**Shape

Description automatically generated with low confidenceGood Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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**First Sunday of Advent**

**December 1, 2024, 9:00 am**

***Introduction to the day…***

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thessalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

**GATHERING**

**GATHERING HYMN Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending ELW 435**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

alive in the world,

reviving creation,

arriving soon.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God

and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of mercy,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.**

**We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

God of might,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We have turned away from our neighbors.**

**We have trusted false promises.**

God in our midst,

**we confess that we have sinned.**

**We plead: come to us.**

**Bring your mercy to birth in us.**

A righteous branch springs forth:

it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,

in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,

receive the grace and forgiveness of God

through ☩ Christ Jesus,

whose day draws near.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MUSIC Away in a Manager (v. 1) ELW 277**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16**

14 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 15 In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 16 In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The Lord is our righteousness.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 25:1-10**

1 To you, O Lord,  
  I lift up my soul.  
 2 **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,**  
  **nor let my enemies triumph over me.**  
 3 Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
  rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.  
 4 **Show me your ways, O Lord,**  
  **and teach me your paths.**  
 5 Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
  for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.  
 6 **Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,**  
  **for they are from everlasting.**  
 7 Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
  remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.  
 8 **You are gracious and upright, O Lord;**  
  **therefore you teach sinners in your way.**  
 9 You lead the lowly in justice  
  and teach the lowly your way.  
 10 **All your paths, O Lord, are steadfast love and faithfulness**  
  **to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

**SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

9 How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? 10 Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.  
11 Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. 12 And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. 13 And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW pg. 171**

**GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36**

[Jesus said:] 25 “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. 26 People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27 Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. 28 Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”  
  29 Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; 30 as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. 31 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. 33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.  
  34 “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, 35 like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 36 Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY Come Now, O God ACS 902**

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

**A black and white drawing of a person holding a lamb

Description automatically generatedwho was conceived by the power of 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 INTERCESSION**

…Lord, in your mercy,

**receive our prayer**

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**OFFERING***In addition to our normal offering, a* ***Special Benevolence in December*** *(collected in a special*

*envelope) will be the* ***ELCA Good Gifts Program****. This is being done in conjunction with the Sunday School.*

**OFFERING SONG** **O Lord, How Shall I Meet You ELW 241**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A book on a table

Description automatically generatedCreator God,

you made the whole world,

even the farthest stars,

and you draw near to feed us.

We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.

Strengthen us with this food

that we may live in expectation

for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Holy, Holy, Holy ELW pg. 173**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets’ hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary’s openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup

we remember your Word dwelling among us,

full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**A group of glasses on a table

Description automatically generatedOur 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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION** *- Certified gluten-free crackers are in the bowl on the communion plate.*

God feeds us with tender mercy.

Come to the table.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Generous God,

we thank you for the gift of life,

for the bread of salvation.

We thank you for coming among us,

for leading us into peace.

We thank you for showering us with mercy,

for sending us into the world.

Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us

as we feed the hungry in your name.

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

God of endings and beginnings,

God in the darkness and the light,

God, our hope for the journey,

☩ bless and keep you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN People, Look East ELW 248**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

**Thanks be to God.**

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| **Coming up at GSLC** | | |
| Sunday, December 1 | 9:00 am | Worship Service – Sunday School   * First Sunday of Advent * Luke 21:25-36; Be alert for the coming of the Son of Man |
| Tuesday, December 3 | 7:00 pm | AA Meeting |
| Wednesday, December 4 | 9:00 am | Executive Committee Meeting |
|  | 7:00 pm | Midweek Worship  Confirmation Class |
| Thursday, December 5 | 11am-2pm | Purple Angels Lunch and Fellowship |
| Sunday, December 8 | 9:00 am | Worship Service   * Second Sunday of Advent * Luke 3:1-6; Prepare the way of the Lord |

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| ***Upcoming Worship Assistants*** | | | | | | |
|  | **Usher** | **Lector** | **Communion** | **Offering Counters** | | **Deep Clean** |
| December 1 | Dan & Pam Mundt | Leslie Mader | Bob & Laurel  Peterson | Nancy Leonard | Heidi Binder | December:  Dave & Sue Schraeder  Andrea Hovick |
| December 8 | Ben & Sue Lee | Kris Tarter | Tammy Neumann  Sarah Kopitzke | Robin Beeman | David Schneider |
| December 15 | Charles & Mary Schlafke | Shelly Schneider | Dan & Pam Mundt | Heidi Binder | Kami Weis |
| December 22 | Susan Schoolman | Tammy Neumann | Bruce & Nancy Tibbett | Pam Mundt | May Hill |

**Pastor Katie’s Office Hours**: Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm. Tuesday mornings at Uptown Coffee. Afternoons available by appointment. You are welcome to stop in any time for conversation or concerns.

***Poinsettias*** will be purchased, and you may give a donation to help defray the cost to Altar Care. Forms are available on the table in the narthex. Your check & form need to be returned to the church office by December 15th. Designate your donation “Poinsettia”.

A red flowers and green leaves

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**A black background with orange letters

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SOS is experiencing record high numbers. The shelves are the lowest they've been in a long time. The Winter Wonderland donations will help but are a month away. The food list: Mac’n Cheese, Boxed Rice Meals, Canned Pasta Meals, Tuna, Canned Chicken. **Supplies of nearly everything are low but especially needed are broth, brownie/muffin Mix, canned carrots, canned tomato products, mayo, and canned stew.**

**A red background with white text

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| christmas craft clip art - Clip Art Library  There will be a Fellowship craft project after church on Sunday, December 8th. Refreshments will be provided. |

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| A purple circle with candles  Description automatically generated  **We will be putting up the Christmas tree and decorating the church for Christmas after church today. If you are available, please stay after worship to help!** |

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| A poster with two chicks wearing santa hats  Description automatically generated  We will have two Sundays of noisy offerings for ELCA Good Gifts in place of our typical pass around offering on December 1 and 15.  Bring your change as the children will be collecting it in buckets. The regular envelope will be available for the other services in December. |