First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2026- 10:30am

Prelude / Bell / Welcome

Call to Worslhip

L: In God's house, **C: we are free to wear our hearts on our sleeves**.
L: In God's house, **C: we may come exactly as we are.**
L: In God's house, we dare to hope. **C: We dream new dreams. We cry out. We call upon God.**
L: In God's house, **C: all are welcome and all are heard.**
L: So come and worship. **C: God is here. God is listening.**
L: Let us worship our with-us God.

Lighting of the Candle of Hope

L: When the nights are long and the roads are hard, we turn our eyes to the stars.
C: When the work is demanding and injustice unending, we stand together, arm in arm.
L: When fear looms large and grief weighs heavy, we cry out to God without holding back.
C: And when the dawn of tomorrow feels far away, we gather together to light the candle of hope.
Light candle.
L: Like the stars above, may this light shine bright. May it guide our path. May it inspire deeper hope.
C: Until God's promised day, may it be so. Amen.

Advent Hymn *He Came Down* ELW 253 vs.1

Confession and Forgiveness

All: Holy God, we have been known— to bite our tongues, to work through a broken heart, to don our favorite rose-colored glasses. We have been known— to look for the bright side, to sweep the pain under the rug, to choose ignorance for the benefit of bliss. We have been known to keep the hurt in our heart to ourselves. Forgive us for filtering our honesty. Forgive us for ignoring the power of lament. Forgive us for not turning to you first. Remind us that you are a God who listens and you are a God who restores. With open hearts, we pray. Amen.

L: Family of faith, whether you pray like the Psalmists—raw and unfiltered— or you can't remember the last time you were honest with God, God still loves you. God sees you. And God longs to be in relationship. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

ALL: There is nothing we could do or say that will keep God's love at bay. We are seen, forgiven, and invited—into deeper honesty and deeper relationship. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Gathering Hymn *The King Shall Come* ELW 260 vs 1, 5

Greeting

Prayer of the Day L: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. **C: By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading Isaiah 64:1-9 Pew Bible pg. 1161

Responsive Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

L: Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
C: In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.
L: Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
C: O Lord God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?
L: You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
C: You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
L: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
C: Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.
L: And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.
C: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Gospel Acclamation *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* ELW 254 vs. 1

Gospel Reading Mark 13:24-37 Pew Bible pg. 1578

C: Glory to you, O Lord.
L: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Welcome Song ***"Jesus loves the little children. All the children of the world. You are loved and you are light. You are precious in God's sight. Jesus loves the little children of the world."***

Children's Message & Sermon Rev. Mindy Czycalla

Hymn of the Day *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* ELW 242 vs. 1,3

Offering / Offertory *Fragrant Offering* Screens

Apostle's Creed ELW pg. 105 / Screens

Prayers of the People

Sharing of the Peace L: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

The Great Thanksgiving
L: The Lord be with you **C: And also with you.**
L: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord**.
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Welcome: All who are hungry for God's love and mercy are welcome to this table of forgiveness.

Holy Communion Distribution

Post Communion Prayer

Blessing One Another, L: God who comes among us,+ grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always. **C**: **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

Sending Hymn *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* ELW 244 vs. 1, 4

Dismissal L: Go in peace. Keep awake. **C: We will! Thanks be to God.**

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We Thank

Ushers; Tech Desk Organist/ Pianist: RaNae Martinson
Advent Candle/ Readers/ Communion: Scott & Tara Thompson family

We remember in our prayers:

Nordland: Jerrod Quade, Susan Pederson, Terry Porter, Norma Heschke, Family of Robert Groshens, Family of Philip Bergstrom

Friends: Dave & Sandy Steffensen, Carol Rohr, Bob Olson, Wilder Christenson, Nick Carlson, Jacob & Emily Peterson, Maggie & Michael Kihiu, Amanda Rosendahl, Debbie Wendt

Nordland's Week **November 29, 2026**

Today	9:30 / 10:30	Fellowship (NO Education) /First Sunday in Advent Communion Worship
Mon.	11:00 am	Memorial for Robert Groshens, visitation two hours before
Wed.	9:00 am	Christian Service Day
	6 / 6:30 pm	Wed. Meal / Education & Confirmation
Thurs.	11:00 am	Funeral for Philip Bergstrom, vitiation one hour before
Sat.	8:00 am	Men in the Basement
Sun.	9:30 / 10:30	Education & Fellowship / Communion Worship

Our sympathy to the family of Robert Groshens, who passed away Nov. 23, memorial service will be at Nordland Mon. Nov. 30, 11:00 am with visitation two hours before.

Our sympathy to the family of Philip Bergstrom, who passed away Nov. 25, funeral and burial will be at Nordland on Thurs., Dec. 3, 11:00 am with visitation one hour before.

Meeker Area ELCA Cooperative Churches are sponsoring “Beer & Hymns & Christmas Carols”. Join us for a festive evening of music and fellowship at the at Hilltop Tavern in Manannah on Sun. Nov. 29, 4 – 6 pm.

Poinsettia Plants: If you would like to order poinsettia plants in memory or honor of a loved one, please complete an order form that was placed in your church mailbox, or extra forms are at the usher’s counter. Place your order form in the Sunday’s offering plate. Orders due Dec. 2, make check payable to “Sisters at Heart”.

Sunday School Christmas Program is Dec. 13, at 10:30 am Worship. Practice Dec. 6 & 13, 9:30 am.
The Education Board would like to invite our entire congregation to be a part of our Christmas Program, “Are You Missing Jesus?” this year. We have a unique request as we are planning to show how Jesus is present in our hearts and in our giving this Christmas season. Therefore, to make this extra special, we are asking for unwrapped gifts to be given or presented during our program on Dec. 13 for families in need. After the program, all items will be donated to community service centers in our area. Let us show that we aren’t missing Jesus this Christmas!

Christmas at Trinity Lutheran Church, Grove City on Sat. Dec. 5, 9 am – 12 noon. Brunch $ 13, Coffee & Roll $4. Pre-packaged: Decorative cookies, candy bake sale, lefsa, raffle items, crafts, quilts, cards & napkins. All welcome!

Teals Market Savings Stamps: If you are not planning to save stamps for containers at Teal’s Market, please save them for Nordland’s family of God. Thank you, and please put stamps in Michelle W. or Lisa H. church box.

The Mitten Tree is up! Please consider donating new or gently used hats, scarves, mittens and also new socks for our local charities. The Link & Community Service Center are very appreciative of all your donations. Thank you in advance!

Salem Historical Church Pioneer Christmas Program on Sat. Dec. 12. Family photo with decorated tree and fellowship time 3-4 pm. Wagon rides from 3-4:15. The program starts at 4:30 pm. Features scripture, favorite Christmas carols and special music. We welcome non-perishable food items & toys for the Community Service Center. You may bring a poinsettia in honor of loved ones to decorate the sanctuary. An offering taken will support the Salem Church, 28547 220th St., (4 miles N.) Paynesville. Refreshments will be served and treat bags given out.

Dinner Theatre at Green Lake Bible Camp, the show runs December 10-14. Enjoy the show & dinner meal complete with hors d’oeuvres, salad course, main course, and dessert course. Original show written by Dave Eliason and Brian Pearson, tickets are $100 per person. Limited quantities are available. For more information & details of the show, visit www.gllm.org/dinner-theatre or call the camp 320-796-2181.

Festival of the Creche, you are invited to come and see many beautifully displayed nativity scenes, read about the history of each display, and enjoy music, refreshments, and conversation! At The Church of St. Mary, Willmar on Sat. Dec. 5, 1 – 6 pm and Sun. Dec. 6 10 am -12:30 pm.
West Central Connection Chorus Christmas Concert at Grace Lutheran Church, Belgrade on Sun., Dec. 13, 2 pm. Lunch will be served after the program.
Litchfield Area Male Chorus Presents American Heritage and Christmas Cheer on Thurs. Dec. 3, 7 pm at Litchfield Opera House and Sat. Dec. 5, 7 pm at St. John Lutheran Church in Atwater, freewill offering.