envelopes to people who request them to be mailed. If you have questions, please contact Paul in the church office.

BLOOD DRIVE. A blood Drive will be held at FLC on December 10 from 9am–1:45pm. To schedule your appointment call Catharine @ 218-841-4811.

ANGEL TREE The angel tree is up downstairs outside of the dining room! Please consider purchasing gifts for a child or family member in the area that is in need. Please make sure the gifts are new and use the suggestion(s) on the back of the card to make sure it aligns with that person's need/want. Sign out the angel on the sheet next to the tree next to the corresponding number and make sure to return the gift(s) back to the church wrapped with the angel on the outside top prior to Dec. 21st.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON EVENT. All FLC Women are invited for a Holiday Luncheon hosted by Ruth Circle: Thursday, December 12th at 11:30 am. We look forward to treating you to delicious food!

VISITORS

Thanks for joining us!
Want to know more
about FLC ?



GIVE ONLINE

Thank you for your
support of FLC's missions
& ministries.



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218-228-3228

Text your donation
amount to the
number listed
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instructions that are
texted to you

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Prayers for God's People

*Brent Blake, Bill Wegschied,
Cole Woltjer, Joyce Gilbertson,
Jake Netland, Ryder Schmidt,
Doreen Tollefson*

*Prayers of comfort for the families
of Jill Nyhus and Pat Bollig,
Lorraine Tyberg.*

Names are kept on the prayer list for 3 weeks; please update the office if you wish to remain on the list longer.

THANKSGIVING BREAK



December 1

No Sunday School

CREATION CARE NOTE

The World Wildlife Federation reports low cost solar, wind, and battery technologies are on profitable, exponential trajectories that if sustained, will be enough to halve emissions from electricity generation by 2030.



Today's altar flowers are given in honor of **Barbara Haugen's 80th birthday** on November 30th given by her family

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

RADIO

Sundays at 10AM on
KDLM 1340-AM and 93.1-FM

ON-LINE

Live streamed on Facebook and on the FLC YouTube channel.

TELEVISION

Saturday at 9AM on
Arvig Cable ch14.