

LIVE IN HOPE



*First Sunday of Advent*  
*Sunday, December 1, 2024*

**GATHERING**

**Prelude**

**Confession and Forgiveness** *(Congregational responses printed in bold.)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation,  
arriving soon.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.**

**We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

God of might,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have turned away from our neighbors.**

**We have trusted false promises.**

God in our midst,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We plead: come to us.**

**Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,  
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God  
through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

**Amen.**

**Welcome and Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## Song

## “Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Come Thou long expected Jesus  
Born to set Thy people free  
From our fears and sins release us  
Let us find our rest in Thee  
Israel's strength and consolation  
Hope of all the earth Thou art  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart

Born Thy people to deliver  
Born a child and yet a King  
Born to reign in us forever  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring  
By Thine own eternal spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone  
By Thine all sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

You draw the hearts of shepherds, You draw the hearts of kings  
Even as a baby You were changing ev'rything  
You called me to Your kingdom before Your lips could speak  
And even as a baby You were reaching out for me

And now we are awaiting the day of Your return  
When ev'ry eye will see You as heaven comes to earth  
Until the sky is opened, until the trumpet sounds  
The bride is getting ready, the Church is singing out

Come Thou long expected Jesus  
Born to set Thy people free  
From our fears and sins release us  
Let us find our rest in Thee  
Come Thou long expected King

## 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.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

**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.**

## **WORD**

### **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."

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Second Reading:**

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

<sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup>And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Children's Time**

## **Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

## Hymn

### “We are Waiting for Jesus”



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.  
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.  
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

## Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21st chapter.

### Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] <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.

<sup>34</sup> “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap.

For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The Gospel of the Lord,  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

## **Anthem**

“Prepare the Way”

We've heard the revival stories  
Of ancient and old time glory  
Spirit of God come do it again  
Miracle-working power  
Moving in signs and wonders  
Spirit of God come do it again

### ***Chorus***

***Prepare the way He's coming through  
Ready or not our God's on the move  
We're gonna see heaven on earth  
Come Holy Spirit awaken Your church***

God You're just getting started  
A testimony of more to come  
Spirit of God come do it in us  
We join in the faith of heaven  
And prophesy Your kingdom here on earth  
Spirit of God come do it in us

### Bridge

Fire fall wind come blow  
We're ready for more ready for more  
Break down the walls push back the doors  
We're ready for more (ready for more)

### Ending

We've heard the revival stories  
Of ancient and old time glory  
Spirit of God come do it again

# *A Baptismal Celebration for Logan Randall LaGrange*

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism.

**The power of sin is put to death in this holy flood, and we are raised with Jesus Christ to new life.**

We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ.

**We are anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit and sent out in mission for the life of the world.**

*A member of the Baptismal party presents the child by saying:*

We present Logan Randall LaGrange to receive the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

As you present this child for baptism you are entrusted with gifts and responsibilities: to live with him among God's faithful people, to bring him to the word of God and the holy supper and nurture him in faith and prayer that he may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace among all people. Parents and sponsors, I ask you, do you promise to help this child grow in the Christian life and faith?

R/        *I do.*

I ask you to reject sin, profess your trust in Christ and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

R/        *I renounce them.*

Do you trust in Christ as your Lord and Savior?

R/        *In faith I turn to Christ.*



With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

**I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, O God, creator of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things. In the time of Noah you washed the earth with the waters of the flood, and your ark of salvation bore a new beginning. In the time of Moses your people passed through the Red Sea from slavery into freedom. In the fullness of time you sent Jesus the Christ, nurtured in the waters of Mary's womb, so that through the baptism of his death and resurrection, your children may be set free from bondage to sin and death and sent to proclaim the good news throughout the earth.

**Amen.**

The Child is Baptized

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth. Sustain Logan with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

**Amen.**

*The pastor makes sign of the cross on the child's forehead:*

Logan Randall LaGrange, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

**Amen.**

*As baptismal candle is lit:*

As Lutherans, we consider baptism our initial call to discipleship. As we present this candle to Logan we say:

**Let your light so shine that others may see your good works and give glory to God.**

As baptized children of God and disciples of the living Christ, let us proclaim:

**May our lights shine in the world with God's grace!**

God of grace, look with kindness upon the parents and sponsors of this child. Give them joy in the gift of this child, and help them to be examples of faith and teachers of discipleship. Strengthen them in their own baptism as they share with this child a life of trust in you.

**Amen.**

Through baptism Logan has been received into the household of God.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and the mission we share. Join us as we give praise to God and bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

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## **MEAL**

### **Offering/Ministry Opportunities/Invitation to Communion**

#### **Prayers of the People**

Lord, in your mercy,  
**receive our prayer.**

#### **Celebration of Holy Communion**

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 right to give our thanks and praise.**



San - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.  
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God,



Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.  
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.



Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la  
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on



tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el  
earth. . . . . Blest is he who comes in the



nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el  
name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the



cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -  
high - est, ho - san - na here on earth. . . . .



di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.  
Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

### Blessing at the Table

## Lord's Prayer

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 of Holy Communion




*Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;*  
*O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .*




*ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.*  
*have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.*




*Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;*  
*O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .*



*ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros.*  
*have . . mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer-cy up - on us.*



*Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;*  
*O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .*



*da - nos tu paz, da - nos tu paz.*  
*grant us your peace, grant us your peace.*

# Communion Hymn

# "Christ Be Our Light"



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



*Refrain*  
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

## ***SENDING***

### **Post-Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

**Amen.**

## Prayer after Communion

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation.  
We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace.

**We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.**

## Blessing

### Sending Hymn: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"



1 Re - joyce, re - joyce, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;  
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;  
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,  
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.  
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.  
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.  
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.  
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.  
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.  
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.  
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

## Dismissal

As people of the Good Shepherd ...

**We are a Christian community rooted in grace, connected through inclusive worship and fellowship.**

Together

**We embrace and value all people and serve our broader community with compassion.**

Go in peace. Christ is near.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

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Sunday School is preparing for the **Christmas Pageant** and looking for volunteers to assist with costumes and Saturday rehearsal Dec 14th 2-4 pm. Contact Jenn at [truelyblessed@live.com](mailto:truelyblessed@live.com) if you'd like to help!

**Monthly Financial update:** As of October 31<sup>st</sup>, the church has an \$11,000 deficit. Giving is about \$17,000 below the year to date budget for gifts, and our expenses are about \$6,000 below the year to date budget for expenses.  
- Your Church Council

**Looking for new gift ideas?** As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we believe that God is calling us into the world – together. And with generous, loving hands, we can make a difference. **ELCA Good Gifts** is your opportunity to provide critical support to the ministries and programs that mean the most to you and the people you love: <https://goodgifts.elca.org/>

## Good Shepherd Book Club

Next meeting - December 3rd at 7pm in the church Fellowship Hall.

**The God of the Woods**, by Liz Moore. When a teenager vanishes from her Adirondack summer camp, two worlds collide

We need help with **Coffee Hour!**  
Sign up on the board in the Fellowship Hall or see Judy Croshaw.

### **Women's Whimsical Wednesday Luncheon**

December 4th at Max 410 (formerly the Lighthouse Restaurant)  
2 Freemans Bridge Road, Glenville  
Please contact Linda VanSchaick, 518-858-2063, by November 27<sup>th</sup>  
to reserve your seat at the table.

Immaculate Conception is putting boxes of food together to feed Burnt Hills school district families in need. **Volunteers needed to:**  
Pack food boxes at Immaculate Conception  
on Saturday, December 14th starting at 9:00 am.  
Contact Cathi Duncan for more info: [duncanrc@nycap.rr.com](mailto:duncanrc@nycap.rr.com)

### **Christmas Giving Tree - City Mission Toy Store**

City Mission is asking for new, unwrapped toys that will be given to children (newborn up to age 12) who visit their relatives in the Men's Residence at City Mission and to children in the Family Center.  
Please place any donations under the giving tree in the foyer by December 6<sup>th</sup>

**Yoga** will continue every Monday night at 7 pm in the fellowship hall.

In the Northern Hemisphere, December 21st marks the shortest day of the year, the official start of winter. While Advent is a season of hope and Christmas is a season of joy, not everyone feels hopeful or like celebrating. Grief, illness, aging, depression, loneliness, unemployment, and loss are magnified. On **Saturday December 21st at 6 pm** we will gather for a quiet Longest Night service. On this darkest day of the year, we come with our honest yearnings seeking the return of light and hope.

***Today's Altar Flowers were donated by  
Robin Gibelius in celebration of the Triplets & Finnley's birthdays  
and by Randy Little in honor of Logan's Baptism.***





**Monday, December 2nd, 7 -8 pm**

**Bros, Bibles & Beer Event**

**Pizza Works**

**720 Saratoga Rd., Burnt Hills**

**Guys are invited to this casual bible event discussion over your favorite beer or soft drink.**



**December 8th 8:30 - 11am**

# COOKIE WALK

**Cookies, crafts and woodworking.**

**If you would like to bake please sign up on the bulletin board by Pastor Deron's office or with Nancy Woods.**

**All proceeds go to City Mission.**



We join a worldwide Christmas at Sea program that collects gifts for seafarers at the Port of Albany. Look for the box in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring by December 8th. We will also need shoe boxes and wrapping paper to pack.

- Toiletries – Razor, shaving cream, after shave, tooth brush/paste, deodorant
- Writing paper, envelopes, pencils, pens
- Knit caps, work gloves, warm socks, sweatshirts
- Comb or brush
- Books
- AA/AAA batteries
- Puzzles, word search, sudoku
- Ear buds







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## ***GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF***

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