



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

MONMOUTH, IL

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Gathered by God, We Live Our Faith With:

Compassion, Grace, Gratitude, and Joy.

Welcome to Worship :: December 21, 2025

Today's Worship Ministers

Usher: Dee Dee Yez
Reader: Chip Algren
Communion Assistant: Gary Sanberg
Narthex Host: Linda McGuire

Staff

Pastor: Jamie Gallagher
Cell: 630-200-3550; e-mail: prjamie@flcmonmouth.org
Musicians: Janice Algren and Carolyn Kellert

Check Out Our Welcome Center

Coffee Station: We have a variety of Coffee and Tea options in our Narthex. Feel free to enjoy your beverage throughout the worship service

Giving Station: Our offering Plate and Vision and Purpose Giving Jar are located under the Narthex window

Vision and Purpose: In December we are supporting the Jamieson Community Center. Donations will support their many programs to help the needy in our community. The shopping cart for non-perishable items for the food pantry remains available, too.

Weekly Newsletters: Print Copies of our weekly newsletter are available under the Narthex Window. The email version will be sent out on Monday. If you wish to receive a copy by email or a hard copy by mail, please let Pastor Jamie know.

In Our Prayers

Ila Roseberry, Kathi Cruce, Dean Sandstrom, Emily Agema, Janet Lowe, Wes Lovdahl, Doug Moulden, Marlene Moulden, Teresa Eyler, Pat Clark, Bob Rieck

Mid Week Advent Soup and Devotions

Join us Wednesdays in Advent for Soup and an Advent Devotion

6 PM

Wednesdays Dec 3, 10, and 17

Christmas Eve Worship is at 7 PM on Dec 24

Order of Service

Gathering

Announcements,
Mission Statement/Prelude
Confession/Forgiveness
Advent Wreath
The Peace

Opening Hymn; ELW 242, Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn

The Word/Prayer

Pastoral Greeting
Hymn: Glory Be to God on High

Prayer of the Day

O God whose love is more brilliant than our eyes can even perceive, you cherish your world, you adore the flora and fauna, you are devoted to your children. Open our eyes to even a bit more of that brilliance that we may see as you do, and may with a measure more of your love revere you and the whole of creation with the holiness it deserves. We pray in the name of the one whose advent is true light for the world, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Exodus 13:17-22; John 1:1-18

Sermon

Hymn: WOV 638, Holy Child Within the Manger

Apostles' Creed

Offering

Prayers of Intercession

Communion

Offering Prayer

Offering Hymn: ELW 294 In the Bleak Midwinter

Dialogue

Preface

Hymn: ELW 473, Holy, Holy, Holy

Communion Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Communion Hymn: ELW 277 Away In a Manger

Post Communion Prayer

Sending

Benediction

Benediction Refrain: ELW 288, Good Christian Friends

Rejoice, verse 3

Dismissal

17 When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was nearer, for God thought, "If the people face war, they may change their minds and return to Egypt." 18 So God led the people by the roundabout way of the wilderness bordering the Red Sea. The Israelites went up out of the land of Egypt prepared for battle. 19 And Moses took with him the bones of Joseph, who had required a solemn oath of the Israelites, saying, "God will surely come to you, and then you must carry my bones with you from here." 20 They set out from Succoth and camped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness. 21 The Lord went in front of them in a pillar of cloud by day, to lead them along the way, and in a pillar of fire by night, to give them light, so that they might travel by day and by night. 22 Neither the pillar of cloud by day nor the pillar of fire by night left its place in front of the people.

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. 8 He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. 9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. 12 But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. 15 (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") 16 From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17 The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.