

Sunday, December 14th

3rd Weekend of Advent



ARE YOU THE  
COMING  
ONE?

MATTHEW 11:2-11



**Worship Services:** Saturdays at 5:00pm • Sundays at 9:45am

**Parish Education:** Sunday School - Grades Pre-K to 6th - 8:30am • Adult Forum - 8:30am  
Confirmation - Grades 7 & 8 - Wednesdays 6:30pm

**Church Office Hours:** Tues-Thurs 9am-2pm • Fri 9am-12pm

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

for the week of  
December 14-21

Sunday	8:30am Sunday School & Adult Forum 9:45am Worship (Children's Christmas Program Pastor Elizabeth Mascal
Tuesday	10:00am Reading Buddies
Wednesday	6:30pm Confirmation @ St. John's
Saturday	5:00pm Worship
Sunday	8:30am Adult Forum (no Sunday School) 9:45am Worship



## READING BUDDIES

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16TH**

**Sign up in the Welcome Center to read  
with Wendy Merkel's kindergarten class.**

December  
16th

**Advent Morning Prayer services  
will be held on Tuesdays at 9:00 in  
the Fellowship Hall. It will be a  
time for readings, reflections,  
music and a light snack.**

Offering 12/6 and 12/7	Received	Received YTD
General Fund	\$3,062.00	\$212,388.02
Capital Fund	\$207.50	\$16,801.25
Sharing Pantry-Utilities	\$150.00	\$1,950.00
Cusco Lutheran Churches	\$67.60	\$1,223.34
Kitchen	\$150.00	\$2,246.30
Hall Usage	\$100.00	\$300.00
Safe Passage	\$430.93	\$430.93

## Prayer Requests

Mary Bark  
Mary Carlson  
Lance Davenport  
Lee Gehrke  
The Family of Christy  
Gibson  
Marlyn Glover  
Sharon Goode

Mike Hamer  
Mary Ann Hulon  
Linda Johnson  
Rhea Lumsden  
Linda Martin  
Doris Miller  
James Moris

Lonnie Murray  
Kay Nelson  
Roger & Helen  
Larry Rogers  
Shelly  
Lynn Skryzpiec  
Rosemary Underwood  
Jackie Wendland  
Cindy Westbrook  
Susan White

## Dates to Remember

Month

Date

Occasion

DECEMBER	14	CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
DECEMBER	16	READING BUDDIES



## Prelude

## Welcome & Announcements

*Please stand as you are able.*

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, <sup>☩</sup> one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

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

**P:** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P:** Long-expected God,

**C:** **we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised.**

**Amen.**

**P:** God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. <sup>☩</sup> You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

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

## Gathering Hymn ELW 242 Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn

### Greeting

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

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

**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy.

**A** Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . . have mer - cy.

**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy.

### Prayer of the Day

**P:** O God,

**C:** **Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

### The Third candle of the Advent Wreath.

**A:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. John the Baptist calls all people to prepare the Lord's way for the kingdom of heaven is near.

**P:** Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Baptize us with the fire of your Spirit, that we may be a light shining in the darkness welcoming others as Christ has welcomed us, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

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

### Advent song ELW 240 "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"

3 Verses *(Assisting Minister lights 3 Advent candles)*

**A:** The First Reading comes from the Book of Isaiah Chapter 35 vs 1-10

**A:** Word of God, Word of Life.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**A:** Our Psalm today is Psalm 146, verses 5-10

<sup>5</sup> Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God;

<sup>6</sup> **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;**  
**who keeps promises forever;**

<sup>7</sup> who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.  
The LORD sets the captive free.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD cares for the stranger;  
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup> **The LORD shall reign forever,**  
**your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

**A:** The Second Reading comes from James Chapter 5 verses 7-10

**A:** Word of God, Word of Life.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## Sunday School Christmas Program

*Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 11th Chapter

**Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11**

**P:** The Gospel of our Lord.

**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## Sermon

### Hymn of the Day ELW 715 Christ Be Our Light

### Apostle's Creed

**P:** God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C:** **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

**A:** In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

*A brief silence.*

**A:** ....God of grace,

**C:** **hear our prayer.**

**P:** Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

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

## The Peace

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you all.  
**C: And also with you.**  
**P:** Let us offer to each other the sign of peace.

## Offering

*Please stand as you are able.*

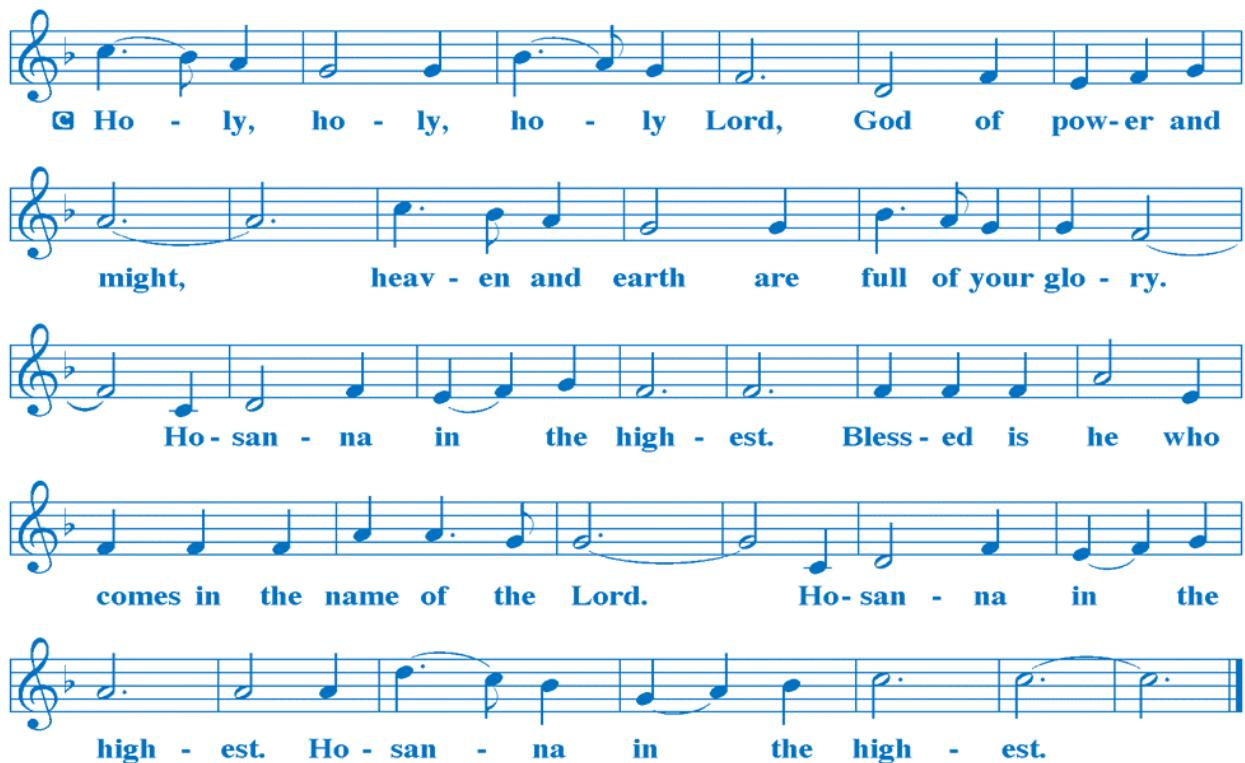
## Offering Prayer

**P:** Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.

**C: Amen.**

## Dialogue

**P:** The Lord be with you.  
**C: And also with you.**  
**P:** Lift up your hearts.  
**C: We lift them to the Lord.**  
**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**  
**P:** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



© Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Eucharistic Prayer

**P:** Gathered at and around the Lord's table, we remember with thanksgiving that *"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, say-

ing: '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.'"

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**P:** Let us pray together the words our Savior gave us:

**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.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

**P:** Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.  
*Please be seated. The usher will direct you when to come forward for Holy Communion.*

## **Holy Communion is served.**

## **Prayer after Communion**

**A:** 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.

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

## **Blessing**

**P:** May God who comes among us, Father, <sup>+</sup> Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

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

## **Sending Hymn ELW 279 O Little Town of Bethlehem**

## **Dismissal**

**A:** Go in peace. Keep awake.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

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