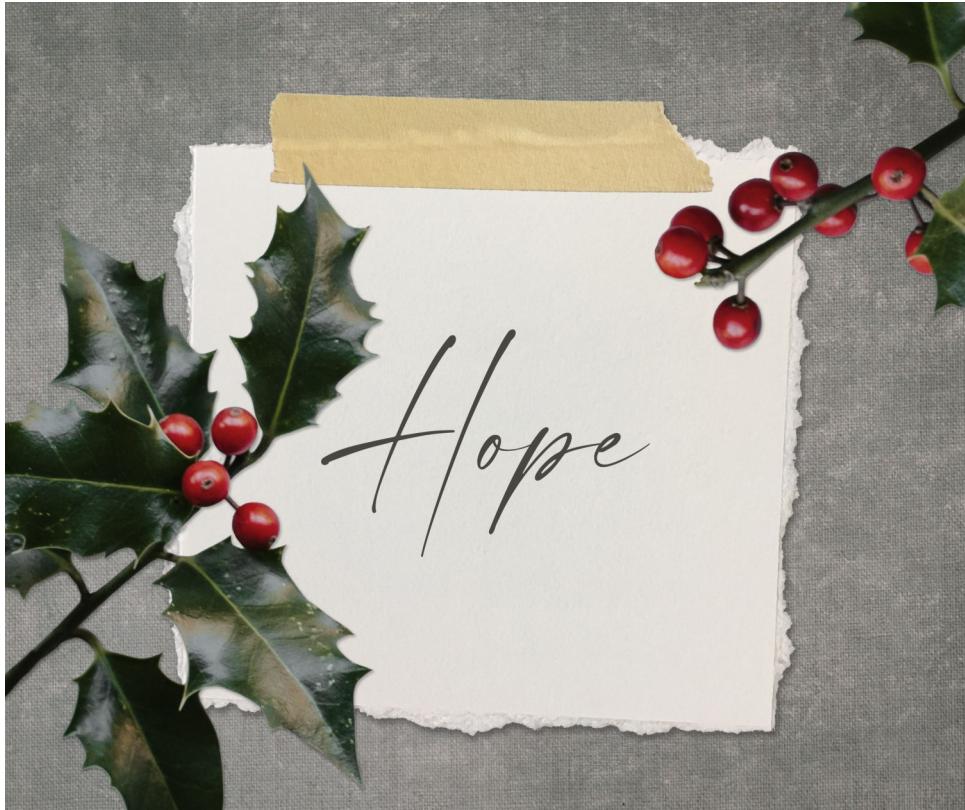


FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
November 27, 2022



First Lutheran Church
116 Inner Drive
Le Sueur, MN 56058
507-665-2615
Rev. Samuel Mailleue
office@firstlutheranlesueur.org
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UNITED by Christ, God call us to LOVE one another
As we RECEIVE, DISCOVER and PROCLAIM God's Word.

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.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK

Megan Schwarz

OPENING REFLECTION

CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be God's name forever.

Amen.

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep.
Let us confront our sins,
and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God of new beginnings,
we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign.
We have strayed from your paths.
We prepare for war instead of peace.
We dishonor one another and your creation.

Purify us with your refining fire
and set us again on your way of love,
that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance,
and welcome your coming among us.
Amen.

People of God,
a new thing is growing in our midst,
a tender branch,
a living sign.
By water and the Spirit you are joined to this wonder.
You have put on ⁺ Christ,
and your sins have been washed away.
Rejoice in the way of the Lord.
Amen.

OPENING HYMN

"Blessed Be the God of Israel" ELW #250
(Vs. 1 & 3)

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.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Holly Berg & Jazzlynn Hortenbach

Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near.

You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world.

You show up in our lives at unexpected times.

Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival.

We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour,
you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

Amen.

ADVENT HYMN

"He Came Down" ELW #253
(Vs. 1)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

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

²In 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.

³Many 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.

⁴He 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.

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

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING—Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, 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!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" ELW #257
(Refrain Only)

The Holy Gospel according to the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL—Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

[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. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah

entered the ark,³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man.⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left.⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.⁴³But 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.⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE

Rev. Samuel Mailleue

HYMN OF THE DAY

**“Rejoice, Rejoice Believers” ELW #244
(Vs. 1 & 4)**

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

THE PRAYERS

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

A brief silence.

God of all, your children everywhere cry out for mercy. Awaken the global church to the urgent needs of our time. Break down barriers of culture and custom and unite people of all faiths in your redemptive and healing work.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of wonder, the earth's beauty and abundance is your gift. Teach us your ways of sharing resources and caring for life. Guard fragile habitats, preserve the wild places, and protect endangered plants and animals.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of peace, you judge the nations. Beat our weapons into tools for serving the neighbor. Strengthen the resolve of all who work for an end to war. We pray for lasting peace in the land of Jesus' birth, in Ukraine and other places of conflict.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of lovingkindness, you desire fullness of life for everyone. Fill those who hunger. Comfort the grieving and attend to those near death. Bring help and hope to any who are sick or needing your care.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of community, you are present when we gather in your name. Guide congregations in transition or conflict. Give wisdom to congregational councils, call committees, and ministry leaders. Keep us alert to unexpected opportunities for mission.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of promise, your goodness is everlasting. We give thanks for the lives of the faithful who now rest in you. We trust that you will bring us into the company of all the saints with rejoicing.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

OFFERING

Gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

"Soon and Very Soon" ELW #439
(Vs. 1)

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray:
Eternal God,
you make the desert bloom
and send springs of water to thirsty ground.
Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,
and make us messengers of your mercy and love
for all in need of your healing and justice.
We ask this through Christ our Savior.
Amen.

THE 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.
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

SENDING

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

BLESSING

God the eternal Word,
who dwells with us in Jesus,
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,
☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” ELW #254

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

Welcome to First Lutheran Church

*Whether you are looking for a place of worship
or are just passing through, we hope our service has blessed you
on your journey as your presence has been a blessing to us.*

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKS! Our heartfelt thanks to Linda Wentzlaff for the beautiful harvest bounty decorations.

The Love Baskets/Poinsettias are ready to be picked up. They are available in the choir room. Please pick up today or Monday from 9-1:30. Thanks to Sue Michaelis for your coordination.

Adopt-A-Family information is located on our website. Cash donations are also being accepted, there are envelopes in the Entryway.

Service of Remembrance and Hope—“The holidays can be such a joyous time of gathering with loved ones, but it can also be a difficult time of remembering those who are no longer present at our holiday gatherings. With that in mind, Monday December 12 at 6:30 PM we will have an informal service of remembrance where we will remember that even as we mourn and grieve, the victory over death has already been won through Christ Jesus. All are welcome.”

Salvation Army Bell Ringers—will again be happening this year. Please watch the announcements for dates and time First Lutheran will be helping.

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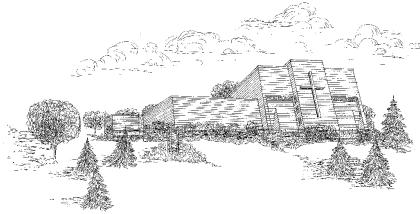
Songselect Basic—Expires 7/31/2023

Shift Worship—Pro Membership

Expires 11-2-2022

Financial Update		
Week of	Amount Received	Amount Needed
11-20-2022	\$7,345	\$4,726
YTD	\$181,984	\$222,102

YTD Financial Actual Through month of October			
Date	Income	Expenses	Net Gain (Loss)
10-31-2022	\$172,394	\$166,672	\$5,722



Weekly Schedule

Sunday, November 27	9:00a 10:00a	Worship First Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, November 30	6:00p 6:30p	Meal—GNH/GIGG/FLY GNH/FLY/GIGG
Sunday, December 4	9:00a 10:00a	Worship w/Holy Communion First Choir Rehearsal

Worship Assistants

November 27, 2022

Organist/Pianist: Virginia Miller
Choir Director: Jennifer Weick
Acolytes: Nelson Stockwell
Reader: Nikki Kiemele
Usher: Bob & Joan Reasoner
Greeters: John Miller
Council Member: Tiffany Vanden Einde
Fellowship:
Projection: Tech Team
Audio: Tech Team
Videographer: Becky Pollack
Offering Counters: Dave Johnson
Altar Guild: Randy Baum
Bonnie Keech

December 4, 2022

Organist/Pianist: Virginia Miller
Choir Director: Jennifer Weick
Acolytes: Sophie Tews
Reader: Cathey Fullerton
Communion Asst: Edrie Barton
Rachel Wagner
John Miller
Usher:
Greeters:
Council Member: Cooper Vanden Einde
Fellowship:
Projection: Tech Team
Audio: Tech Team
Videographer: Becky Pollack
Offering Counters: Virginia Miller
Bob Bartle
Marie Walker
Altar Guild: