

Welcome to First Lutheran Church!

Today, as since 1892, we welcome members and guests to glorify God and exalt his name.

NEW HERE? HAVE A QUESTION?

Visit the Welcome Center in the Gathering Place, just north of the Sanctuary. First-time visitors receive a special gift.

HOLY COMMUNION

We celebrate Holy Communion at every worship service; all who believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome at his table. To receive a blessing instead, simply cross your arms over your chest. Our children celebrate First Communion in Grade 3. Earlier participation in communion is at the discretion of parents or guardians.

NEED HEARING ASSISTANCE?

Assistive Listening Devices are available and may be used with headphones or with a neck loop for T-Coil-equipped hearing aids. Please leave the devices in the Sanctuary after the service.

CHILD CARE

All ages are welcome in worship; our professionally-staffed child care center is, however, an option for young children during services. The center is near the elevator on the main level.

A PLACE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Our **Sunday School** program meets at 9:30 a.m. downstairs in Fellowship Hall. Children may be dropped off as early as 9:15 a.m. Adults are invited to join our quarterly Adult Education classes.

JOIN US FOR COFFEE

Following the worship service, please join us in the Gathering Place for coffee, treats, and fellowship.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Our newest service takes place at 10:15 a.m. in the Worship Center on the second level – a distinctively Lutheran approach to contemporary worship. During the sermon, **First Kids** is offered in the Fireside Room for children aged Preschool through Grade 2.

ONLINE WORSHIP: YOUTUBE

Never miss a service on our YouTube channel! Search for First Lutheran Colorado Springs and click SUBSCRIBE to be notified when we upload or stream new videos.

DOWNLOAD OUR APP

With the First Lutheran app, you can watch online services and live streams, manage your giving, update your contact information, sign up for events, and more. Navigate to your app store and download Church by MinistryOne. Search for FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH or use our ZIP code, 80907.

The First Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025 8, 9:30, AND 11 A.M.

PRELUDE:

WORD OF WELCOME

Pastor The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Everyone And also with you.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

A moment for silent confession.

Merciful God, always with us, always loving: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season. Forgive us, O God. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a Child born for us. Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for his coming. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES As we light the first candle, please join in singing.

O come, O come, Immanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

□ · Hymn found in the red hymnal□ · Hymn found in the bulletin



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening danger of our sin, 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.**

You may be seated.

READING: ISAIAH 2:1 - 5

In the black pew Bible · Page 548

After the reading:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 122

Please join in reading our psalm responsively.

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

Our feet are standing in your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built like a city that is closely compacted together. That is where the tribes go up – the tribes of the Lord –

to praise the name of the Lord according to the statute given to Israel.

There stand the thrones for judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

"May those who love you be secure. May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels."

Continued on the next page.

For the sake of my family and friends, I will say, "Peace be within you." For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your prosperity.

Please stand for the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Gloria in Excelsis Deo



GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 24:36 – 44 In the black pew Bible · Page 800

Before the reading:

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord!

After the reading:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

You may be seated.

SERMON: PASTOR MICHAELA ESKEW

Following the sermon, please stand for the hymn.

HYMN OF THE DAY No. 256 Comfort, Comfort Now My People

THE APOSTLES' CREED With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 GOD'S PEOPLE

You may be seated as the ushers come forward to receive our tithes and offerings.

OFFERING MUSIC: Come, Messiah!

O come, Divine Messiah, the world in silence waits the day when hope shall sing its triumph, and sorrows flee away.

O come, Desire of Nations, whom priest and prophet long foretold, and break the chains that bind us, redeem your long-lost fold.

Come, Messiah! Dispel our night with the dawn of grace. Come, Messiah! We long to see your face – Come, Messiah, come!

O come, dear Child of promise, for lowly shall your cradle be; though clothed in human likeness, we shall the Godhead see!

Come, Messiah! ...

We extend a special welcome to all who are new to First Lutheran today! Please text **GUEST** to **719.988.3524** to let us know about yourself.

If you already support First Lutheran, thank you! Gifts of any size make a difference to the ministries and outreach of our congregation. Scan the QR code, text **GIVE** to **719.988.3524**, or place your offering in the plate as it is passed.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

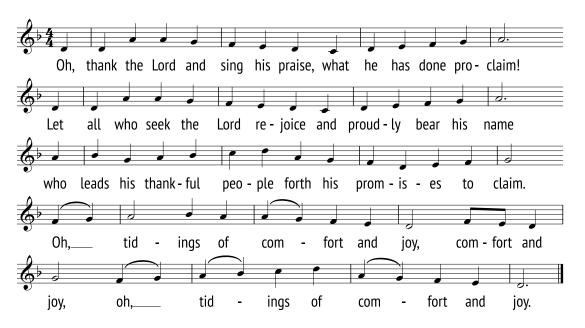
PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please remain standing as we sing the Offertory.

OFFERTORY: Oh, Thank the Lord and Sing His Praise



OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, grant that we may desire you; and desiring you, seek you; and seeking you, find you; and finding you, be satisfied in you forever; in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

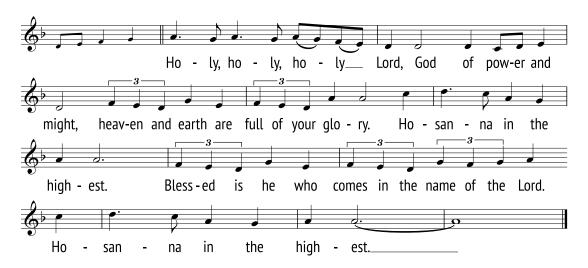
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS



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.

BREAD AND WINE ARE SHARED

Come to the table for all is now ready.

Thanks be to God!

AT COMMUNION

- → All who believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome at his table.
- + Please follow the lead of the ushers in going forward via the center aisle.
- * Kneel as you are able, extend your hands, and allow the bread to be placed in your hand. Take either the wine or white grape juice from the center of the tray.
- + Place your empty glass in the tray and return via the side aisle.
- + Gluten-free wafers are available.
- + If you are unable to come forward, please alert an usher so we may serve you at your seat.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Solo: As the Dark Awaits the Dawn

No. 553 Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

Please stand for the blessing.

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN A No. 624 Jesus, Still Lead On

SENDING

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

About today's music: O Come, O Come, Immanuel – Words from a 9th-century Latin hymn; this version from the Hymnal 1940. Music (VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL) from a 15th-century Plainsong melody; adapted by Thomas Helmore. Public domain. · Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending – Words (from John Cennick) by Charles Wesley and Martin Madan; additional words by John Newton. Music (HELMSLEY) by Thomas Arne; harmonized by Ralph Vaughan Williams. © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net No. A-795840. · Gloria in Excelsis Deo (from Angels We Have Heard on High) – Traditional words. Music (GLORIA) from a traditional French carol; arranged by Edward Shippen Barnes and harmonized by Austin C. Lovelace. © 1964 Abingdon Press. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net No. A-795840. · Come, Messiahl – Words (incorporating material by Abbe Simon-Joseph Pellegrin; translated by Sister Mary of St. Philip) by Lloyd Larson. Music by Lloyd Larson. © 2018 Lorenz Publishing Company. All rights reserved. CCLI No. 11389142. · Oh, Thank the Lord and Sing His Praise – Traditional words. Music (GOD REST YOU MERRY) from The Little Book of Christmas Carols, 1850; harmonized by Charles Winfred Douglas. Public domain. · Sanctus and Benedictus – Traditional words. Music by Robert Powell. © 1985 The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. OneLicense.net No. A-795840.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Purchase a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one to be diplayed on the altar on Christmas Eve. You can take your plant home anytime after the last Christmas Eve service. Order by December 17th. https://bit.ly/3CJzP7d

IMAGINE: THE WAY WE KNOW

WORSHIP CENTER TUESDAYS, DECEMBER 2, 9, & 16 AT 6 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, DECEMBER 3, 10, & 17 AT 11:30 A.M.

"Jesus said ...'I am the way..." – John 14:6 Join us for a weekly 30–45-minute guided Scripture meditation, where we will craft a quiet place to anticipate and encounter the arrival of Jesus, the Way, into our world.

ADVENT TEA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, NOON PEEL HOUSE | COOKIE EXCHANGE

Join us for First Lutheran's Advent Tea. The theme for the season is The Way We Know, with our Advent Tea theme, There Are No Strangers at Christmas. Please use the following link https://bit.ly/4nMCip2 to register as a guest or call the church at 719.632.8836. Space is limited to 98 and seating fills up quickly

ST. NICHOLAS BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 10:30 A.M. GATHERING PLACE

For elementary age and younger. Join us for breakfast, story time, and crafts.

Today at First Lutheran

Advent Wreath Making, Gathering Place
Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary8 a.m.
Sunday Youth Group (Grades 6 – 9), Youth Center9:15 a.m.
Sunday School (Preschool – Grade 5), Fellowship Hall9:30 a.m.
Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary9:30 a.m.
Contemporary Worship Service, Worship Center
Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary11 a.m.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIGHT

WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORSHIP CENTER DINNER 5:15 P.M. | SERVICE 6:30 P.M.

GENERATION TO REVELATION

FIRST LUTHERAN'S NEW PODCAST FIND ON YOUTUBE OR OUR WEBSITE

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS LUTHER HALL | 10 - 11 A.M.

Led by the preaching pastor for the week – come explore the Scriptures in an engaging small group setting.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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