

First Sunday in Advent



A Real Christmas Begins by Remembering Why Christ Came

Lord of Love Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Welcome! We are so happy you have come to worship today! Someone has described worship as "a joyful dialogue with God." God speaks to us in his Word, and we speak to him in praise and prayer. May God richly bless you through this "joyful dialogue" today!

Restrooms – The restrooms are located straight ahead as you enter the building. You will also find restrooms in the lower level gathering space at the end of the classrooms on the right side before the exit doors.

Parent's Room – The sound of children in the house of the Lord is music to our ears! However there is also a parent room to the right just before you enter the sanctuary if your little one needs a moment. It is accessed as you exit the sanctuary, on the left, next to the seats reserved for families with small children.

Assistance Getting Around – There is a walker and a wheelchair available in the fellowship hall. Anyone who needs them is welcome to use them. Please speak to an usher if you need help accessing them.

Offering Message – An offering will be gathered in the service today. These offerings support the Gospel ministry of Lord of Love locally, and also the global mission of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Visitors need not feel obligated to give, but certainly may if you wish.

Holy Communion is celebrated today. Mindful of the Scriptural teaching concerning church fellowship, we practice close (or closed) communion. Communicant members of this congregation, or another congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod), are encouraged to commune this morning. Guests are asked to speak with our pastor, before the service, if they wish to commune.

Explanation of the theme of the day: It is easy to get so caught up in the imagery—a tiny newborn baby, lying in the straw filled manger under a star-filled sky—that we forget the why. Why did the Son of God come into our world and take on human flesh? So that he might die as the sacrifice for our sins. One Christmas carol puts it this way. "Neither crib nor cross refuses, all he suffers for your good to redeem you by his blood."

Advent marks the start of a new Church Year. We begin at the end, watching Jesus ride into Jerusalem on a donkey colt, knowing full well that he would be killed before the end of the week. The events of Palm Sunday serve as a microcosm for all Jesus' work, proving the Son of God was willing to humble himself and endure anything for our salvation. That is precisely why Christ came. And a real Christmas requires remembering why Christ came.

Lord of Love Lutheran Church

December 1, 2024

DIVINE SERVICE II

OPENING HYMN (CW 4)

Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates



INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

ABSOLUTION

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Mark 10:47

Kyrie

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Light the Advent Candles

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

M: We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

C: We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us know what day that will be.

M: We hear his call to watch.

C: We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

One Advent candle is lit.

THE WORD

SALUTATION

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength, and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴ Listen, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will fulfill the good promises that I have spoken to the house of Israel and concerning the house of Judah.

¹⁵ In those days and at that time, I will cause a righteous Branch to grow up from David's line. He will establish justice and righteousness on earth. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. This is what she will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness.

SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

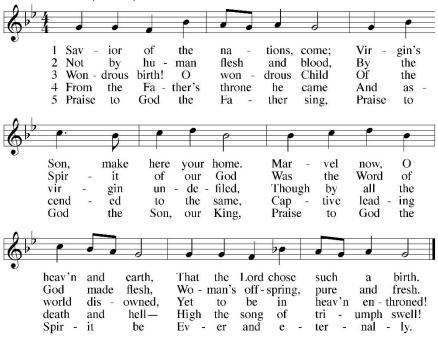
⁹ Indeed, how can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have before God on account of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we are praying earnestly to see you in person and to supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ May God our Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord increase your love and make it overflow for each other and for all people, just as ours does for you, ¹³ so that he may establish your hearts as blameless in holiness before our God and Father, when our Lord Jesus comes with all his saints.





Savior of the Nations, Come



SERMON Luke 19:28-40

²⁸ After Jesus had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ As he came near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples ahead, ³⁰ saying, "Go to the village ahead of you. When you enter it, you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ And if anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you will say this: 'The Lord needs it.'" ³² Those who were sent ahead went and found things just as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought the colt to Jesus. They threw their robes on the colt and set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he went along, people spread their robes on the road. ³⁷ As he was approaching the slope of the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began to praise God joyfully, with a loud voice, for all the miracles they had seen, ³⁸ saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" ³⁹ Some of the Pharisees from the crowd said to him, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" ⁴⁰ He replied, "I tell you, if these people would be silent, the stones would cry out.

Finding Advent in the Most Unlikely Place

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

GATHERING OF THANK-OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register during the collection of the offering.

Thank you!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord of all, your Son declared that if his disciples ceased praising him, the very stones would cry out. Receive our thanks that you continue to preserve your Word among us. Even in a world that opposes your name, grant us tongues that joyfully declare your praise. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, we often use the cares of this life as excuses for dissipation, drunkenness and distraction from you and your promises. Guard us from temptations that would harm our faith and cause us to fear your coming. Preserve us by your grace, that we may wait with joy to stand before the Son of Man in glory. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, grant us repentant hearts and increase our love for one another, that we may show forth our faith in good works. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks to you, O God, that as you establish our hearts blameless in holiness before you, so you also provide for all our needs in this body and life. Hear our earnest prayers for those who are in need of your mercy, and comfort all who mourn until the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed are you, O Lord, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ, who came in your name to save us from sin and death. As he visits us this day with his body and blood under the bread and wine, give us penitent hearts that worthily welcome his coming and rejoice in his gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our Father, you have loved and chosen us according to your mercy and called us through the living voice of your Word. Grant to us the Spirit of your grace, that what you have begun in us may be brought to completion when Christ appears in his glory on the Last Day; for you live and reign, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

M:

The Lord be with you. And also with you. C: M: Lift up your hearts. C: We lift them up to the Lord. **M**: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is good and right so to do. C: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you M: thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who comes with his Father to make his home in human hearts, working repentance and faith by his Spirit until he comes again. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26-28 1 Corinthians 11:24,25

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my (+) body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my (+) blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD John 1:29



BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION



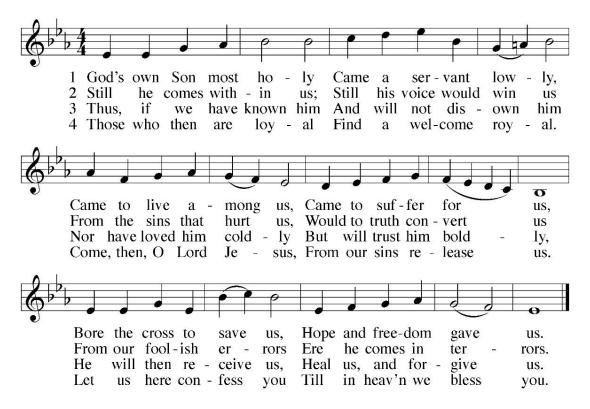
Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, abr., alt.

Tune: SIEH, HIER BIN ICH, EHRENKÖNIG (87 87 87) Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1698.

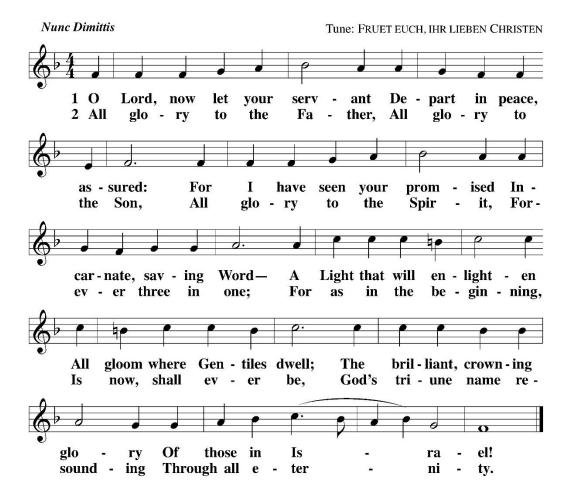


Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635-1711; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.

Tune: Meinen Jesum Lass Ich Nicht (78 78 77) Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1699, alt.



Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: GOTTES SOHN IST KOMMEN (66 66 66) attr. Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534.



M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING Numbers 6:24-26

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN (CWS 704)

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending (p. 20)

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This glorious Advent hymn by Charles Wesley is set to its traditional English tune, HELMSLEY.



Personal Prayers for Worship

Before Communion:

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communion:

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

O living Bread from heaven, how richly you have fed your guest! The gifts you now have given have filled my heart with joy and rest. Lord, grant me that thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, I serve with holy fear. And when you call my spirit to leave this world below, I enter through your merit where joys unmingled flow.

Gluten Free communion wafers: Gluten free communion wafers are available each Sunday during the Lord's Supper. They are placed on the baptismal font at the start of communion. If you would prefer this wafer, please pick it up as you approach the altar

Weekly Bible Studies

Sunday 9:15 am: Exodus, sanctuary

Tuesday 9:00 am: The Gospel of John, lower level

Wednesday 6:30 pm: Revelation, lower level

Friday 6:00 am: Breakfast 6:00, Bible study 6:45 | The Book of Esther

DeForest Family Restaurant (505 W. North Street, DeForest)

Sunday December 1: The First Sunday in Advent

Worship Service: 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion 9:15 am: Adult Bible Study, Sunday School and Teen Class

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Jennifer Boll
- Councilman: 8:00: Dave Olson, 10:30: Steve Kalscheuer
- Ushers 8:00: Bob Degnan and Gene Freund, Kayden and Kourtney Zech
- Ushers 10:30: Josh Hodkiewicz and Greg Zeman
- Counters: Sharon Kalscheuer and Donna Cotter
- Altar Guild: Colleen Biwer
- A/V & Recording: RaeLyn Parker
- Refreshments: Cindy Crary Sponsored by Kwik Trip

Sunday December 8: Second Sunday in Advent

Worship Service: 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion 9:15 am: Adult Bible Study, Sunday School and Teen Class

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Pianist: Kristin Huebner
- Councilman: 8:00: Phil Boll, 10:30: Mitch Mhyre
- Ushers 8:00: Bob Degnan and Gene Freund, Kayden and Kourtney Zech
- Ushers 10:30: The Heath Family
- Counters: Bob Degnan and Gene Freund
- Altar Guild: Colleen Biwer
- A/V & Recording: Devin Anderson
- Refreshments: TBD

<u>Happy Birthday</u> We wish God's blessings to Brittani Olson (12/1), Lily Caballero (12/2), Nathan Strong (12/3), Dan Mallien (12/4), Ron Betzer (12/5), Julie Doyle (12/5), as they celebrate their birthdays this week.

Anniversaries We have no anniversaries to share this week.

<u>In Our Prayers</u> Roger LaGrange, Peter Leege, Rose Lund, Peg Schroeder, John Schueman, and Steve Tobison, who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Carter Chavez (grandson of John & Sherry Hill), and Shannon Garrett.

COMING UP AT LORD OF LOVE

December 1: Christmas Giving Tree Donations Begin

December 5: Ladies Friendship Holiday Dinner Outing | 6:00 pm Rodeside Grill

December 8: Advent by Candlelight at Lord of Love | 3:00 pm arrival, 3:15 pm Service

December 12: Giving Tree Donations Due

December 18: Children's Christmas Service

December 24: Christmas Eve Worship Service | 6:30 pm

December 25: Christmas Day Worship Service | 9:00 am

December 31: New Year's Eve Worship Service | 4:00 pm

Children's Christmas Service Practices | December 7 & 14 from 9:00—10:00 am

Reminder there are 2 more Saturday Children's Christmas Service Practices before the Service December 18.

Seeking Musicians for Our Christmas Eve Worship Service

If there are members (any ages) that would like to participate in the pre or post service music on Christmas Eve, please reach out to Kristin Huebner. Musical selections would be of a religious nature (not secular) and for children, we ask that their current piano, band, or vocal teacher be able to assist in the preparation of their choice. Kristin can be reached at 608-217-5109 (text or voice) and kmhueb@gmail.com

Ladies Friendship Holiday Dinner Outing | December 5, 6:00 pm | Rodeside Grill

What a fun evening this will be for the ladies of our congregation to enjoy a dinner out, followed by a joyful time for a Holiday game & fellowship. There will also be an ornament exchange for those who are interested. Simply bring an ornament of a value of \$5 or less to participate in the exchange. You do not have to participate to attend. This Holiday Dinner Outing is open to all the ladies our congregation. Please sign-up if you plan to attend, so we know how many to reserve space for.

Thank You to our photographers!

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your incredible work and dedication in capturing the beauty and spirit of our church community through the recent pictorial photos. Thank you for sharing your talents and time with us. We are deeply blessed by your contributions!

Christmas Poinsettia Donations

The altar guild is asking for donations of poinsettias (or funds to purchase on your behalf) this year to decorate for our Christmas services. If you would like to donate a poinsettia, simply purchase one (in any color) and bring it to church. The plants can be brought to church anytime during the month until December 23, and can be taken home after the Christmas Day worship. The altar guild will arrange and maintain the poinsettias. Any donations need to be received in the church office by December 15th Please use the small white labeled envelope found in the office, and can be placed in the collection basket on the counter.

Advent by Candlelight | December 8, 3:00 pm—All Ladies Invited!

We would like to invite all of the ladies to the Advent by Candlelight Service here at Lord of Love, the afternoon of December 8. Arrival is at 3:00 pm with the Service beginning at 3:15 pm and a social fellowship with coffee, cider and desserts following in the fellowship hall. To attend or volunteer to help, see the sign-up sheets as you enter church. Volunteers are needed in the areas of set-up, clean-up, preparing a dessert, or assisting with a part during the service.

Thank you to the Decorators!

Thank you to each of you for your time, effort and creativity in decorating the church for Christmas. Weather you hung lights, arranged flowers, or added those special finishing touches, your contributions did not go unnoticed. The beautiful transformation of our worship space is a reflection of your work and dedication and helps us celebrate the joy and wonder of this sacred season.

Giving Tree Community Gift Donations

The Community Gift Giving Tree is now placed at the back of church. We have been provided 10 families to provide gifts for this Christmas. If you would like to donate a gift, please take an ornament from the Giving Tree and purchase a gift on noted on the back. Gifts have a maximum value of \$30. Please have all unwrapped gift donations delivered to Church by December 12th, with the family number indicated on the gift so it can be delivered to the appropriate family. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

Christmas & New Year's Worship Schedule

Children's Christmas Service

Do Not Be Afraid.

I Bring You Good News!

Wednesday December 18, 6:30 pm

Christmas Eve Worship

December 24, 6:30 pm

Christmas Day Worship

December 25, 9:00 am

New Year's Eve Worship

December 31, 4:00 pm



October Financials

Monthly Budget Report	October 2024	Year to Date
Income	\$31,594.97	\$136,746.62
Expenses	\$32,057.50	\$124,987.25
Mortgage Principal	\$1,446.49	\$4,237.36
Excess Income/Expense	(\$1909.02)	\$7522.01

Budget year July 2024 – June 2025



105 Paradise Circle, DeForest, WI 53532 608-846-9036 | lolchurchoffice@gmail.com | www.lordoflovelutheran.org

> Pastor Joel Jenswold pr.jenswold@gmail.com Cell phone: 608-572-1654

Chairman: Mitch Myhre, mitchmyhre@hotmail.com
Office Assistant: Kristin Vomhof, Office hours Tuesday – Friday.
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - *Christ's Love, Our Calling*.

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD." Psalm 122:1



Today's 8:00 service will be recorded including the Service of the Sacrament. Individuals taking communion will not be visible in the recording.