

First Sunday in Advent

November 29-30, 2025



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**First Sunday in Advent**

*Imminent Arrival  
of the One who Calls*

**W**elcome! Thank you for joining us for worship today. In our services we gather before our almighty God to receive his gifts and to offer him our worship and praise. Through God's powerful Word and sacraments he renews our faith and strengthens us to serve in joy.

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:** Dear Lord let your calling voice be heard by all this season so that the truth may resound: that at the right time, God sent his son to redeem. At the exact right time, you will again come to judge. Lord of life, while it is still day, use us as your ambassadors to proclaim the imminent arrival of the King of Kings.

**THEME OF THE DAY:** Advent marks the start of a new Church Year. Jesus calls us anew to follow him. As we learn his importance for our lives, we are moved to tell others about what we have seen and heard. Soon we will celebrate the first arrival of the Savior on earth. We look forward to the time when he will arrive again, and we celebrate his arrival in the lives of our family and friends.

Today also marks the Festival of St. Andrew the Apostle, one of the first to be called to follow Jesus and to invite others to follow him too. God bless us as we follow and proclaim our Savior as well.

**WORSHIP SERIES:** Do you remember the feeling when someone important is about to arrive at your place? It's a mixture of anticipation and excitement and nervousness. During these weeks before Christmas, we anticipate the imminent arrival of Jesus. He's an important person! We are about to celebrate his birth. He could return on judgment day at any time. We can feel the excitement of an imminent arrival.

***SERVING GOD, SERVING US:***

Worship Leader: Pastor JonAlden Pedersen      Flautist: Lydia Wolfe  
Organ/Piano: Robyn Stoller, Maia Gumbrill

# Order of Worship

CW Hymnal, Setting Three



## Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

CW 483



1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord — God Al - might - y!  
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee,  
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord — God Al - might - y!



Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
though the eye of sin - ful man thy glo - ry may not see,  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
which wert and art and ev - er - more shalt be.  
per - fect in pow'r, in love, and pu - ri - ty.  
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Please remain seated.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS OF SINS

M: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded Baptism when he said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

All of us are born into this world with a deep need for Baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. He took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. In Baptism, he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. We recall what Baptism means for our daily lives:

**C: Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

M: As baptized children of God, we confess our sins:

**C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature  
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.  
I have not loved you with my whole heart;  
I have not loved others as I should.  
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.  
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins  
with his innocent suffering and death.  
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Glory to God in the Highest: O Lord, Our Lord

CW 939

*Refrain*

O Lord, our Lord, how glo-ri-ous is your name in all the earth.

Al-might-y God, mer-ci-ful Fa - ther, you crown our life

with your love. You take a-way our sin; you com-fort our spir-it;



you make us pure and ho-ly in your sight. You did not spare your  
on-ly Son, but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,  
how glo-rious is your name in all the earth. O Son of  
God, e-ter-nal Word of the Fa-ther, you came to live with us;  
you made your Fa-ther known; you washed us from our sins in  
your own blood. You are the King of glo-ry; you are the Lord!

*Refrain*  
O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

## (Sunday) Sacrament of Baptism

The Rite of Baptism continues at the font at the 10:30am service.

The Gospel according to St. Mark: *“People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.”*

The minister applies water to the person presented for baptism as he says:

M: Harvey Charles Doerr, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart + to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has given you the new birth of water and the Spirit and has forgiven all your sins. May he strengthen you with his grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

### **(Sunday) Exhortation to Parents & Congregation**

**M:** Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that Harvey and all the children of our church may remain children of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

**C:** **Yes, as God gives me strength.**

**M:** Let us pray.

We give thanks, most merciful Father, that you have received Harvey as your own child and made him a member of Christ's body, the church. Now, we pray, grant to him and to all your church on earth that, being dead to sin, we may live to righteousness and, being buried with Christ into his death, we may also share in his resurrection, so that, with all your saints, we may inherit eternal life; through Christ our Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God and Father, dwelling in majesty and mystery, filling and renewing all creation by your eternal Spirit, and manifesting your saving grace through our Lord Jesus Christ, in mercy cleanse our hearts and lips that, free from doubt and fear, we may ever worship you, one true, immortal God, with your Son and the Holy Spirit, living and reigning, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

*Be seated.*

### **First Reading**

*Genesis 1:1—2:3*

*The triune God demonstrates his power at creation.*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

<sup>3</sup>And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup>God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

<sup>6</sup>And God said, “Let there be a vault between the waters to separate water from water.” <sup>7</sup>So God made the vault and separated the water under the vault from the water above it. And it was so. <sup>8</sup>God called the vault “sky.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the second day.

<sup>9</sup>And God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup>God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathered waters he called “seas.” And God saw that it was good.

<sup>11</sup>Then God said, “Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup>The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>And there was evening, and there was morning—the third day.

<sup>14</sup>And God said, “Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years, <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth.” And it was so. <sup>16</sup>God made two great lights—the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set them in the vault of the sky to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup>to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening, and there was morning—the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup>And God said, “Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the vault of the sky.” <sup>21</sup>So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living thing with which the water teems and that moves about in it, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.” <sup>23</sup>And there was evening, and there was morning—the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup>And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup>God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

<sup>27</sup>So God created mankind in his own image,  
in the image of God he created them;  
male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup>God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

<sup>29</sup>Then God said, “I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food.

<sup>30</sup>And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food.” And it was so.

<sup>31</sup>God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

<sup>1</sup>Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

<sup>2</sup>By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. <sup>3</sup>Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day

*Psalm 8*

*Please read the bold sections responsively with the Pastor*

<sup>1</sup>LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory in the heavens.

**<sup>2</sup>Through the praise of children and infants  
you have established a stronghold against your enemies,  
to silence the foe and the avenger.**

<sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

**<sup>4</sup>what is mankind that you are mindful of them,  
human beings that you care for them?**

<sup>5</sup>You have made them a little lower than the angels  
and crowned them with glory and honor.

**<sup>6</sup>You made them rulers over the works of your hands;  
you put everything under their feet:**

<sup>7</sup>all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,

<sup>8</sup>the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.

<sup>9</sup>**LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

## Second Reading

2 Corinthians 13:11-14

*By sharing his grace, love, and fellowship, the triune God give us unity and peace.*

<sup>11</sup>Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

<sup>12</sup>Greet one another with a holy kiss. <sup>13</sup>All God's people here send their greetings.

<sup>14</sup>May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand.*

## Gospel Acclamation

Isaiah 6:3



*Refrain*



He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. **Refrain**

## Gospel

Matthew 28:16-20

*Jesus calls us to do ministry in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

<sup>16</sup>Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on

earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated.*

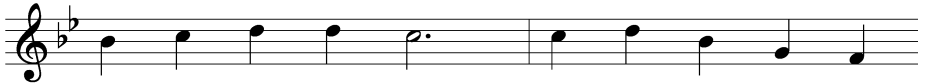
## Children’s Devotion

### Hymn: Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest

CW 586 sts. 1–2, 5–7



1 Come, Ho - ly Ghost, Cre - a - tor blest, and make our  
 2 To you, the Coun - sel - or, we cry, to you, the  
 5 Drive far a - way our wi - ly foe, and your a -  
 6 Teach us to know the Fa - ther, Son, and you, from  
 7 Praise we the Fa - ther and the Son and Ho - ly



hearts your place of rest; come with your grace and  
 gift of God most high, the fount of life, the  
 bid - ing peace be - stow; with you as our pro -  
 both, as Three in One that we your name may  
 Spir - it, with them One, and may the Son on



heav'n - ly aid, and fill the hearts which you have made.  
 fire of love, the soul's a - noint - ing from a - bove.  
 tect - ing guide, no e - vil can with us a - bid.  
 ev - er bless and in our lives the truth con - fess.  
 us be - stow the gifts that from the Spir - it flow!

## Sermon

*Based on Romans 10:10-18*

*“The Truth Resounds!”*

*Please stand after the sermon.*

# THANKSGIVING

## 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.

*Be seated.*

## Offering



Our members give offerings to support God's work in our church. Offerings can be put in the basket or made online by scanning the code. Visitors may give, but aren't expected to.



We ask members and visitors alike to fill out the connection card and place it in the basket now or as you leave. Please share your prayer requests that we can pray for you.



*Please stand.*

## Prayer of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

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.

## Blessing

M: 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.

C: Amen.

## Hymn: Savior of the Nations, Come

CW 301 st. 5

5 Praise to God the Fa - ther sing, praise to  
God the Son, our King, praise to God the  
Spir - it be ev - er and e - ter - nal - ly.

## Silent Prayer and Announcements

### Acknowledgments

Setting Four from Christian Worship

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### Fellowship & Spiritual Growth

Sunday morning, all are invited to enjoy fellowship in the entry between services. Sunday JAM for children ages 3yrs to 6th grade starts at 9:10am in the kindergarten room. Adult Bible study begins at 9:15 in the fellowship hall downstairs.

### For Worship Next Week

Worship theme: Imminent Arrival of the Judge

Bible Readings: Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12

Hymns: 312, 316, 318







# WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

## FOR OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you joined us to worship our Savior today. If you have questions about our church or service simply ask an usher or someone near you. We're happy to help!

Please take note of a few helpful things:

- ✦ Restrooms with diaper-changing tables are located straight down the hall opposite the sanctuary entrance.
- ✦ Our sanctuary is equipped with a "loop" system for hearing assistance. Please set hearing aids to the "T" position or ask an usher for a headset.
- ✦ You will find a connection card in your pew. Please share names, contact information, and prayer requests.
- ✦ Salem members give an offering to support the work we do for the Lord. Guests are not expected to give anything, but if you wish to make a donation you can place it in a basket as it's passed during the service or give online.
- ✦ Our services are streamed live on our YouTube channel. If you would prefer not to be on camera, please sit in the seats located beneath the balcony.

## FOR THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

We love to see families worship together and we welcome children to sing, pray, and grow with us in our services.

We provide a few special worship aids and helps for families:

- ✦ Children's bulletins & activity bags are available in the entry, just to the left of the office hallway. Ask an usher if you need help finding them.
- ✦ If your child needs a quiet space, you can use the fireside room down the hallway across from the restrooms. The service is streamed live into the room.
- ✦ Children of all ages are invited to come to the front of church for the weekly children's message. Parents are welcome too!

**Salem Lutheran Church exists to glorify God  
by teaching his timeless Truth, that all may  
grow in grace and faith to share tomorrow's eternity.**

