

First Sunday in Advent



He is Near, at the Door!



105 Paradise Circle, DeForest, WI 53532
608-846-9036 | lolchurchoffice@gmail.com | www.lordoflovelutheran.org

Pastor Joel Jenswold pr.jenswold@gmail.com Cell phone: 608-572-1654

Chairman: Mitch Myhre, mitchmyhre@hotmail.com
Office Secretary: Jen Olson, Office hours Tuesday - Friday
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod - *Christ's Love, Our Calling*.

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'" Psalm 122:1



Today's 8:00 service will be recorded including the Service of the Sacrament. Individuals taking communion will not be visible in the recording.

Lord of Love Lutheran Church

December 3, 2023

SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT



6 All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free, With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806-76, alt.

Tune: St. Thomas (SM) Aaron Williams, 1731-76.

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.



CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

M: We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

C: We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us know what day that will be.

M: We hear his call to watch.

C: We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

One Advent candle is lit.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength, and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED

ANTHEM (Quintet)

O Come, O Come, Immanuel

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 64:1-9

Oh, that you would rip open the heavens and come down. Mountains then would quake because of your presence. ² As fire ignites stubble and as fire makes water boil, make your name known to your adversaries. Then nations would quake in your presence. ³ You did amazing things that we did not expect. You came down. Mountains quaked because of your presence. ⁴ From ancient times no one has heard. No ear has understood. No eye has seen any god except you, who goes into action for the one who waits for him. ⁵ You meet anyone who joyfully practices righteousness, who remembers you by walking in your ways! But you were angry because we sinned. We have remained in our sins for a long time. Can we still be saved? ⁶ All of us have become like something unclean, and all our righteous acts are like a filthy cloth. All of us have withered like a leaf, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. ⁷ There is no one who calls on your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you. So you hid your face from us. You made us melt by the power of our guilt. ⁸ But now, LORD, you are our father. We are the clay, and you are our potter. All of us are the work of your hand. ⁹ Do not be angry, LORD, without limit. Do not remember our guilt forever. Please look closely. All of us are your people.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

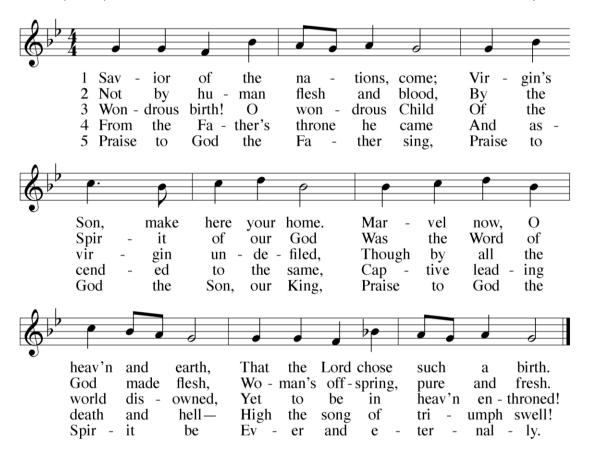
M: Alleluia. He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Alleluia.

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 13:26-37

²⁶ Then you will see the Son of Man coming on clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ At that time he will send out his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of the sky. ²⁸ Learn from this illustration of the fig tree: Whenever its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So also when you see these things happening, you will know that he is near—at the doors! ³⁰ Amen I tell you: This generation will certainly not pass away until all these things happen. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

³² "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Watch! Be alert and pray, because you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going away on a journey. When he left his home, he put his servants in charge and assigned what each one was to do. He also commanded the doorkeeper to keep watch. ³⁵ Therefore keep watch, because you do not know when the owner of the house is coming: whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or early in the morning. ³⁶ If he comes suddenly, do not let him find you sleeping. ³⁷ What I say to you, I say to everyone: Keep watch!"





Text: Ambrose, 340–97, abr.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76, alt. Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) Geystiliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524.

SERMON 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ!

⁴ I always thank my God for you because of the grace of God given to you in Christ Jesus. ⁵ You were enriched in him in every way, in all your speaking and all your knowledge, ⁶ because the testimony about Christ was established in you. ⁷ As a result you do not lack any gift as you eagerly wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also keep you strong until the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, who called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Waiting for Jesus...with Grace and Peace

STAND

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

GATHERING OF THANK OFFERING

While the offering is gathered, please sign and pass the Friendship Register.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

C: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.

M: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."

M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.

M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.

M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.



THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



M: Lift up your hearts.

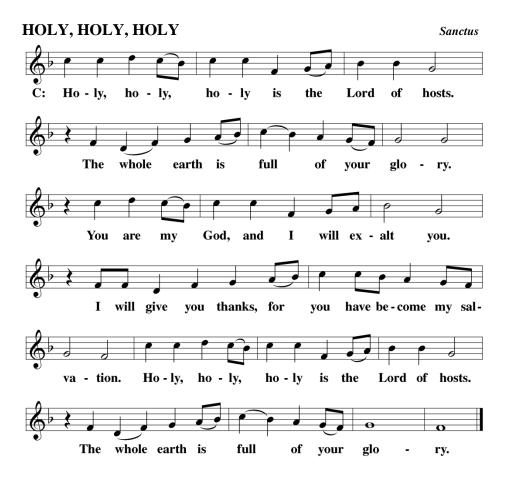


M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He protects and preserves his Church in every age and gives us confidence to lift up our heads and watch for Jesus with joy.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:



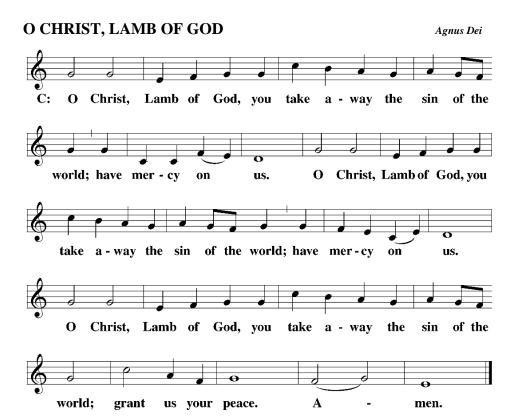
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.





BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

In accordance with the Scriptural practice of closed Communion, we invite to the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood the communicant members of this congregation. We invite also the communicant members of our sister congregations in our fellowship (the WELS and the ELS) who have made their intention known to one of our pastors. We ask other guests in attendance to refrain from taking the Sacrament with us today, and we invite you to speak with our pastor about how you may join our fellowship and commune with us in the future.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 32) When Sinners See Their Lost Condition When their lost con - di - tion And feel 1 see sin - ners 2 When Je - sus meek and low - ly fill en - ters To When Je - sus land and na - tion And changen - ters 4 When bless - ed He works Je sus comes—O sto - ryev - 'ry Find en -5 Oh. may he soon na - tion to the press - ing load of sin And Je - sus comes on the home with sweet - est peace, When hearts have felt his When, yield - ing peo - ple with his love. to his es change in heart and life: God's king - dom comes with trance where he is un-known, With life and light and his blest mis sion To heal the sin sick bless - ing ho ly And found from sin com kind Our hearts his per - sua sion, truth and pow'r To old. and glo ry young and to That free sal - va tion, Sa tan's pow'r be All fore heart with - in, grief his must flee be re - lease. calm shall plete Then and with in joy life bless - ing prove, Then shall be our on earth Through sac - ra and wife. ment and liv - ing man heal - ing ver-thrown. And to all hearts may

Text: Magnus B. Landstad, 1802–80, abr.; tr. Oluf H. Smeby, 1851–1929, alt. Tune: WER WEISS, WIE NAHE (98 98 88) Christian Möck, 1737–1818.

And

And

The

In

grace, reign,

blest:

Word

come

iov

hearts

peace

heath - en

Faith, love,

di - vine

of

and

di - vid -

God

hope

land

will

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on

are

and

take

love

us

now

its

Chris - tian home!

place.

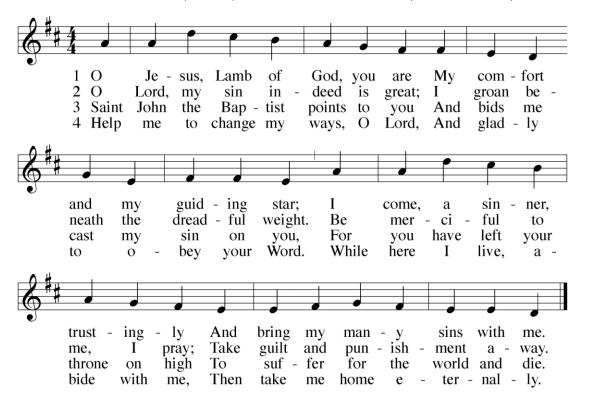
a - gain.

shall rest.

con - ferred.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN (CW 27)

O Jesus, Lamb of God, You Are



Text: Bartholomäus Helder, 1585–1635; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

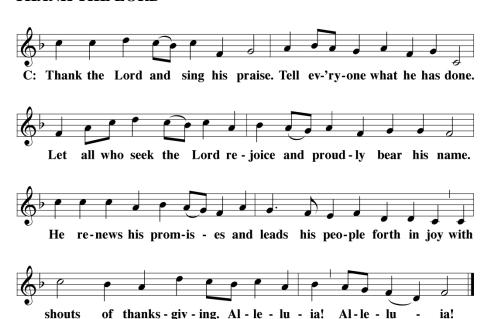
Tune: WEIMAR (LM) C. P. E. Bach, 1714-88.



THANKSGIVING

STAND

THANK THE LORD



M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN (CW 6)

Come, O Long-Expected Jesus



- 1 Come, O long ex pect ed Je sus, Born to set your peo-ple free;
- 2 Born your peo ple to de liv er, Born a child and yet a king,



From our sins and fears re-lease us By your death on Cal - va - ry. Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now your gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's Strength and Con - so - la - tion, Hope to all the earth im-part, By your own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear De-sire of ev-'ry na-tion, Joy of ev-'ry long-ing heart. By your all-suf-fi-cient mer-it Raise us to your glo-rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Tune: St. Hilary (87 87 D) Unknown.

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Personal Prayers for Worship

Before Communion:

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communion:

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

O living Bread from heaven, how richly you have fed your guest! The gifts you now have given have filled my heart with joy and rest. Lord, grant me that thus strengthened with heavenly food, while here my course on earth is lengthened, I serve with holy fear. And when you call my spirit to leave this world below, I enter through your merit where joys unmingled flow.

Gluten Free communion wafers: Gluten free communion wafers are available each Sunday during the Lord's Supper. They are placed on the baptismal font at the start of communion. If you would prefer this wafer, please pick it up as you approach the altar.

Bible Studies this week

Sunday 9:15 am: "Angels are Making Their Rounds", sanctuary

Tuesday 9:00 am: Gospel of John, downstairs

Friday 6:00 am: Matthew

Breakfast 6:00, Bible study 6:45. DeForest Family Restaurant (505 W. North Street, DeForest)

The Mysteries of Christmas: The annual Advent devotion booklets are here from Martin Luther College. Each booklet contains 25 devotions for the season of Advent. They are located near the bulletins so help yourself. One copy per household please.

Advent by Candlelight: All ladies are invited this afternoon to Advent by Candlelight at Zion Lutheran, Leeds. Even if you did not sign up ahead of time, you can still attend. The program is from 3:00 – 4:30 pm. (W6906 Co Rd K, Arlington)

Giving Tree, gifts are due back to church this Wednesday December 6. Please bring your gift unwrapped and attach the tag from the tree.

Christmas Gift Wrapping Service - Peace Lutheran 8th Grade Fundraiser

Do you ever find yourself up ALL night a few days before Christmas trying to wrap the MANY presents you have purchased for your friends and family? Why not save yourself some time while supporting the Peace Lutheran Eighth Grade as they raise funds for their annual end of year field trip?

Members of the Peace Eighth Grade class will be stationed in the fellowship area between services today **December 3**, and **Sunday**, **December 10** from **9:00 - 10:15 AM** ready to wrap any and ALL gifts for you! Drop off your gifts to be wrapped and feel free to stay for Bible Study! You can pick up your wrapped gifts prior to the 10:30 AM service. There will be a free-will donation box available at the gift wrap table if you'd like to support the eighth graders in raising funds for their trip!

WELS Mission – Madison: Many of you are aware of the efforts to begin a new WELS mission in Dane County. At its meeting this past week, the church council voted to designate \$1300 from our Mission Fund to go towards the funding of this new effort. It was also decided to gather special gifts/offerings for the remainder of this year from any who would like to support the new mission. You may recall that the "ask" from the board overseeing the start of this new mission is \$4000 from each of the Dane county WELS congregations. Our hope is to raise \$4000 to send them in the early part of 2024, and then include a recurring, annual amount of \$4000 in our budget, beginning fiscal year '24/'25. Special gifts may be placed in the alms box in the narthex. Checks should be made out to Lord of Love Lutheran.

Sunday December 3: 1st Sunday in Advent Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion 9:15 am: Adult Bible study, Teen class and Sunday school

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Organist: Sharon Freund
- Choir Director: Elaine Wilson
- Quintet Director: Ruth Kovaciny
- Councilman: 8:00 Jim Miller, 10:30 Mitch Myhre
- Ushers 8:00: Lynn Biwer and Roger LaGrange
- Ushers 10:30: The Heath Family
- Counters: Kim Bauer and Wayne Kaalberg
- Altar Guild: Colleen Biwer, Kristin Huebner and Sophia Strong
- A/V & Recording: Jen Olson
- Refreshments: LaGrange Family

3:00 pm: Advent by Candlelight at Zion, Leeds

Sunday December 10: 2nd Sunday in Advent Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:30 am with Holy Communion 9:15 am: Adult Bible study, Teen class and Sunday school

WELS Connection

- Pastor Joel Jenswold
- Pianist: Kristin Huebner
- Councilman/elder: 8:00 Dave Olson, 10:30 Steve Kalscheuer
- Ushers 8:00: Sef Fox, Steven Fox, Ben Olson and Dave Olson
- Ushers 10:30: Joshua Hodkiewicz and volunteer

- Counters: Donna Cotter and Sharon Kalscheuer
- Altar Guild: Colleen Biwer, Kristin Huebner and Sophia Strong
- A/V & Recording: Devin Anderson
- Refreshments: Paul & Cindy Crary

Happy Birthday: We wish God's blessings to Sarah Kerl (12/3), Nathan Strong (12/3), Dan Mallien (12/4), Julie Doyle (12/5), Kurt Meadowcroft (12/7) and Lynn Biwer (12/8) who celebrate their birthdays this week.

In Our Prayers: Fred Bakken, Joyce Hamburg (sister-in-law of Karen Tobison), Roger LaGrange, Peter Leege, Marilyn Lund, Rose Lund, Peg Schroeder and Steve Tobison who are experiencing difficulties.

A special prayer for all our men & women who are serving in the Armed Forces. Among them are Shannon & Matthew Garrett and John J. Schueman (son of Bonnie & John Schueman).

Looking ahead:

- Dec. 3: Christmas Gift Wrapping, between services by Peace Luth. students.
- Dec. 3: Advent by Candlelight at Zion Lutheran, Leeds. 3:00 4:30 pm. All ladies are invited.
- **Dec. 6:** Giving Tree gifts are due to church.
- Dec. 9, & 16: Children's Christmas service practice, 9:00 10:00 am
- Dec. 10: Christmas Gift Wrapping, between services by Peace Luth. students.
- Dec. 10: WELS Wind Ensemble Christmas Concert, Fall River High School, 2 pm
- Dec. 11: Ladies Christmas Outing, 6:00 pm Rodeside Grill, Windsor
- **Dec. 12:** Christmas in the Dells Dinner Show, 2:00 pm. Lunch 1:15 pm. Arrive to church parking lot at 11:50 am to carpool.
- Dec. 20: Children's Christmas Service, 6:30 pm
- Dec. 24: Regular Sunday morning worship times, 8:00 & 10:30 am
- Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Worship, 6:30 pm
- Dec. 25: Christmas Day Worship, 9:00 am
- Dec. 31: Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:30 am. No evening worship service.
- Jan. 11, 2024: Red Cross Blood Drive at Lord of Love, 12:00 5:00 pm
- Jan. 27: Euchre Card night

Offerings November 12 - 18:

• General Fund: \$5,981

• Mortgage Reduction: \$560

• AV Improvements (Wish List): \$20

Offerings November 19 - 25:

• General Fund: \$6,360

• Mortgage Reduction: \$525

Weekly amount to meet budgeted General Fund expenses: \$8,200

Electronic Giving: You can give contributions to church through the Vanco Mobile app. Download the free app today in the Google Play store or the Apple App store. Find the church by searching for Lord of Love Lutheran Church in DeForest, or by its invite code, D4K54K.

(November 12 - 25: In the totals listed above, \$3,912 was given to the general fund and \$20 to the AV projector wish list through Vanco electronic giving.)