



1st Sunday of Advent

November 30, 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 First Advent Candle

*L: Baby Jesus, your arrival will change everything. With Mary, we know we're not ready yet. We light one candle and take comfort that we still have time to prepare. **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!

Greeting – L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day – Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. 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.

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 2:1-5 p. 550

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 p. 498

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

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

³ Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.

⁴ **To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.**

⁵ For there the thrones for judgment were set up, 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 security within your towers."

⁸ **For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."**

ALL: ⁹ For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.

Romans 13:11-14 p. 923

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 (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 24:36-44 p. 806

³⁶ "But 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.**

Children's Message

Sermon

David Ingram

Hymn of the Day – O Come, O Come Emmanuel #257 v. 1-4

1. 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 you, O Israel.
2. O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh;
in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.
3. O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.
4. O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save, and give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

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 – Prepare the Royal Highway #264

1. Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley, a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story;
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!
2. God's people, see him coming; your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him! Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you!
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!
3. Then fling the gates wide open to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him; their voices join your singing:
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!
4. His is no earthly kingdom; it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding for kindness so abounding;
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!

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

- Beef shares left: still 6

- Coming up: 12-6 decorate the church! 12-6 Advent Brunch @ Fairbanks Lutheran; 12-7 Gingerbread House decorating; 12-15 Adopt a Family gift drop-off deadline

Sending Hymn – Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming #272

1. Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung,
it came, a flow'r so bright, amid the cold of winter,
half-spent was the night.
2. Isaiah had foretold it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
when half-spent was the night.
3. This flow'r, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispels with glorious splendor the darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God, from sin and death he saves us
and lightens ev'ry load.
4. O Savior, child of Mary, who felt our human woe;
O Savior, king of glory, who dost our weakness know:
bring us at length, we pray, to the bright courts of heaven
and into endless day.

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...

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Birthdays & Anniversaries...

None

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