



# 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 · 10:45 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 SONG**

*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.**

**SONG OF PRAISE**

*Make Room*

Fam’ly hiding from the storm found no place at the keeper’s door.  
It was for this a Child was born, to save a world so cold and hollow.

The sleeping town, it did not know that lying in a manger low  
A Savior King who had no home has come to heal our sorrows.

**Chorus: Is there room in your heart, is there room in your heart,  
Is there room in your heart for God to write His story.**

Shepherds counting sheep at night do not fear the glory light.  
You are precious in His sight, God has come to raise the lowly. **Chorus**

You can come as you are, but it may set you apart. Then you make room in your heart and trade your  
dreams for His glory. Make room in your heart, make room in your heart.

Mother holds the Promise tight. Every wrong will be made right.  
The road is straight, the burden’s light, for in His hands He holds tomorrow. **Chorus**

You can come as you are, but it may set you apart. Then you make room in your heart and trade your  
dreams for His glory. Make room in your heart, make room in your heart.  
Make room in your heart, make room in your heart.

**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*

<sup>14</sup>The 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. <sup>15</sup>In 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. <sup>16</sup>In 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***Gospel: Luke 21:25-33*

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

<sup>25</sup>"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. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." <sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>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***SONG OF THE DAY***Messiah*

Someone's shouting from the desert. Someone's shouting from the sea.  
Someone's shouting from the mountain. Someone's shouting from the valley.

**Chorus: Messiah, come and be our King. Messiah, come and be our King.**

Someone's shouting from the city. I am young, I am cold.  
Someone's shouting from the country. I am lonely, I am old. **Chorus**

Someone's shouting I am broken. Someone's shouting make me whole.  
Someone's shouting come and change me. Someone's shouting save my soul. **Chorus**

Even so come, Lord Jesus, come."

## 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 SONG

*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 SONG

*Come Lord Jesus (Even So Come)*

All of creation, all of the earth, Make straight a highway, a path for the Lord Jesus is coming soon.  
Call back the sinner, wake up the saint, Let every nation shout of Your fame. Jesus is coming soon.

**Chorus: Like a bride waiting for her groom, We'll be a church ready for You. Ev'ry heart longing for our King, we sing "Even so come, Lord Jesus, come. Even so come, Lord Jesus, come."**

There will be justice, all will be new. Your name forever, faithful and true. Jesus is coming soon. **Chorus**

So we wait, we wait for You. God, we wait; You're coming soon. So we wait, we wait for You.  
God, we wait; You're coming soon.

Like a bride waiting for her groom, We'll be a church ready for You. Ev'ry heart longing for our King, we sing  
Like a bride waiting for her groom, We'll be a church ready for You.  
Ev'ry heart longing for our King, we sing

"Even so come, Lord Jesus, come. Even so come, Lord Jesus, come." "Even so come, Lord Jesus, come.

**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!

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| <p><b>VISITORS</b><br/>Thanks for joining us!<br/>Want to know more about FLC ?</p>  | <p><b>GIVE ONLINE</b><br/>Thank you for your support of FLC's missions &amp; ministries</p>  | <p><b>TEXT TO GIVE</b><br/><b>218-228-3228</b><br/>Text your donation amount to the number listed above &amp; follow instructions that are texted to you.</p> |
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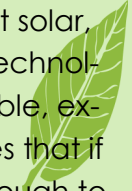
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**Prayers for God's People**  
*Brent Blake, Bill Wegschied, Cole Woltjer, Joyce Gilbertson, Jake Netland, Ryder Schmidt, Doreen Tollefson*  
*Prayers of comfort for the families of Jill Nyhus and Pat Bollig, Lorraine Tyberg.*  
**Names are kept on 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.



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



**Opening Doors to Life in Christ !**  
    
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