



Advent Midweek Worship
Wednesdays
Dec. 3, 10, 17
at 7:00p.m.

Preschool Christmas Program
Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 3:30p.m.

Christmas Eve Worship
Wednesday, Dec. 24 at 7:00p.m.

New Years Eve Worship
Wednesday Dec. 31 at 4:30p.m.

Welcome to



December 17, 2025
Midweek Advent #3



The vision of Gethsemane Lutheran Church is to:
GROW UP in His Word,
GROW OUT in his Ministry,
GROW TOGETHER in His Love.

Pastor James Jennings
Preschool Director: Kim Perry
Administrative Assistant: Schawna Briney
Organist: Karen Leicht

Pre-Service Music

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Song

349 Hark the Glad Sound

Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev’ry heart prepare a throne
And ev’ry voice a song.

He comes the pris’ners to release,
In Satan’s bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
To _enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav’n’s eternal arches ring
With Thy belovèd name.

Text: Public domain

The Invocation

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Text: Public domain

Postlude



The Sending and Blessing

- P** Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping,
C **That awake we may watch with Christ and asleep we may rest in peace.**
P the Almighty and Merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you
C **Amen.**

The Closing Song

370 What Child Is This

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Service of the Light

- P** Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,
C **the light no darkness can overcome.**
P Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C **and the day is almost over.**
P Let Your light scatter the darkness
C **and illumine Your Church.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Tonight, we have lit the Candles of Hope, Peace, & Joy! We remember the JOY we have in Christ. As a follower of Christ, we await His return. We light this candle to remember that as He came to us humbly in the manger at Bethlehem and gave light to the world, so He is coming again in power to deliver His people.

Song

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;

Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Prayer

Holy God of love, There is light in our lives because of the abundance of Your steadfast love. A love so vast, so deep, so real, that You became one of us. May we live within the power of this love. And may we share its light with a world where too many dwell in darkness. Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson *Isaiah 7:14*

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Immanuel.

The Gospel Lesson *Luke 2:25–35*

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation

that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.”

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

The Message

The Advent Prayer

Dear Lord, Stir up Your power and come so that with Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and be saved by Your mighty deliverance. We pray this through our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Luther's Evening Prayer

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have graciously kept me this day. Forgive me all my sins, and graciously keep me this night. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.