

# WELCOME



## AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Nativity of Our Lord I: Christmas Eve  
ELW Holy Communion Setting Three  
Wednesday, December 24, 2025

### OUR MISSION

Jesus Christ calls American Lutheran Church to nourish the world by faithfully sharing His gifts.

Praise God that we can worship together! We pray you will be enlightened by the Holy Spirit and strengthened in the faith that trusts in our Lord Jesus Christ and praises him for the gift of our salvation. Peace be with you.

### CONTACT US

Church office: 319-827-6626

Church website: [www.americanlutheranjesup.org](http://www.americanlutheranjesup.org)

Pastor's email: [patmohrkelly@gmail.com](mailto:patmohrkelly@gmail.com)

Secretary's email: [secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org](mailto:secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org)

### WELCOME VISITORS!

We are so happy you've joined us today. If you have any questions about our service or facilities, please reach out to an usher. If you are a guest please fill out the yellow slip and place it in the offering plate.

All who are baptized are welcome to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing only, come with your hands folded.

If you are looking for a church home, know you are always welcome here.

**PRELUDE** by Shirley Bergman

*Please stand as able*

### Christmas Proclamation

**GATHERING SONG** O Come, All Ye Faithful (ELW 283)

### 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.**

**Hymn of Praise: Good Christians Friends Rejoice ELW 288**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

**Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 9:2-7

*This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!*

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoul-

ders, and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> Great will be his authority, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.  
*The reading may be concluded:*  
Word of God, word of life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING: Titus 2:11-14**  
*The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.*  
*The reading may be announced:*  
A reading from Titus.  
<sup>11</sup> The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup> training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup> He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.  
*The reading may be concluded:*  
Word of God, word of life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:**  
“Oh Holy Night” solo by Jessica Saunders (7pm service)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Love Has Come (ELW 292)**

**GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]**  
*The gospel is announced.*  
The holy gospel according to Luke.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**  
*God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the “good news of great joy” and proclaim God's blessing of peace.*

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (ELW 288)**

*The Nicene Creed pg. 104 or in the back cover of your hymnal*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**  
Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**  
The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERING I Am So Glad Each Christmas Eve (ELW 271) vs 1&2**

**OFFERING PRAYER**  
Let us pray.  
**Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**  
Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High, ☩ one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor. Gracious God,  
**in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in ☩ Jesus' name. **Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

DIALOGUE

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 144)

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 145)

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

May the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the obedience of Mary and Joseph, and the peace of the Christ Child be yours this Christmas. AMEN

SENDING SONG *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* (ELW 282)

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE by Shirley Bergman

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Any announcements need to be placed in the file on the church office door by Wednesday evening. Articles for THE LAMP are due in the office by noon on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

**FOR OUR LITTLE ONES:** Busy bags are available. Please feel free to borrow them each Sunday.

**Noisy Offering** in December will go towards ELCA Good Gifts and the Independence Food Pantry.

**Wednesday Worship** will start up again in January.

BIBLE RECAP – JOIN US!

We're reading the entire Bible together using **The Bible Recap!** Daily readings, summaries, and short videos are available through the free **You Version Bible App**. We'll gather on Sundays after fellowship to share reflections and insights.

Interested? Email **Pastor Pat** at [patmohrkelly@gmail.com](mailto:patmohrkelly@gmail.com). Let's try it together!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING & MEAL

**January 18 | Worship at 9:00 a.m.** (No 4:00 p.m. service) Following worship, we'll meet to vote on the 2026 budget, elect council and nominating committee members, and discuss the future of pastoral leadership. Your presence and vote matter.

**Meal help needed:** one casserole, juice/milk, syrup, and butter. Please notify the office or Pastor Pat if you can help.

*Backup date: January 25 (weather permitting).* Butter Let the office or Pastor Pat know what you can contribute

\*January 25 backup date if bad weather on 18th \*

**Remember our members in your prayers:** Grandma Joyce, Wendell, Gene, Shirley, Jeanne , Bill , Sharon, Jeanne, Debbie and Marie

Poinsettia's in memory of: Erpelding Family, Bill Adams, Loyd & Frances Putnam, Martin & Margaret Becker, Melvin & Eva Miller, and Sheri Waring

**THIS WEEK AT ALC**  
**Wednesday, Dec 24**  
2 and 7 pm Worship/  
Communion  
**Sunday, Dec 28**  
9am Worship/Communion

**BY THE NUMBERS**  
Attendance 12/21/2025 **86**

**Current Balance as of  
11/30/2025**  
Checking: \$11,881.71  
Savings: \$55,256.46  
Improvement \$27,621.49  
Offering: **12/21/2025**  
Current: \$2861  
Benevolence: \$845  
Improvement: \$25  
World Hunger \$650  
Flowers \$48  
Food Pantry \$75

**Prayer Chain:** Contact Kaye  
Jones kayejns@gmail.com or the  
office  
(secretary@americanlutheranjesu  
p.org) with any prayer concerns.

**Military members: Military members:**  
Christa Leach has returned from de-  
ployment and is still with the 434th Air  
Force Reserve Unit in Grissom, Indiana.  
Jordan and Justin continue their  
monthly drills with the 185th Air Refuel-  
ing Wing in Sioux City. Jeryn Loyd is a  
student at Iowa State and currently  
home from Arkansas in the Army Re-  
serves as Cassidee and Cole. Please  
contact the church office to add other  
names who serve. We remember them  
in our prayers.

**ASSISTING**  
Pastor: Pat Mohr-Kelly  
Music: Shirley Bergman  
Usher: Iva & Randy Ruehs  
Deacon: 4pm Ridh Mohr Kelly  
7pm Maureen Even

**ELECTRONIC GIVING IT'S EASY!**  
Simply Giving is a stress-free, no hassle way to  
set up automatic giving to ALC. You have the  
ability to set up one-time or regular giving at a  
frequency that works best for you. Use your  
smartphone to scan the QR code below or  
download the Give+ App to get started. Feel  
free to reach out to Mike Waring or Sara Bor-  
land for more info.



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