



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 14, 2025

Today's Worship Ministers

Usher: Chip Algren
Reader: Ellen Shrader
Communion Assistant: Mark Shrader
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 November, we are collecting for the Lutheran Preschool and Day Care to help support the center receiving new games, crafts, and other activities.

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, Brian Elliott, Wes Lovdahl, Doug Moulden, Marlene Moulden, Teresa Eyler

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 263, Savior of the Nations Come

The Word/Prayer

Pastoral Greeting

Prayer of the Day

God, whose glory dances in the light of stars by night and the sun by day, by this same light you lead disciples to the rhythm of your joy in serving others. Illuminate our way of serving that we may experience the same joy as Anna, Simon, and Lucia, and all the saints who provide for the needs of all your children. We pray in the name of the one whose advent is true light for the world, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Special Performance

MRHS Madrigals

Isaiah 51:1-6; Luke 2:22-38

Sermon

Hymn: ELW 250, Blessed Be the God of Israel

Apostles' Creed

Offering

Offering Hymn: ELW 294, In the Bleak Midwinter

Prayers of Intercession

Sending

Benediction

Closing Hymn: ELW 490, Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Dismissal

Isaiah 51:1-6 Blessings in store for God's people

51 Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug. 2 Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. 3 For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. 4 Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples. 5 I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. 6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Luke 2:22-38 The Presentation of Jesus

22 When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), 24 and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. 26 It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. 27 Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what was customary under the law, 28 Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

29 "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word,
30 for my eyes have seen your salvation,
31 which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
32 a light for revelation to the gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

33 And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. 34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed 35 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul, too."

36 There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, 37 then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. 38 At that moment she came and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.