

December 21, 2025

9:00 am



**ROSEVILLE LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 am • Sunday, December 21, 2025

*Words in **BOLD** are for congregational participation, either said or sung.*

Words to hymns are printed in this bulletin, but you are encouraged to open up and use the red ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship) hymnal found below or in front of your seat. Hymn numbers are provided.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

Rise, Shine, You People!

ELW 665

**Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
Our human story; God in him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.**

**See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
He brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.**

**Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,
Your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
To all the world go out and tell the story of Jesus' glory.**

**Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation God's new creation.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE

As we wait—expectantly—for God to break into our world, into our communities, into our lives, may we have eyes to see, soft hearts toward others, and hands open to what God has for us now, trusting that something new is going to break forth amid this Advent darkness.

God, we are waiting for love, not the simple kind or the sweep-you-off-your-feet kind, but the absurd kind. The kind wrapped in rags, resting in a bucket of animal feed.
Love enough to save us all. Deeper, fuller, truer—than we have ever known,
than we could have ever hoped for.

Love given.

Love received.

Bless our waiting for love, O God.

The fourth candle of love is lit.

**We are waiting for Jesus, Jesus brings love;
We are waiting for Jesus, Jesus brings love.
Loving Shepherd, walk beside us; stir our hearts and gently guide us;
We are waiting for Jesus, Jesus brings love.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Together, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts and lives through faith.
Thanks be to God. Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

STORYTIME

Storytime is for the entire congregation as we begin our exploration of our text for the day.

Children are invited forward for Storytime as the congregation sings:

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

As storytime ends, children in grades 1st-6th are invited to leave the worship center for RLC Kids time and activities in the Activity Center. They will rejoin families at offering time. Children in Pre-K through Kindergarten are welcomed to go to Room 45A at the beginning of the service and stay for the entirety of the worship service.

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ELW 257 Vs. 2

**O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh;
In strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

READING

Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." Then Isaiah said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Savior of the nations, come; virgin's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, God has chosen such a birth.**

**Not by human flesh and blood, by the mystic Breath of God,
Was the Word of God made flesh, fruit of woman, blossom fresh.**

**Wondrous birth - oh, wondrous child - from his throne, a virgin mild!
Very God, and Mary's son, eager now his race to run!**

**Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, virgin's son, incarnate word!
To the holy Trinity, praise we sing eternally!**

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 into hell.
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**

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.
And also with you.

Let us share the peace of Christ with those around us. Introduce yourself to someone new.

OFFERING

We gather as a people of God, in the presence of God, to offer up our thanks and praise.

Offering is one way in which we support and sustain our shared ministry.

*You may text your gift: Text <amount> to 651-383-1504,
or scan the QR code in this bulletin.*

Children are invited to bring their offering up to the front of the Worship Center.



OFFERING MUSIC

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Jeff Bowar and John Helgen

PRAYERS

Prayer response: God of grace, hear our prayer.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

COMMUNION PRAYER

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW p. 153

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, lord God of pow'r and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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

DISTRIBUTION

Taste and see that the Lord is good. Christ's table is ready and all are welcome to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. Non-communicating children are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing. Gluten/peanut free bread is available - please indicate this preference to the server. White grape juice is available and can be found in the cups toward the center of the tray. If you are unable to come forward, we will bring the sacrament to you in your seat. Please indicate this preference as the communion minister walks down your aisle.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Lamb of God

ELW p. 154

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

COMMUNION MUSIC

What Feast of Love

Jeff Bowar and John Helgen

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

ADVENT BLESSING

May God who comes among us,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness,
and good news to share today and always.

Amen

CLOSING HYMN

Joy to the World

ELW 267

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.**

SENDING

Go in peace, keep awake for Christ's coming.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Participants

Pastor Kent Claussen Gubrud

Pastor Marty Wyatt

Reader: John Shardlow

Advent Candle: Abbott family

Musicians: Jeff Bowar, John Helgen

Sound & Video: Jeff Bowar, Sam Larson

Video streaming licenses: OneLicense.net #A-725379, CCLI #965106



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