

FIRST  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
COLORADO SPRINGS



worship

12.28.25

## 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.

# First Sunday of Christmas

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2025  
9:30 A.M.

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

PRELUDE: Daniel Wicks, *guest organist*

## 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.

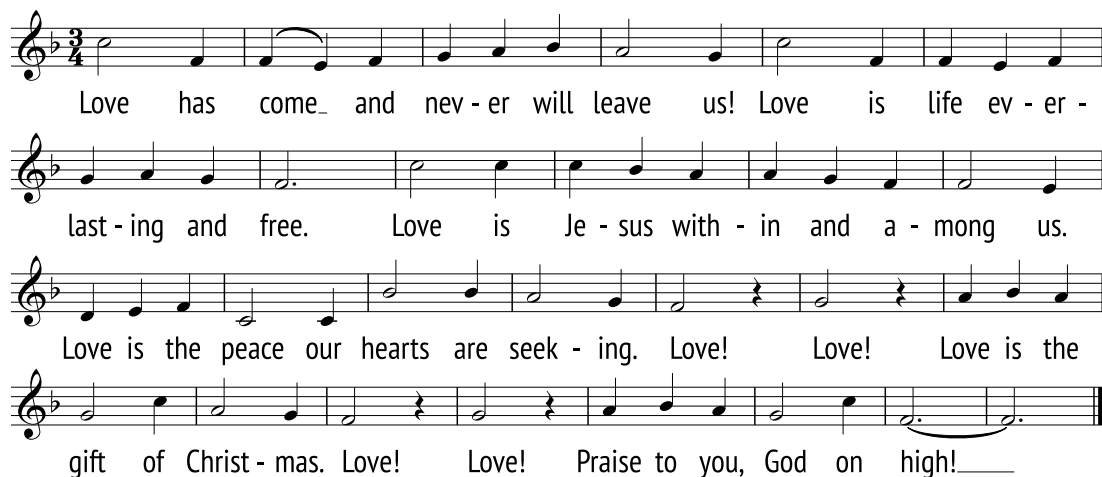
*A moment for silent confession.*

**Most merciful God, we confess that 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. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**


## LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

O Holy God, as we light this fifth candle, the Christ Candle, we celebrate the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, the Light of the world. As his light shines in our hearts and homes, may we remember the true meaning of Christmas – the gift of your love and grace. Thank you for the hope, peace, joy, and love that this Advent season has brought into our lives. We welcome the birth of Jesus with open hearts and gratitude. In his name we pray. **Amen.**

*As we light the candles, please join in singing. Music may be found on the next page.*



Love has come\_ and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -  
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.  
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the  
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!\_\_\_\_\_

OPENING HYMN  No. 288 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*You may be seated.*

READING: ISAIAH 63:7 – 9

In the black pew Bible · Page 599

*After the reading:*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 148

*Please join in reading responsively.*

Praise the LORD!

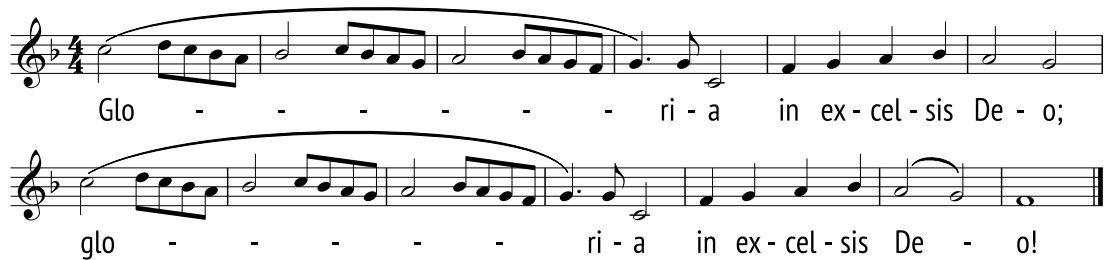
**Praise the LORD from the heavens;**

**praise him in the heights!**

**Praise him, all his angels;  
praise him, all his hosts!  
Praise him, sun and moon,  
praise him, all you shining stars!  
Praise him, you highest heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens!  
Let them praise the name of the LORD!  
For he commanded and they were created.  
And he established them forever and ever;  
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.**  
Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you great sea creatures and all deeps,  
fire and hail, snow and mist,  
a stormy wind fulfilling his word!  
**Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars!  
Beasts and all livestock,  
creeping things and flying birds!  
Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the earth!  
Young men and maidens together,  
old men and children!**  
**Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
his majesty is above earth and heaven.**  
He has raised up a horn for his people,  
praise for all his saints,  
for the people of Israel who are near to him.  
**Praise the LORD!**

*Please stand for the gospel.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Gloria in Excelsis Deo*



GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 2:13 – 23

In the black pew Bible · Page 778

Before the reading:

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the second 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 TRAVIS NORTON

*Following the sermon, please stand for the hymn.*

HYMN OF THE DAY  No. 272 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

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

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

Oh, thank the Lord and sing his praise, what he has done pro - claim!

Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his name

who leads his thank - ful peo - ple forth his prom - is - es to claim.

Oh,\_\_\_\_ tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and

joy, oh,\_\_\_\_ tid - ings of com - fort and joy.

#### 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. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. 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:

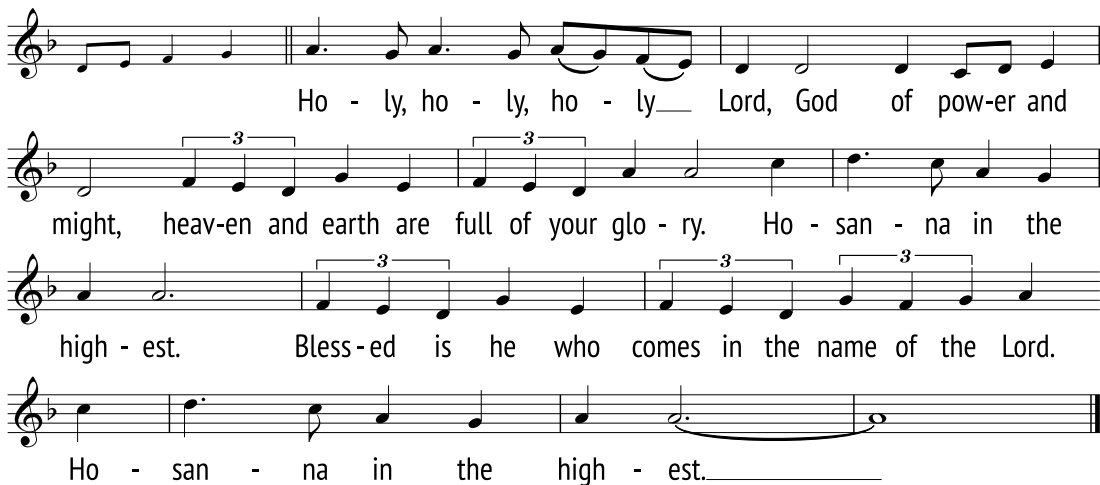
#### SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

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.







## 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.**

### 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.
- + 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

 No. 487 What Feast of Love

 It Came upon the Midnight Clear

*The music to the hymn may be found on the next page.*

*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  No. 545 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

## SENDING

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

**About today's music:** Love Has Come – Words by Ken Bible. © 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. All rights reserved. CCLI No. 11389142. Music (UN FLAMBEAU) from F. Seguin's *Recueil de noëls composés en langue provençale*, 1856. Public domain. · 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-705840. · 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-705840. · I Received the Living God – Words and music (LIVING GOD) from an anonymous source. Public domain. · It Came upon a Midnight Clear – Words adapted from Edmund H. Sears. Music (CAROL) by Richard Storrs Willis. Public domain.



1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, that
2. With sor - row brought by sin and strife the
3. And those be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose
4. And still the days are hast - 'ning on, by



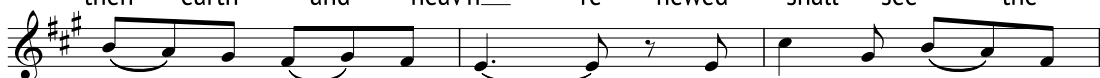
glo - rious song of old, from an - gels bend - ing  
world has suf - fered long, and, since the an - gels  
hope is burn - ing low, who toil a - long the  
proph - ets seen of old, to - ward the full - ness



near the earth, to touch their harps of gold.  
sang, have passed two thou - sand years of wrong:  
climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow -  
of the time when comes the age fore - told:



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from  
the na - tions, still at war, hear not the  
look up! for songs of joy and peace thru  
then earth and heav'n re - newed shall see the



heav'n's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn  
love - song which they bring: O hush the noise and  
all the heav - ens ring! O rest be - side the  
Prince of peace, their King; and all the world re -

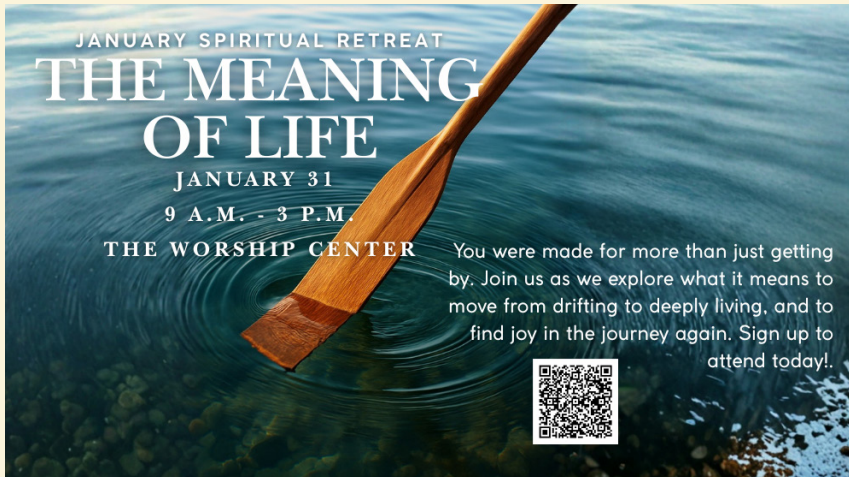


still - ness lay, to hear the an - gels sing,  
cease the strife, to hear the an - gels sing!  
wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!  
peat the song which now the an - gels sing.

# Today at First Lutheran

One Worship Service, Sanctuary ..... 9:30 a.m.

Congregational PotLuck, Gathering Place..... 11 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.

## PASTORAL TEAM

The Rev. Travis Norton, Senior Pastor  
The Rev. Carrie Baylis, Associate Pastor  
The Rev. Michaela Eskew, Associate Pastor

## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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