



2nd Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

Lord of Life Lutheran Church, North Pole, AK
(907) 488-6720 www.lordoflifeak.com

Assistant Minister = Blue

Welcome! Words in **bold** are said together.

Children are always welcome - they worship God too! Cloth bags with quiet activities are by the stairs to keep them engaged during worship. Our nursery is at the bottom of the stairs, to the left.

The Lord's Prayer

We pray together with confidence the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us to pray,

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.

Confession and Forgiveness

*Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure. **Congregation: Amen.***

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, and of one another. (silence for reflection)

*L: Long-expected God, **C: we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake.***

Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

*L: God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. + You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior. **C: Amen.***

Lighting the Second Advent Candle

*L: This week we light two candles and think about all the ways God calls us to partnership. We light these candles in gratitude for companions in the pilgrimage on earth. **C: Amen.***

Gathering Hymn – Light One Candle #240

1. Light one candle to watch for Messiah; let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.
2. Light two candles to watch for Messiah; let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.
3. Light three candles to watch for Messiah; let the light banish darkness.

Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.

4. Light four candles to watch for Messiah; let the light banish darkness.
He is coming, tell the glad tidings. Let your lights be shining!

***Prayer of the Day* – Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 11:1-10 p. 558

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ² The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19 p. 464

¹ Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

² **May he judge your people with righteousness and your poor with justice.**

³ May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴ **May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

⁵ May he live while the sun endures and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

⁶ **May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.**

⁷ In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

¹⁸ **Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.**

ALL: ¹⁹ Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.

Romans 15:4-13 p. 924

⁴ For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors

⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name"; ¹⁰ and again he says, "Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people"; ¹¹ and again, "Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; ¹² and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope." ¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (sung) p. 102, setting 1

*Please stand for the reading of the gospel.

The holy Gospel according to *Matthew*. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 3:1-12 p. 784

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" ⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

Children's Message

Sermon

David Ingram

Hymn of the Day – Comfort, Comfort Now My People #256

1. "Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load.
To God's people now proclaim that God's pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever.
2. For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way.
Valleys, rise to greet the Savior; hills, bow down in humble favor.
3. Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain.
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits God's holy reign.
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

Apostle's 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 God's People

Each petition ends "Lord, in your mercy," please respond: **hear our prayer.**

Sharing the Peace – L: The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you.

Offering

- ◇ Mail: Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 1005 St. Nicholas Drive, North Pole, AK 99705
- ◇ Online: "giving" tab at www.lordoflifeak.com/giving or the QR Code →
- ◇ Phone app: download "Give Plus Church" search by zip 99705, choose Lord of Life, and follow the instructions. Giving is secure.



Offering Hymn – He Came Down #253

1. He came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have love;
hallelujah forevermore.

Verse 2: light

Verse 3: peace

Verse 4: joy

Offering Prayer

Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving p. 107

Holy, Holy, Holy p. 108

Christ's Words of Institution and Communion

Invitation to Communion

L: Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

Post Communion Prayer

L: God, our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. C: Amen.

Announcements

- Want to help decorate the church? Give \$20 and note 'poinsettias'
- Beef shares left: 6
- Wednesdays – Soup Supper followed by Holden Eve worship
- Today – help kids decorate gingerbread houses
- Coming up: 12-14 Adopt a Family gift drop-off deadline

Sending Hymn – Savior of the Nations Come #263 v. 1-4

1. Savior of the nations, come; virgin's son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth; God has chosen such a birth.
2. Not by human flesh and blood, but the mystic Breath of God,
was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of woman, blossom fresh.
3. Wondrous birth, oh, wondrous child from his throne, a virgin mild!
Very God, and Mary's son, eager now his race to run!
4. From God's heart the Savior speeds, back to God his pathway leads;
out to vanquish death's command, back to reign at God's right hand.

Blessing

L: 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. C: Amen.

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Keep awake. C: Thanks be to God.

Special Thanks to...

Assistant Minister,	Reader,
PowerPoint, Eileen D.	Video,
Ushers/ Acolyte,	Sunday School, Hannah Ross
Communion Prep,	Fellowship,
Greeters, Jo Small & Ramouna Sandbo	

Birthdays & Anniversaries...

12-8 Lynne Skjefte & Lars Peterson
12-10 Penny Warnke

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