

SAVING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



The First Sunday in Advent
Saturday, November 29, 2025 @ 3pm
Sunday, November 30, 2025 @ 8:30am, Livestreamed

INVOCATION In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn **“Fling Wide the Door”** **Hymn #32**

**Fling wide the door, unbar the gate; The King of glory comes in state;
The Lord of lords and King of kings, The Savior of the world who brings
His great salvation to the earth. So raise a shout of holy mirth
And praise our God and Lord, Creator, Spirit, Word.**

**He is the rock of our belief, The heart of mercy’s gentle self.
His kingly crown is holiness; His scepter is his loveliness;
He brings our sorrows to an end. Now gladly praise our king and friend,
And worship him with song For saving us from wrong.**

**Oh, happy towns and blessed lands That live by their true king’s commands.
And blessed be the hearts he rules, The humble places where he dwells.
He is the rightful Son of bliss Who fills our lives and makes us his,
Creator of the world, Our only strength for good.**

**Come, Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ; Our hearts are open wide in trust.
Oh, show us now your lovely grace, Upon our sorrows shine your face,
And let your Holy Spirit guide Our journey in grace so wide.
We praise your holy name, From age to age the same!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Heavenly Father, we celebrate Christ having been born of the virgin Mary and we long for the day when he will return to make all things new.

We forget to wait for Your Son’s return, and instead, we are totally consumed with our own plans.

Jesus Christ, You have brought us into the Kingdom of God by grace through faith. We live and wait in the light of the kingdom.

We still find ourselves stuck, relying on the old habits that worked for us when we lived in darkness.

Holy Spirit, bring the light of the Gospel to us again, that our lives would serve as a blessing to those around us.

We long for the day when Christ will come again and it's our aim to please Him while we wait.

(Please observe a moment of silence for personal reflection and self-examination)

Heavenly Father, Your Son Jesus Christ has become our greatest treasure. Yet, our worthless, sinful ways have a way of captivating our hearts. Lord, please give us freedom from our sin and unbelief. Therefore, as a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by His authority, I declare to you, who do truly repent and believe in Jesus Christ, the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

PASSING OF THE PEACE (*In light of the flu season, we encourage you to bump elbows!*)
The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with You.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Heavenly Father, in light of the coming Kingdom, make us peacemakers now for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

PASTOR'S WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - PROPHECY

READING	Isaiah 9:2-7	OT p. 624
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Advent Hymn	"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"	(vs. 4) #54
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For lo! The days are hast'ning on, By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years Shall come the time foretold,
When peace shall over all the earth Its ancient splendors fling,
And all the world give back the song Which now the angels sing.

THE WORD

FIRST READING	Isaiah 2:1-5	OT p. 618
<i>(When Reading is concluded, the congregation responds, "Thanks be to God")</i>		

SECOND READING	Romans 13:11-14	NT p. 1036
<i>(When Reading is concluded, the congregation responds, "Thanks be to God")</i>		

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION	"Alleluia"	p. 83
Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?		
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.		

GOSPEL	Matthew 24:36-44	NT p. 905
<i>(Before the Gospel is announced, the congregation says "Glory to you, O Lord")</i>		
<i>(After the Gospel is concluded, the congregation says, "Praise to you, O Christ")</i>		

SERMON	"Far From Home"	Pastor Dan Doran
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RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn of the Day	"Prepare the Royal Highway"	Hymn #26
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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:

Refrain: Hosanna to the Lord, For he fulfills God's Word!

**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!**

Refrain

**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:**

Refrain

**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:**

Refrain

RECEPTION OF OFFERING

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (SUNDAY)

APOSTLES' CREED

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin, Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

HOLY COMMUNION (SATURDAY)

LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG)

Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

BLESSING AND PRAYER (SATURDAY)

SENDING

Sending Hymn

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Hymn #30

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.**

Born thy people to deliver, Born a child, and yet a king;
Born to reign in us forever, Now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit Raise us to thy glorious throne.

BENEDICTION & DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

DISMISSAL Go in peace and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 122

¹I was glad when they said to me,
 "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"
²Our feet are standing
 within your gates, O Jerusalem.

³Jerusalem—built as a city
 that is bound firmly together.
⁴To it the tribes go up,
 the tribes of the LORD,
 as was decreed for Israel,
 to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
⁵For there the thrones for judgment were set up,
 the thrones of the house of David.

⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
 "May they prosper who love you."
⁷Peace be within your walls,
 and security within your towers."
⁸For the sake of my relatives and friends
 I will say, "Peace be within you."
⁹For the sake of the house of the LORD our God
 I will seek your good.

Notes:



A member of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ
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Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

WORSHIP:

Sat 3:00 pm, Radio Broadcast on FM 107.1

Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am Livestream

David Irgens, Senior Pastor, Dan Doran, Associate Pastor

Katherine Altreuter, Office Administrator, Music Director

Cheryl Eberhardt, Education Director, Keith Muchow, Videography

Sue Seeger, Saturday Pianist, Shayla Menter, Sunday Pianist, Ken Gorr, Audio

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