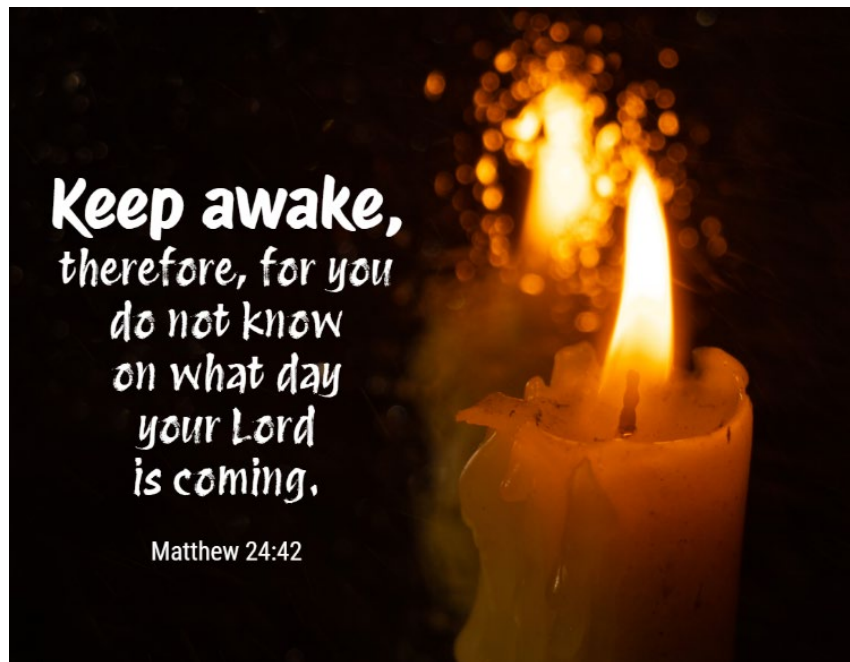


The 1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 30, 2025

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Council Secretary: Kay Michaelson 712-540-5368
Pastor Paige McGrath: pastor@livingfaithlemars.com

712-541-3782 | www.livingfaithlemars.com

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose home is heaven and earth,
whose salvation is sure.

Amen.

LITANY FOR LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Written by Rev. Julia Seymour, ELCA

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

God’s house is a house of peace.

Peace is more than stillness or the absence of fighting.

God’s house is a house of peace.

Peace is contentment, wholeness,
trust in the midst of doubt, and comfort with mystery.

God’s house is a house of peace.

The way of Christ is a way of peace.
Those who travel this way are committed to its cause.

God’s house is a house of peace.

In God’s house, God’s people work for justice and...
do not give life or joy.

God’s house is a house of peace.

This first candle is a reminder that we are Advent people...
hoping in what is promised to come.

God’s house is a house of peace.

God of all peace and mercy... Prepare us to meet Christ in the world with words and deeds that lead to peace.
Amen.

ADVENT HYMN

ELW 262 – 3x

Wait for the Lord

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

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come
the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the Lord!

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 122

Please read the psalm responsively.

¹ I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."

² **Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³ Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;

⁴ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**

⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.

⁶ **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:**
"May they prosper who love you.

⁷ Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.

⁸ **For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.**

⁹ Because of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek to do you good."

Amen.

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS 902

Come Now, O God

THE 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,
who was conceived by 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

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

PEACE

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

ACS 929

Blessed Is the One

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One... Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

...We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

...Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our 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.

COMMUNION HYMNS

ELW 244 & 439

BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

ACS 949

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

SENDING

Go in peace. Christ is coming.

Thanks be to God.

Thank you, worship leaders!

Greeter/Usher: Tim Kass

Accompanist: Travis Balt

Reader: Conor Rathke

Communion Assistant: Kjersten Rathke

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Copyright © 2019 Liturgy Link. "Advent 2019 Candle Liturgy."

Rev. Julia Seymour. All rights reserved.

Read the Living Faith Weekly News from
the week of November 23 by scanning the image to the right
or visit our website at:

<https://www.livingfaithlemars.com/post/living-faith-weekly-news-week-of-november-23-2025>

