

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2026

Advent Lutheran Church

We extend welcome to people of all races, cultures and colors; to people of all sexual orientations, gender expression and gender identity; to people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities; to people of every legal, economic and marital status and to all those the world seeks to separate, divide or isolate. We celebrate your identity as a gift from God. You are welcome to a diverse community united by faith. Receive God's grace given to all regardless of worldly successes or failures. Together we commit ourselves to embrace the continuing work of anti-racism, social and economic justice and environmental care.

"Welcome one another therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15.7

Advent is a **Reconciling in Christ** congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

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Welcome

Worship includes everyone! You are invited to speak the bold-printed words in this bulletin. "ELW" refers to the red hymnal in front of you. "ACS" refers to hymns found in the purple hymnal. During the Sharing of Peace, people generally move around the sanctuary to share signs of Christ's peace with a hug, a handshake, a peace sign, or saying the words, "Peace be with you." Participate at your own comfort level.

Children are welcome in worship! Children are always encouraged to participate in worship. If your little one needs a break, there is space to play and stretch out in the narthex. A TV screen will allow you to see and hear worship while supervising your child. Quiet bags and coloring supplies can be found in the narthex and brought to your pews. During the Family Lesson, children are invited to come forward, with or without a grown-up, for a message created especially for them. Don't worry — wiggles and noises are expected! Sunday School takes place after the Family Lesson in the A building next door; children return to worship during the Sharing of Peace.

Fidget toys are available in bags in most pews. Noise-canceling headphones are also available. Ask an usher if you need a set. Neurodiversity is celebrated here.

Holy Communion is intended for everyone. It is an open table. Ushers will guide you. Gluten-free wafers and non-alcoholic grape juice are available.

Newcomer today? Use the QR code on the back page to learn more about Advent.

Your offering of financial support, time and talent enables us to do God's work locally and globally! The QR links on the back page will guide you to an online giving platform or to our Vemo account. Checks can be written to Advent Lutheran Church. Thank you for your generosity!

Restrooms are located in the Fellowship Hall next door.

The blue HERE I AM! card in your pew rack can be used to request a meeting with the pastor or ask for prayers. Visitors are invited to share their contact information and check the appropriate box to request our e-news. Place the card in the gold plate that will be passed to you during Offering.

Thank you for serving today:

Ushers: Bill Case, Tom Sweeney

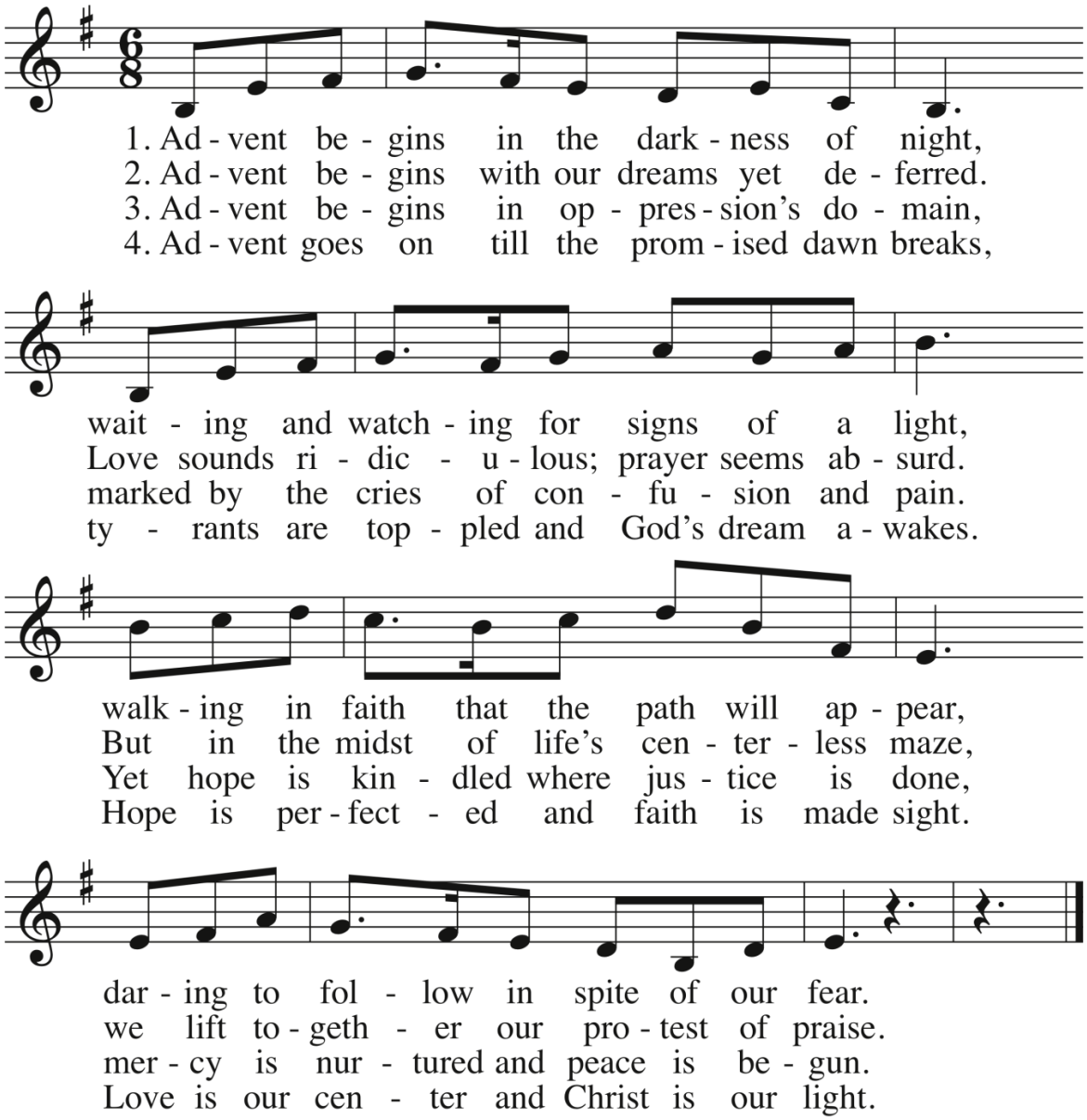
Lector: Diane Hastings

— GATHERING —

Prelude

Welcome & Gathering Hymn *Advent Begins in the Darkness of Night*

David Bjorlin — RESCOV — Benjamin Brody



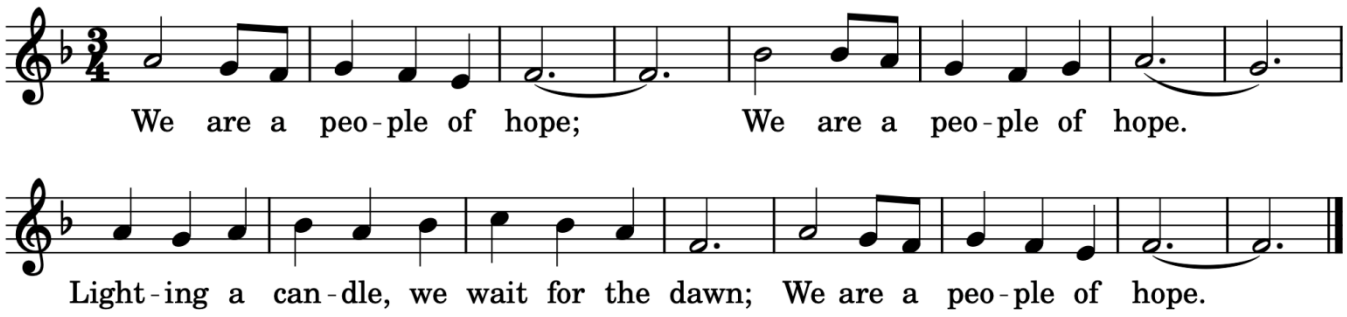
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Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Lighting the Advent Candles

We Are a People of Hope



Words and Music by Barbara Hamm (c) Hope Publishing Company

—WORD —

Family Lesson and Sunday School

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
2 as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
3 When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.
4 From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
5 You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
6 We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
7 There is no one who calls on your name
or attempts to take hold of you,
for you have hidden your face from us

and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
[8] Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
[9] Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Choir Anthem Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus by Mark A. Miller

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free,
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Chorus
Born to save, born to heal, come, O Savior, come.
While we wait, while we pray, come, Savior, come.
Hope of all heaven and earth, come, Jesus, come,
O Jesus, come.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone,
By thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

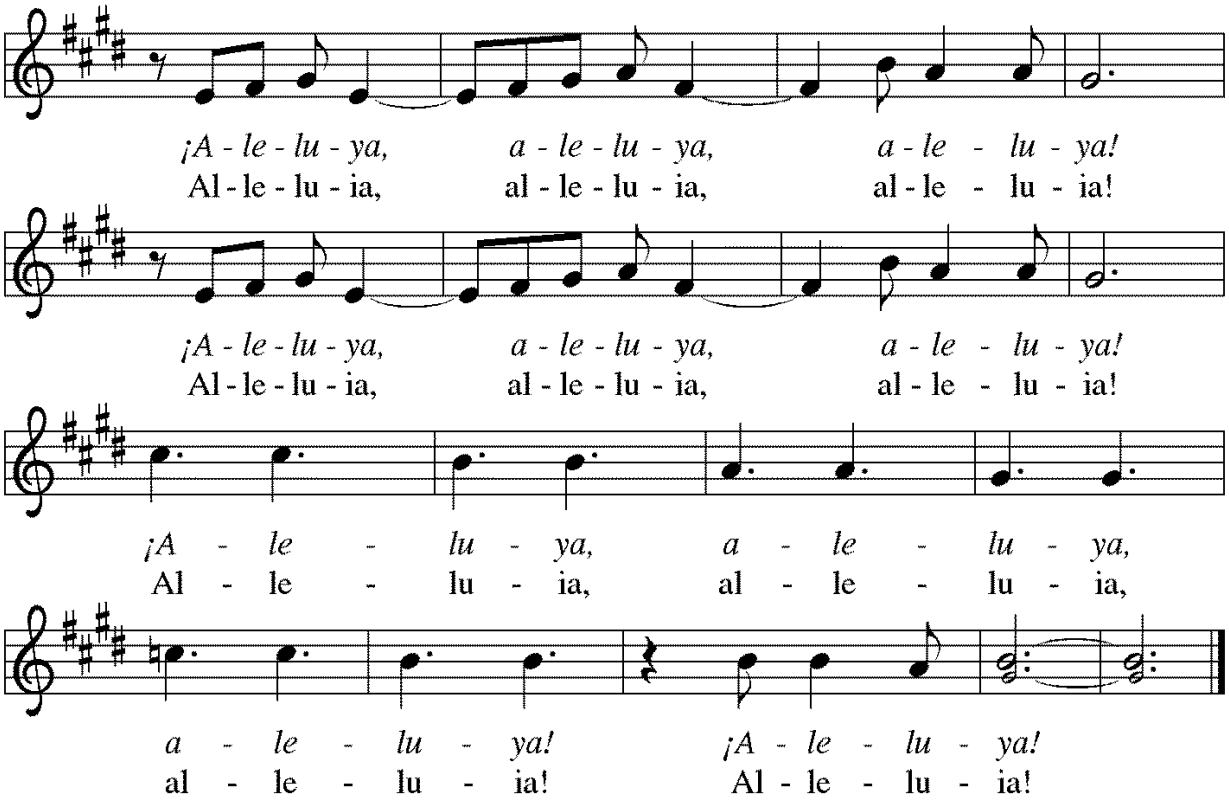
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

[3] Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

[4] I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, [5] for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—[6] just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—[7] so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. [8] He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. [9] God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Reading: Mark 13:24-37

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

24 "In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
25 and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
26 "Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory.
27 Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. 29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. 30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

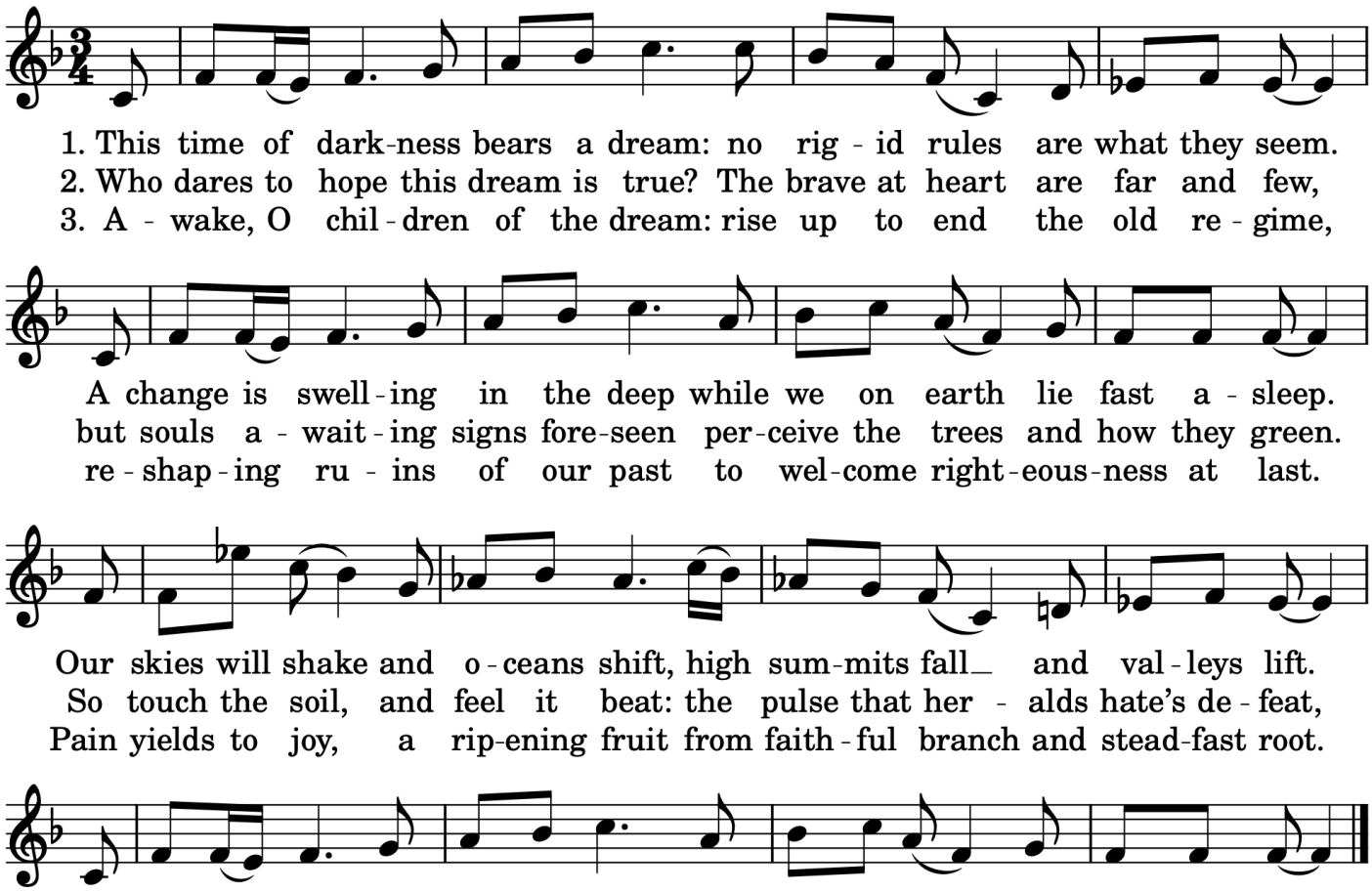
32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. 33 Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. 34 It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. 35 Therefore, keep

awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, [36] or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. [37] And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *This Time of Darkness Bears a Dream*



Words by Hannah C. Brown (c) 2025 GIA Publications, Inc.

Prayers of the People

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

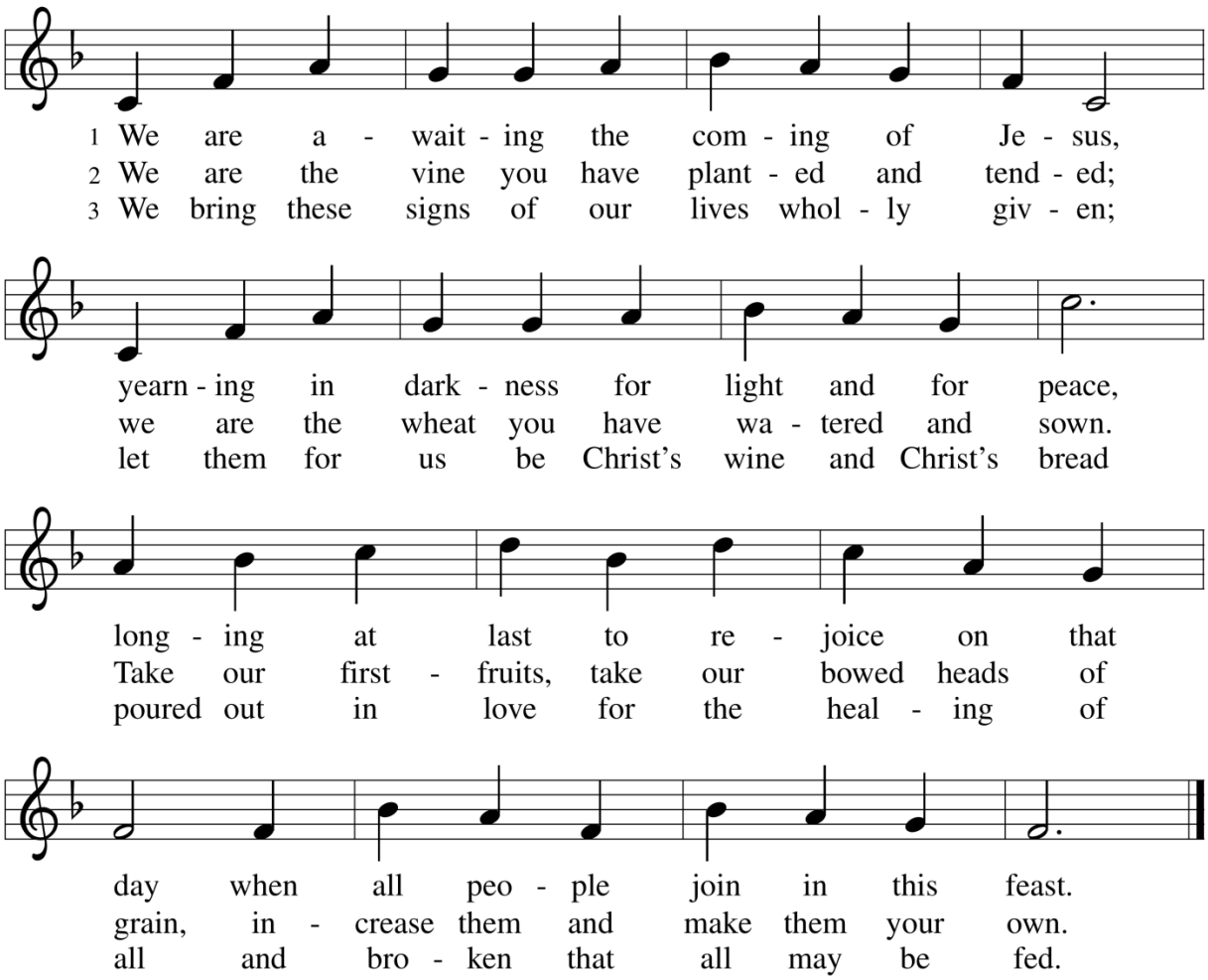
Sharing Christ's Peace

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

Announcements

— MEAL —

Offering and Offering Song *We Are Awaiting the Coming*



Text and music: Paul Friesen-Carper
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Giving Made Easy: *You may give your offering by scanning the Venmo QR code here. Thank you for your generosity and faithful support of our ministry.*

Offering Prayer
Holy Creator,
we are the clay and you are the potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Receive these gifts shape them and our lives for your purpose,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The 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.

Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

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;
and 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.

Instructions and Invitation to the Table
All are welcome at Christ's table. Ushers will guide you. Gluten-free and non-alcoholic elements are available.

Distribution and Music

Come Now, O Prince of Peace	ELW #247
Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers	ELW #244
Now the Heavens Start to Whisper	ACS #901

Post-Communion Blessing
Providing God,
you feed your flock like a shepherd
and gather your people in your arms.
We praise you for the care and sustenance

you give at this meal and always.
As we leave your table, carry us near your heart,
and send us with confidence in the way
of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

— SENDING —

Sending Hymn *He Came Down* ELW #253

Blessing
God our provider,
God our feast,
God our companion,
☩ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Dismissal
Go in peace. Bring good news the brokenhearted.
Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Weekly Bible Study with Pastor Anne meets every Tuesday at 12pm in the Fellowship Hall or via Zoom (a link can be found in each Wednesday email). This week's readings: **Isaiah 40:1-11; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8**

Christmas Food Baskets 2026 - Saturday, December 19

- 8:30 AM Bagging Begins (Those driving too check in at Narthex)
- 9:30 AM Baggers who are driving and those only driving - Meet in Sanctuary
- 9:45 AM - 1 PM - Deliveries
- Drivers return paperwork and any food not delivered to church

Donations

- Online – Advent webpage, MAKE A DONATION > Food Baskets>Contributions OR
- Offering - Red envelopes - check to Advent Lutheran Church - Food Basket in memo line

Our **Preschool Christmas Concert** will be held on Monday, December 14 at 9:15am. We welcome you to the concert. Santa is coming at 10am. There will be a professional photographer. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for treats with our preschool families after the concert. We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to prepare or donate **nut-free cookies, cake, brownies, or other baked treats** for approximately **10 families**. If you are able

to help with either of these, please contact Jessie or Poorinma poornimaj@adventlutheran.net All are welcome.

Mary's Place Giving Tree 2026 is coming soon! Take a tag off the tree, note the information on the back, buy one (or more) gift cards, write the card's amount on it, and mail them to the given address. It's that simple! If you would prefer to buy a gift for a child, go to marysplaceseattle.org, then "get involved" then "holiday giving". For convenience, purchase items on Amazon and have them shipped to the warehouse address at the bottom of the page. All gifts need to arrive at Mary's Place by December 12. Thank you for your generosity! Every donation means a warmer, happier Christmas for a needy family!

The Longest Night on Dec 21 at 7pm





Connect

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Michael Flynn, Secretary
Brian Hall, Treasurer
Eric Botterbusch, President Emeritus
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