

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 22, 2024

10:00 a.m. – Worship

First Lutheran Church

Pastor Bryan Anderson



Welcome

Call to Worship

P This is the day the Lord has made.

C **Let us rejoice and be glad. †**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

***Opening Hymn #45 (LBW) – Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful**

***Prayer of the Day**

*Confession of Sin

P Let us examine ourselves before the Lord.

(Self-examination)

C **We confess Lord that as your disciples we have often dishonored the holy name we bear. We ask your forgiveness for the times when we have failed to labor for your Kingdom, when we have not followed your call to seek first the Kingdom, when we have hidden our light from the world and ceased to be your salt. Have mercy on us and restore unto us the joy of faithful discipleship.**

***Promise of Grace**

First Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

The Lord says, "Bethlehem, you are one of the smallest towns in Judah, but out of you I will bring a ruler for Israel, whose family line goes back to ancient times." **3** So the Lord will abandon his people to their enemies until the woman who is to give birth has her son. Then those Israelites who are in exile will be reunited with their own people. **4** When he comes, he will rule his people with the strength that comes from the Lord and with the majesty of the Lord God himself. His people will live in safety because people all over the earth will acknowledge his greatness, **5** and he will bring peace.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Now we can give thanks to our God for you. We thank him for the joy we have in his presence because of you. **10** Day and night we ask him with all our heart to let us see you personally and supply what is needed in your faith. **11** May our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus prepare the way for us to come to you! **12** May the Lord make your love for one another and for all people grow more and more and become as great as our love for you. **13** In this way he will strengthen you, and you will be perfect and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all who belong to him.

Hymn of Praise #41 (LBW) – O Little Town of Bethlehem

***Gospel Reading: Luke 1:39-45**

Soon afterward Mary got ready and hurried off to a town in the hill country of Judea. **40** She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. **41** When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby moved within her. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit **42** and said in a loud voice, "You are the most blessed of all women, and blessed is the child you will bear! **43** Why should this great thing happen to me, that my Lord's mother comes to visit me? **44** For as soon as I heard your greeting, the baby within me jumped with gladness. **45** How happy you are to believe that the Lord's message to you will come true!"

Sermon

Hymn of the Day #39 (LBW) – Joy to the World

***Apostles' Creed**

***Prayers of the Church**

***Lord's Prayer**

Announcements

Closing Hymn #60 (LBW) – Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Blessing

Dismissal

P Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



You are invited to use our QR code for online giving.
Offering is also received in the plates at the entrance to the sanctuary.

Organist: Brian Wick
Reader: Don Dipprey
Greeters: Dale & Sherry Wirth
Counters: Dawn Peterson & Tim Wyss
Ushers: Barb Anderson & Aaron Johnson
Fellowship Servers: Aaron Johnson Family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to all who join in worship today, especially any visitors. Guests are invited to fill out the visitor slip so we can become better acquainted. Fellowship will follow worship in the hall.

We keep the following in our prayers and acts of love: Dennis Luehman, John Jungmann, Levi Ramsey, Doris Buhr, Missie Fitcha (friend of Pam Anderson), Thomas McIntire (brother of Bill McIntire), Nate Wycoff (nephew of Linda McIntire), and Roger Shafer (father of Kim Elwood). *If you want to be included on the public prayer list, please notify the church office.*

2025 Offering Envelopes are now available: To save on postage, we hope to pass out as many packets as we can. Please pick yours up today at the table in the entry or help us deliver one to someone you know.

Our Daily Bread home devotionals are available to pick up in the entry. We invite you to take one for yourself and share with a friend.

Elaine Solum is looking for rides to church on Sundays. If you can help, give her a call at 715-269-5352.

Gift certificates for the February 8th Women's Event are now available for purchase – a perfect Christmas gift idea!

Shopping cards for Nilssen's, True Value, and Kwik Trip are available every Sunday between services from the Lutheran Men in Mission for Christ. The men receive back a percentage of the sales for mission projects.

Snow Shoveling Volunteers are needed. Volunteers are asked to sign-up on the sheet at the back of worship for a week time slot. If it snows that week please remove all from the walkways as shown on the shoveling map with the sign-up. When the building is open, there are shovels and ice melt available otherwise plan to bring your own equipment.

THIS WEEK

Today	11:00 AM-Fellowship 11:00 AM-Choir Practice
Tuesday	CHRISTMAS EVE 4:00 PM-Candlelight Service with Holy Communion
Wednesday	CHRISTMAS DAY 10:00 AM-Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion
Saturday	7:00 AM-Women's Book Study
Next Sunday	8:30 AM-Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM-Fellowship NO SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM-Traditional Worship 11:00 AM-Fellowship 11:00 AM-Choir Practice