



ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR MISSION:

TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

TO MAKE DISCIPLES

TO EMBODY GOD'S LOVE

Introduction

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming.

Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering.

Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

Thanks be to God!



NOVEMBER 30, 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM

BIBLE STUDY & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00AM

YOUTUBE LIVE STREAM 10:00 AM



Assisting in Worship Today

Preaching: Pastor Quentin Surace
Organist: Abbie Wilemon
Acolyte: Sadie Hendren
Lay Reader: Carol Schaefer
Greeters: Barrett & Kendra Hendren

Ushers:
Assisting Minister: Jonathan Ray
Crucifer:
Communion Assistants:
Council Duties: Jerry Herman, Nicky Setzer

Attendance last Sunday, November 23rd was **84** (includes YouTube Live viewers).

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:00 AM

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

**Please stand as able*

P: Pastor; A: Assisting Minister; C: Congregation

GATHERING

Setting 2 ELW

GATHERING MUSIC (9:45AM)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (9:55AM)

PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES BY ACOLYTE

Instrumental

INVOCATION AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE BY PASTOR QUENTIN

HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" V. 1

ELW #257

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure. C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.....Long-expected God,

C: we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

P: God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ✠ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins. C: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"The King Shall Come"

vs. 1,2,3,5

ELW #260

***KYRIE** (Setting 2) Pastor sings the verses, assembly sings the refrain.

ELW p.120-121

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, 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. C: Amen.

WORD

LESSONS

Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

"Alleluia"

ELW p.124

GOSPEL READING

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. C: Glory to you, O Lord

Matthew 24:36-44

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Quentin Surace

SERMON

Pastor Quentin Surace

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

ELW #241

***APOSTLES' CREED**

ELW p.127

***PRAYERS BY ASSISTING MINISTER**

A: In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.....C: hear our prayer.

***SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE**

MEAL

THE OFFERING

Instrumental Solo

OFFERING PRESENTATION/RESPONSE "Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow"

ELW #885

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: 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. C: **Amen.**

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*PROPER PREFACE FOR ADVENT

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (sung)

ELW p.130

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

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR HOLY COMMUNION: II

ELW p.134

*THE LORD'S PRAYER P: Lord, teach us to pray . . .

DISTRIBUTION

We welcome all who believe Jesus is Lord to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. An usher will guide you to the center aisle to receive communion. You may return to your seat by the outer aisle. If you are not able to come forward, please notify an usher by raising your hand and communion will be brought to you. After communing all who wish may go to the altar for prayer. You may also come forward for a blessing.

AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD)

ELW p.135

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning"

ACS #949

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION BY ASSISTING MINISTER

A: 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. C: **Amen.**

SENDING

***BLESSING** P: 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. Together let us proclaim our mission:
C: **To proclaim the Gospel. To make disciples. To embody God's love. Amen.**

*SENDING HYMN

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

ELW #244

***Dismissal:** P: Go in peace. Keep awake. C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Instrumental

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
In days to come the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.” For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

Romans 13:11-14

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Matthew 24:36-44

[Jesus said to the disciples,] “About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

Church Staff

Pastor: Pastor Quentin F. Surace	Custodian: Larry Smyre/Mark Oakley
Music Director: Emily Schuttenberg	Secretary: Patricia Hoke
Family Ministries Director: Wendy Hefner	Preschool Co-Director: Randyl Abernathy
Finance Secretary: Deanna Butcher	Preschool Co-Director: Maria Wright
2025 Church Council President: Terry Hefner	