

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025



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Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: "Comfort, Comfort You My People"- arr. Paul Manz

Lois Theesfield, organ

Welcome

WARM THE TIME OF WINTER

Hymn text: Ruth Duck

Gathering Rite

Music: Lori True

1. Gathering Song



1. When the wind of win - ter blows, bring - ing times of
2. When we shiv - er in des - pair, when the chill of
3. When in days of fall - en snow, change con-founds or



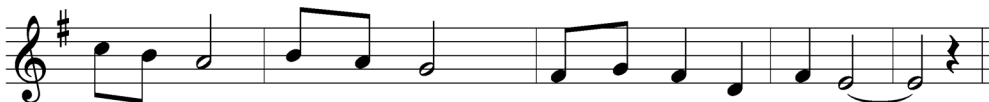
sol - i - tude, fill the si - lent, ic - y night;
death comes near, hold us, Spir - it, calm our fear,
love burns low, from the ash - es may there rise



be our hearts' com - pas - sion.
while the eve - ning deep - ens.
phoe - nix of our grow - ing.



Ho-ly light, warm our night; warm the time of win-ter.



Ho-ly light, warm our night; warm the time of win-ter.

2. Penitential Rite

Introduction and verse precede congregational call and response

The musical score is written for a Cantor and the congregation (All). It is in the key of D major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The Cantor's part is on a single staff, and the congregation's part is on three staves. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e, Chri - ste, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, Chri - ste, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, Chri - ste, Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son. The score includes a copyright notice: Text © 1992, Music copyright © 2000 by GIA Publications, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Cantor

Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e -
Chri - ste, Chri - ste, Chri - ste e -
Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e e -

All

le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e,
le - i - son. Chri - ste, Chri - ste,
le - i - son. Ky - ri - e, Ky - ri - e,

Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chri - ste e - le - i - son.
Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

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Prayer of the Day

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Order for Holy Baptism

Allie Ann Alderson and Macy Ellen Alderson

Presentation

P In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

P As you bring Allie and Macy to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with them among God's faithful people,
bring them to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in their hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture them in faith and prayer,
so that Allie and Macy may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made
and work for justice and peace.

P Do you promise to help Allie and Macy grow in Christian faith and life?
Then answer "I do"

R I do.

P People of God, do you promise to support Allie and Macy and pray for them in their new life in Christ?

C We do.

Profession of Faith

The minister addresses the baptismal group and the assembly.

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, the ways of sin that draw you from God?

R I do.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C 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.**

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C 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**

Thanksgiving at the Font

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

C Amen.

Baptism

P Allie, you are baptized
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Macy, you are baptized
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through the water and the Holy Spirit
you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and
raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Allie and Macy with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of
wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of
knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence,
both now and forever.

C Amen.

P Allie, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked
with the cross of Christ forever.

C Amen.

P Macy, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked
with the cross of Christ forever.

C Amen.

P O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon Sydney and Peyton.
Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them
teachers and examples of righteousness for Allie and Macy. Strengthen
them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their children
the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Welcome

A lighted candle is given to the baptized by a representative of the congregation who says:

P Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

P Let us welcome the newly baptized.

C **We welcome you into the body of Christ**

and into the mission we share:

join us in giving thanks and praise to God

**and bearing God's creative and redeeming word
to all the world.**

Advent Candle Lighting

Light a Candle

Lisa Waites

Light a can - dle for hope in the dark - ness, Minds at rest, we
Light a can - dle for peace in the dark - ness, Souls con - tent, we

know You are near; Ad - vent watch-ing and wait-ing for Je - sus, God with
know You are near; Ad - vent watch-ing and wait-ing for Je - sus, God with

us, re - deem - ing the years, Em - man - u - el, hope is
us, re - solv - ing our fears, Em - man - u - el, peace is

here;
here; Hope is here!
Peace is here!

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

- ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
- ² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
- ³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
- He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,
- ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.
- ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.
- ¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13

⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles
and sing praises to your name”;

¹⁰ and again he says,

“Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;

¹¹ and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;

¹² and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;
in him the gentiles shall hope.”

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Children at Heart Sermon

Gospel Acclamation: "Hark the Glad Sound" - ELW #239, verse 1

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul - to cure. and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–1751
Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:1-12

The Gospel according to Matthew

Glory to You, O Lord

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.' "

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶and

they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?" ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"
- ELW #249

Prayers of Intercession

Sharing of the Peace

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

Offering

Music Voluntary: "Holy Emmanuel, God with Us Ever" - Paul Weber
Memorial Choir

Offering Prayer

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.
Amen.

The Meal

This is Christ's table and Christ's meal. All are welcome here. Kids are welcome to commune at the discretion of their parents. If you are unable to come forward please let an usher or the pastor know so that we can bring you Communion at your seat.

The Great Thanksgiving - arr. Cynthia I Gonzales, Ph.D., Music Director at First Lutheran Church—San Marcos, TX

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves. The first three staves are for Leader and Congregation, and the fourth is for All. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Leader **Congregation**

The Lord be__ with you. And al - so__ with you.

Leader **Congregation**

Lift up__ your hearts.__ We__ lift them to__ the Lord.

Leader **Congregation**

Let us__ give thanks to__ the Lord, to the Lord our God.

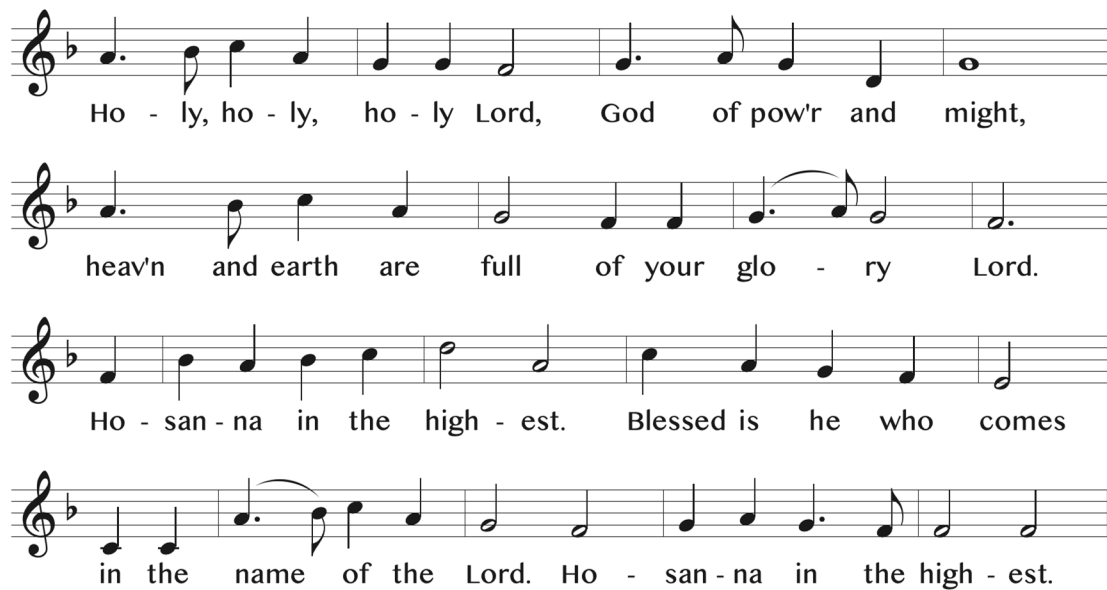
All

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

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.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
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:

“Holy, Holy, Holy” - arr. Cynthia I Gonzales, Ph.D., Music Director at First Lutheran Church—San Marcos, TX



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

The 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.**

Invitation to Communion

Here is life. God is with us.
Come, receive what God has promised.

Hymns during Communion

"Agnus Dei" - - arr. Cynthia I Gonzales, Ph.D., Music Director at First Lutheran Church—San Marcos, TX

"Comfort, Comfort Now My People" - ELW #256

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.

O Lamb of God you take a - way the sin of the world.

O Lamb of God you take a-way the sin — of the world.

Have mer cy on us O Lord. Grant us peace. Grant us peace O Lord.

Prayer After Communion

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.

Announcements

Benediction

Rev. Ali Boomershine Haugerud

LEADER



CONGREGATION



Sending Hymn: "Light Dawns on a Weary World" - ELW #726

Dismissal

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Wake Awake, for Night is Flying" - arr. David Cherwien
Lois Theesfield, organ

Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or emily@mlcnevada.org, or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

Please keep Kenzie and Fred Alderson and family in your prayers following the death of Fred's mother Beverly Alderson.

Prayers for Cindy and Kendall Bartleson, Brandon and Kelli Bartleson, and the entire Bartleson family following the death of their son and brother Taylor

Joan Stensland	Ken Huffaker	Sherry Kluever
Kathy Lynn Johnson	<i>father of Kendra McCauley</i>	Kim Elliott
Rhonda Thompson <i>sister of Shelley Ludeman</i>	Emma Nelson <i>granddaughter of Steve & Nan Jungst</i>	Pr. Marcia Kisner
Teresa Krebs	Ardith Forsyth	Marlene Waddell <i>friend of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch</i>
Kari Toot	Eileen Miller	Carol Vincent
Tanya Sorem	Karen Anderson	Cassie Harrell
Julie & Craig Sutherland	Caleb Roof	Jean Smith
June Copenhaver <i>mother of Diane Martin</i>	Evelyn Onstot	Easton Farrington
Pastor Andrea Myers <i>wife of Pastor Ronald Myers</i>	Katy Beno <i>sister of Sandy Christian</i>	Janice Hartz
Charlie Lloyd	Eric Forsyth	Jackie Byers <i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>
Bert Ann Ray	Crystal Vines	Donna See
Wayne Kinyon	Katie Bass <i>niece of Judy Coverdale</i>	Norma Dannan <i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
Loren Bryant <i>brother of Arlys Neal</i>	Wayne Johnson	Fred Samuelson
Jill Rhodes	Troy Vincent	Jaylee Bartleson
Connie Robinson <i>sister of Shirley Klonglan</i>	Johann Thiel	Janeen Driscoll
Barb McDaniel	Mike Neal	Jan Cook
	Christina King	

Hospitalizations: *If you are in the hospital or are going to be in the hospital and want us to be aware of it, please call the church office or have someone call on your behalf. Unless directed otherwise, your name will be placed on the prayer list and included in electronic notifications.*

Announcements

TODAY: Christmas Open House 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Ready to get in the Christmas spirit? Stop by any time during our Christmas Open House for crafts for both kids and adults, a hot chocolate bar and popcorn, cookie decorating, and more!

Generous Gifts Tree

As you walked into the Narthex this morning, you may have noticed the return of our Generous Gifts Tree! You will see a very colorful little tree filled with all kinds of present-shaped ornaments with different monetary values written on them, and you will notice there are some rather substantial gifts hanging on the tree.

Now if you recall recent communications from our Finance Team and Stewardship Committee, you will remember that we have been (and are continuing to be) behind with our projected giving for the year. As of October 31, 2025, we are **behind approximately \$44,187** for our General Fund income vs expenses. If we were to **all pray, discern, and work together** to be able to generously give what is on each of these ornaments on top of our regular giving, we would be caught up with our projected giving to the General Fund.

We are asking that you would take a look at the tree, talk with others in your household, and listen if God might be urging you to take one or maybe even more gift ornaments to add to your regular giving. Thanks for your prayerful consideration.

It's that time of year - Poinsettias!

From now until December 19 you may order poinsettias. You may designate your poinsettia in honor of a loved one, in thanksgiving, or simply just because! The poinsettias are scheduled to arrive for our Christmas Eve worship services and may be taken home following the 10 AM worship service on Christmas Day. Please fill out an order form in the Narthex or contact the church office if you would like to place an order.

Birthday Card Shower!

Bert Ann Ray is turning 88 years old/young on December 23, 2025. Her family is trying to help her be showered with cards with little notes. No money please and thank you.

Cards can be sent to her at:

Bert Ann Ray
100 S. 6th Street #205
Nevada, Iowa 50201

Important Year-end Giving Information

Thank you for your continued generous support of Memorial Lutheran Church! The following information is to help you plan your end of year giving if you wish to receive contribution credit for gifts in 2025.

In order to comply with the IRS, we will only be able to accept gifts for contribution credit in 2025 if the following are true:

1. We receive the gift in the office or the office mailbox by midnight on 12/31/2025 **and the gift is dated 12/31/2025**. Please use the mailbox outside the North doors if the office is closed.
2. A mailed gift is dated **AND** postmarked on or before 12/31/2025. If you intend to mail your gift, date your check 12/31/2025 or before and get it to the post office by closing on 12/31/2025 - **make sure to take it to the counter and ask it to be postmarked in your presence** - this assures it is done on that same day.
3. A gift from distributions such as an IRA is also dated **AND** postmarked by 12/31/2025.
4. Make your gift online using tithe.ly/give before midnight on 12/31/2025.

This Week at Memorial

Monday, December 8 - Sunday, December 14

8 Monday Church Office Closed	9 Tuesday 2:00 PM Bible Study in Chapel 5:00 PM Finance Team Meeting 6:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 Wednesday Mid-Week Advent Gathering 6:00 PM Supper 6:30 PM Wednesday Night Live meets in chapel 7:00 PM Worship	11 Thursday 7:00 PM Council Meeting
12 Friday Have an idea for our monthly newsletter? Perhaps a focus on a ministry or group you're involved with at Memorial or in the community? We would love to hear from you! Please contact emily@mlcnevada.org or call the church office.		13 Saturday	14 Sunday 9:00 AM Worship in-person and online 10:15 AM Kidsbells and Youth Handbells rehearsal after worship

Office Hours
 Tuesday - Friday 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM*
**Call 515-382-6509 for appointments outside of office hours*

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▶ Memorial Lutheran

Memorial Lutheran ELCA

Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry
 Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement
 Mike Coverdale, Custodian

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