



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
First Sunday in Advent
Sunday, November 30, 2025, 9:30 a.m.
Rev. Stephanie White

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Order of Worship ("Everlasting Light" Setting)

First Sunday in Advent

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

** = Please rise*

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

We welcome all who are gathered with us for worship, whether in person or via the livestream! If you are worshipping with us via the livestream, please send an e-mail to redemer@gvtel.com to let us know from where you are worshipping.

***Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

We gather in the name of God, the Creator of Light;
✠ Jesus, the Light of the World;
and the Holy Spirit, the Light who illumines our path.
Amen

During Advent, God's promise illuminates our hope.

On those living in the land of darkness, a light has dawned.

In time of fear, we place our hope in the One who brings peace.

On those living in the land of darkness, a light has dawned.

In times of grief, we place our hope in the One who offers comfort.

On those living in the land of darkness, a light has dawned.

In times of wondering, we place our hope in the One who speaks the truth.
On those living in the land of darkness, a light has dawned.

This morning we light the candle of HOPE which reminds us that our HOPE is the everlasting God who pierces that darkness of this world and reaches into the brokenness of our lives, granting the promise of tomorrow.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen!

He came down that we might have HOPE! Hallelujah forevermore!

***Confession and Forgiveness**

In this season of light, let us go before God and confess how our words and actions contribute to the darkness instead of adding to the light.

Silence is kept for reflection. Those who wish to may kneel.

God of Love and Light,

We confess that we are not always the light-bearers you desire us to be.

We shine a spotlight on the transgressions of others while trying to keep our own sins hidden in the dark.

We burn bridges by being impatient, opinionated and judgmental.

We inflame others by lashing out in anger.

We go through our days enveloped in the gloom of fear and doubt.

We let our witness become a smoldering ember until it dies out completely.

Forgive us Jesus, the Everlasting Light.

Come to us, abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.

Teach us to walk as children of the light, surrounded by your love, forgiveness and healing.

We ask this in the name of Christ.

Amen

Water is poured into the baptismal font.

God is light, and in God there is no darkness as all. If we walk in the light as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

Amen

***Gathering Hymn**

Creator of the Stars of Night

ELW #245

stanza 1: cantor

stanzas 2-5: all

All turn and face the processional cross as it is carried into the sanctuary.

Creator of the Stars of Night



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -
2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in
3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all
4 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, re - deem us for e -
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,
splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child
hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,
ter - nal day; de - fend us while we dwell be - low
Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you hear us when we call.
of Mar - y, bless - ed moth - er mild.
like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.
from all as - saults of our dread foe.
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.

Music: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM, plainsong mode IV

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*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.

*Kyrie

to the tune of Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



Lord, have mer - cy__ on your peo - ple. Christ have mer - cy__ on__ us.
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.__ Chri - ste e - le - i - son.



Shine your light in__ to our dark-ness. Fill__ us__ with your ho - ly love.
Heal all__ con - flicts be - tween na - tions. Teach us__ how to__ live as one.



Be our strength in times of__ trou - ble. Set us free from chains that__ bind.
Show us how to love our__ neigh - bor. Run to those who__ cry for__ help.



Breathe new_ life in - to our__ spir - its. Pu - ri - fy our__ hearts and minds.
Word made flesh who lives a - mong us; Christ our__ Lord, Em - man - u - el.

*Canticle of Praise

to the tune of Angels We Have Heard on High



Glo - ry be to God on high. Peace, good-will to all the earth. Let us sing a
Love has come to dwell with us. Light now shines on ev - 'ry - one. Hope has lift - ed



joy - ful song to the Christ, the Liv - ing Word. Glo - - -
up our hearts. Joy has made, in us, a home.



- - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glor -



- - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

*Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, preaching, and song.

First Reading: The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshipping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

Isaiah 2:1-5

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God!

Psalms 122

¹ I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

² **Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³ Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;

⁴ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**

⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.

⁶ **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:**
"May they prosper who love you.

⁷ Peace be within your walls

and quietness within your towers.

⁸ **For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.**

⁹ Because of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek to ¹ do you good.”

Second Reading: Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

Romans 13:11-14

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God!

***Gospel Acclamation**

ELW p. 142

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

***Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44**

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew...

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Rev. Stephanie White

***Hymn of the Day**

The King Shall Come

ELW #260

The King Shall Come

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system contains five lines of lyrics, and the second system contains three lines. The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The piece concludes with a final double bar line.

1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.

when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003

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*Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

***Prayers of the Church**

...God of grace,
hear our prayer.

***Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

Offering

*We welcome you to Redeemer Lutheran Church this day! Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering box before the service or at this time. As our tithes and offerings are being collected, **please take a moment to sign the red Friendship Pad.***

*Offertory

to the tune of On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry



Your bless - ings are im - mea - sura-ble. Our homes are warm, our
praise you, God, for love, for life, for sav - ing us from
bel - lies full. We of - fer now our - selves to you. God,
dark - est night. Now send us forth so we may tell the
use good us an of - y E - way man - you choose. We
good news of E - man - u - el.

*Offering Prayer

God of light,
Our world is a very dark place.
Therefore, we offer these gifts
of ourselves, our time and our resources,
trusting you will use them
to set the world aglow with your loving presence.
May our offerings continue to shine brightly before others
so they may see our good works and give glory to you.
We ask this in the name of Christ.
Amen.

*Great Thanksgiving

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.

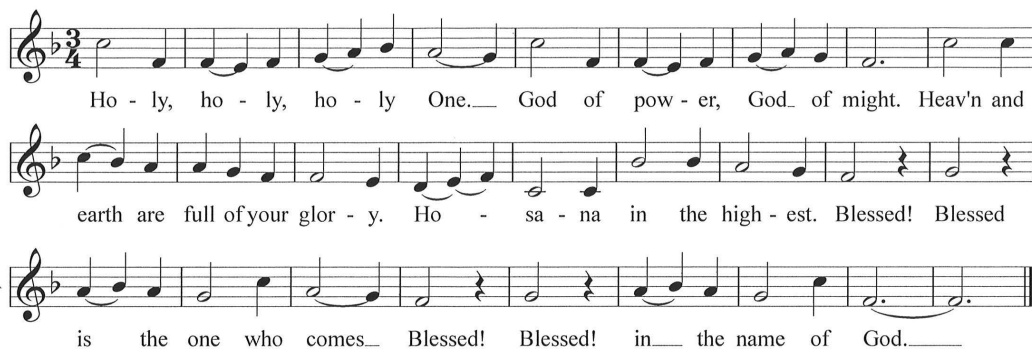
At the beginning of creation God said, **“Let there be light”**; and there was light.
God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. In

ancient times God also led the Israelites through the desert with a= a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. The priests of old also kept a perpetual fire burning in the Temple to remind us that God is a light who cannot be extinguished.

Finally Jesus, the Word, who was with God since the beginning of creation, became flesh and lived among us, We have seen his glory shining in our world, full grace and truth, Christ's light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it, This same light has commanded us not to hide our light under a bushel basket, but to put it on a lamp stand so that everyone can see it. With our lights burning brightly, we now join the saints and angels in a hymn of praise to God, the Everlasting Light.

***Sanctus**

to the tune of Love Has Come



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One___ God of pow - er, God of might. Heav'n and
earth are full of your glor - y. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Blessed! Blessed
is the one who comes___ Blessed! Blessed! in___ the name of God._____

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

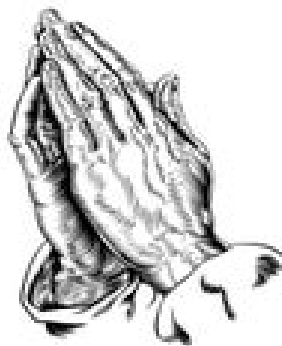
***Lord's Prayer**

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



*Agnus Dei

to the tune of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Musical notation for the Agnus Dei, consisting of three staves of music in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are written below the notes.

O Lamb of God you take a-way our sin; have mer-cy on us, give_ us your
peace. Pre -pare us to re- ceive_ your grace and teach us how to fol - low your ways. Re-
joice! Re- joice! E - man - u - el has come to you, O Is - ra- el.

Distribution

If you are worshipping with us via the livestream, we invite you to join in celebrating at Christ's table wherever you are, with bread and wine, grape juice, or water, as we remain physically separated yet "together met, together bound by all that God has done" and "the love that makes us one." ("I Come with Joy", ELW #482)

If you are worshipping with us in person today, know that all who come seeking Jesus are invited to receive these gifts of God. Please approach the serving station at the front of the church using the center aisle. After receiving the Bread of Life, please take an empty cup before approaching the wine station; if you prefer grape juice instead of wine, please take one of the pre-filled cups of white grape juice from the center of the tray.

Our bread is gluten- and other allergen-free.

My Lord, What a Morning

Refrain

My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn - ing; oh,



my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be - gin to fall.



- 1 You will hear the trum - pet sound,
- 2 You will hear the sin - ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
- 3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

*Refrain*

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: BURLEIGH, African American spiritual

***Post-Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

***Post Communion Prayer**

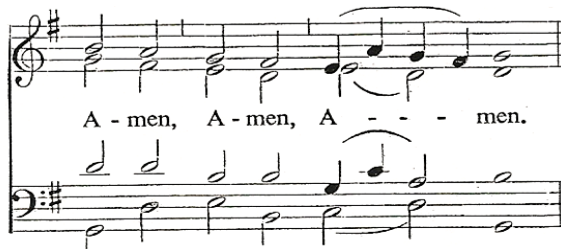
Jesus, our bright Morning Star,
we give you thanks that you have fed us well
through the bread and wine of your Supper.
May it enable us to shine brightly in all the dark places of our world
with your love, justice and peace.
We ask this in your holy name.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***Blessing**

May God who comes among us,
Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always.



***Sending Hymn**

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

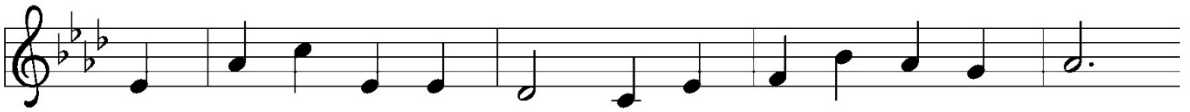
ELW #244

All face the processional cross as it is carried from the sanctuary.

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



- 1 Re - joice, re - joice, 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!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907

Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Keep Awake!

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

ASSISTING IN MINISTRY TODAY 9:30 A.M.

Presiding: Rev. Stephanie White

Acolytes: Haylie Jahn

Ushers: Cecil and Maryel Anderson

Lector: Maryel Anderson

Communion Assistants: Jan Anderson and Scott Pream

Serving at the Altar: Denice Nelson and Renae Dalen

Organist: Reid Froiland

Cantor: Chris Cuppett

Video: Dave Ulrich

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REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

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Rev. Stephanie White, *pastor*
Dianne Stroh, *administrative assistant*
Marit Martell, *financial secretary*
Mike Lundgren, *custodian*
Jan Nordin, *council president*

Reid Froiland, *organist/liturgist/choir director*
Chris Cuppett, *cantor*
Paula Adamson, Greg Dally, and Dean Dalen,
staff musicians
Dave Ulrich, *videographer*

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Tom Gustafson, Mark & Kathi Jenkins, Tamara Vaughan, Darren Bakke, Shawn Groven, Joyce White, Cindy Hughes, Jim Potucek, Rick Harbott, Sara LaFayette Valentine, Michelle Kasprick, Shari Safranski, Bob and Barb Horien, Rick and Tami Hanson, Rose Teie, and Fern Melbye.

Financial stewardship

2025 Budget

\$329,106.00

Needed monthly

\$27,425.50

Needed Weekly

\$6,328.96

Altar flowers are given by

Tom Kays

in memory of Dianne Kays

and by Melanie Lunsetter in

memory of Glenn & Grace

Lunsetter

Quarterly statements are available upon request; please contact Marit at the church office.

Week Ending November 23, 2025

\$6,942.88

Weekly Shortage/Overage

(\$613.92)



Volunteers are needed to read, usher and serve communion. If you can help out in any of these roles, please fill out a volunteer sheet found on our new church app. Thank you for sharing your time and talents.

Soulfood Youth Group for grades 6 through 12 will meet the first Sunday of every month beginning at 6pm with a light meal. Come and hang out, it's good for the soul!

The Spirit of Giving at Zion Lutheran Church will be on Saturday December 6th 2025. Those in need may come to the church and shop for free. Items available will be new and gently used clothing, household items, Christmas decorations and toys.

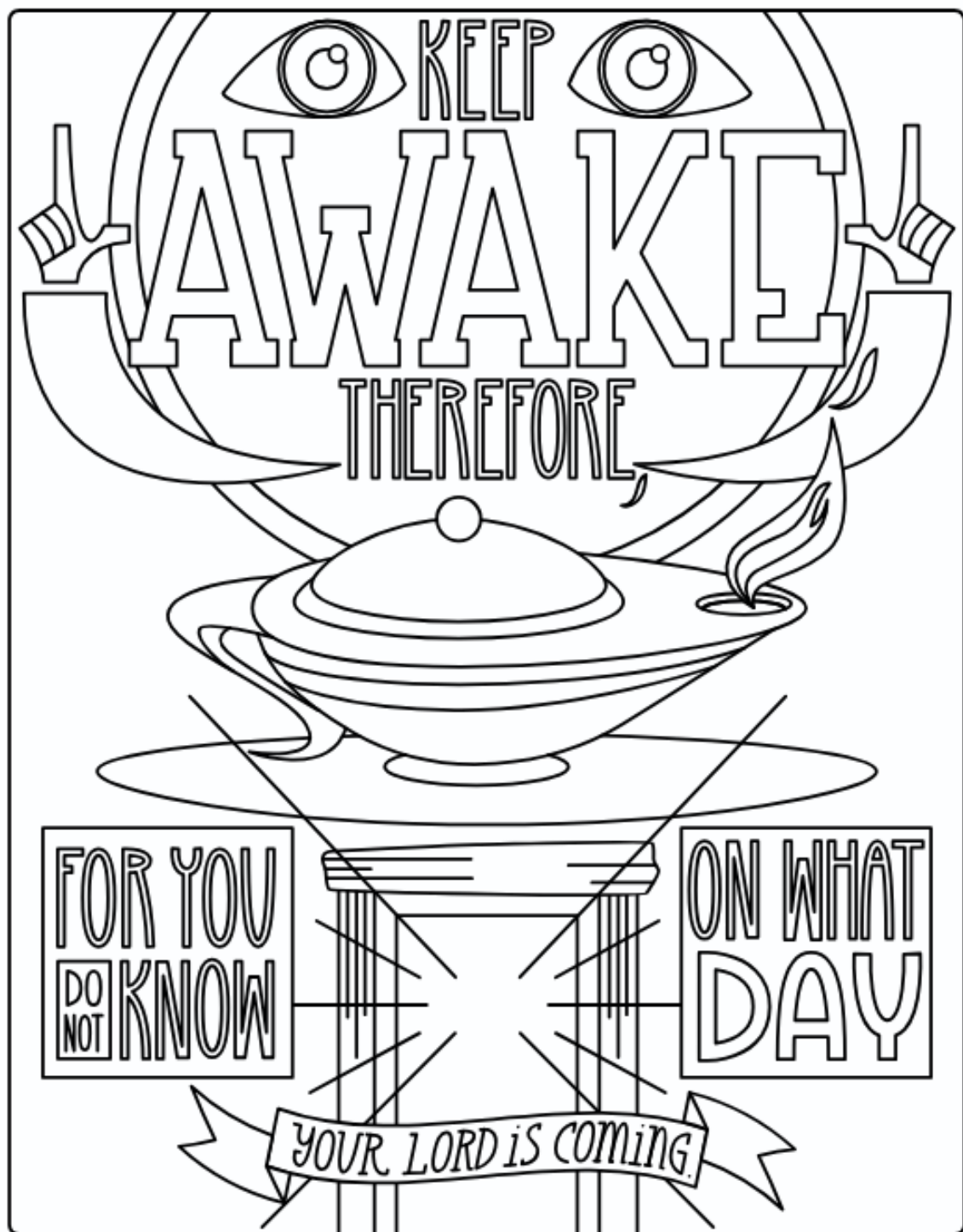
Important dates in December 12/14 – Santa Lucia Service – 12/17 Christmas Program – 12/21 Blue Christmas Service – 12/24 Christmas Worship at 4:00 and 10:30 pm



November Birthdays

November Birthdays –

1 – Kari Johnson **2** – Kassidy Fremling, Ashley Olson **3** – Kristie Huseth **4** – Jana Nelson **5** – Jonathan Kays **6** – Grant Nelson, Shelly McFarlane, Shirley Nelson **7** – Teddi-Ann Pray, Stacy Davidson, Dawn Gustafson, Brock Jacobson, Devon Pulczynski **8** – Greg Brekke, Brady Berg **9** – Chad Johnson, Kellan Johnson **10** – Mia Dally **11** – Olivia Hempel, Wendy Goddard **12** – **13** - Howard Goethe, Julie Ornquist **14** – **15** – **16** – Natasha Eakes **17** – **18** – Mike Barry, Mikeala Berg **19** – Judy Gustafson, Dianne Stroh **20** – Casey Nelson, Jodi Disterhaupt, Kenadee Walker **21** – Shane Defreeze, Joette Landgren **22** – Barb Noel, Maxton Peterson **23** - Amanda Hestbeck **24** – Cody Conners, Jordan Jacobson **25** – Kelsie Dicken, Raeann Jacobson **26** – Miah Nelson, Eric Tjelle **27** – Richard Eckstein, Harlan Kirkeide, Linda Olson, Scott Walker, Kora McLean **28** –Jennifer Bjerken, Lori Sorenson **29** – Richard Anderson **30** – Rick Myers, Ezra Efteland



2. "That's why you need to stay awake and pay attention," Jesus continued. "There will be signs that the time is coming. Like how birds begin to sing, and grass becomes soft and green before the arrival of spring."



3. "Watch for these signs. Don't get distracted like the people in our ancestors' story about the great flood. They were so focused on other things, they didn't notice when Noah's hammering stopped or when the sky grew dark with clouds."



Matthew 24:36-44



1. Jesus knew his time on earth was almost done, but he also knew this wasn't the end. He would come back to earth again! "When will you come back?" the disciples asked. "I don't know," Jesus said. "Only God knows."

4. "When I return, everyone on earth will know. It will be as obvious as seeing two people in a field, but one suddenly disappears, leaving the other behind. Until then, keep watch. Stay hopeful. Pay attention. Look for the signs."

