



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – HAMBURG**

**First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, November 30, 2025**

8:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Matthew 21:3 – “If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” Just a colt and her foal. How significant could they be? Could they really be used by the Lord for some great, heavenly purpose? This is one facet of stewardship we often forget: the blessing it is *to us* to be of service in the Lord's Kingdom. What honor the Lord bestows upon us by using our gifts for His goals!



WELCOME VISITORS. We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors today. We pray that your worship with us is rewarding. Please be sure to sign your name and address in our guest register, located in the narthex. If you are looking for a

church home we would like to invite you to be a part of our Bible based church family.

PRESERVICE CHORAL SELECTION (*At Faith*)
“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

ORDER OF SERVICE
Divine Service I
LSB page 151

OPENING HYMN “The Advent of Our King” LSB #331

INVOCATION

*The sign of the cross may be made by all
in remembrance of their Baptism.*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

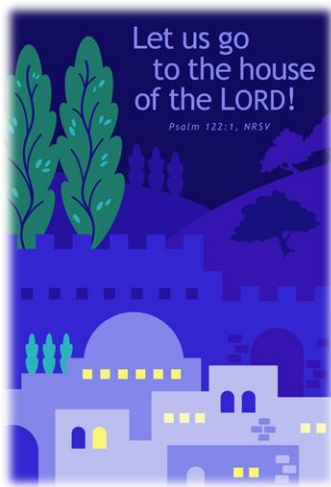
Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

- C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

PSALM 122



P ¹I was glad when they said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”

C ²Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

P ³Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together,
⁴to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.

C ⁵There thrones for judgment were set, the thrones of the house of David.

- P** ⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
 “May they be secure who love you!”
- C** ⁷**Peace be within your walls
 and security within your towers!”**
- P** ⁸For my brothers and companions’ sake
 I will say, “Peace be within you!”
- C** ⁹**For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
 I will seek your good.**

KYRIE

LSB 152

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray.
 Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

CATECHISM REVIEW

P *The Fifth Petition*

C And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.

P *What does this mean?*

C We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 2:1–5

¹The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,

³and 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 the law,
and the word
of the LORD from
Jerusalem.
⁴He shall judge
between the
nations,



and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and 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 anymore.

⁵O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

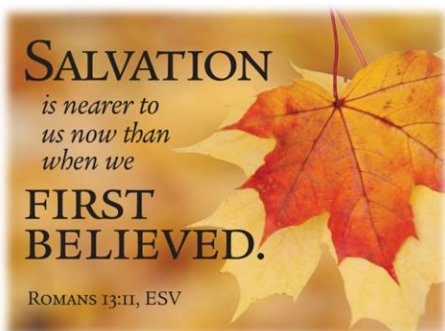
CHORAL ANTHEM *“Savior of the Nations, Come”* (At Faith)

EPISTLE

Romans 13:8–14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.



P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36–44

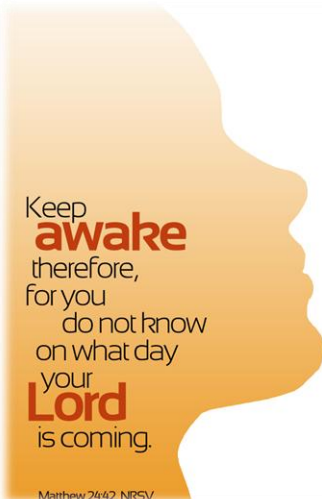
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁶[Jesus said:] “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ³⁷As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. ⁴²Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But know this, that if the master 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. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



Keep
awake
therefore,
for you
do not know
on what day
your
Lord
is coming.

Matthew 24:42, NRSV

SERMON HYMN

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” LSB #341

SERMON

APOSTLES’ CREED

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting.
Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“We Give Thee But Thine Own” LSB #781 sts. 1–2

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

LORD’S PRAYER

- C** 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.

BENEDICTION

LSB 166

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Joy to the World”

LSB #387

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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FAITH and ST. JOHN’S LUTHERAN CHURCHES

Please remember the following in your prayers:

Gary Baumann Joe Calmes
David Czech Rodney Dahlke
Alice Fromm Christopher Emmerich
Wallace Emmerich Duane Grunenwald
Gerhard Hanneman Angie Harkner
Dale Janisch Cecelia & Lucille Klade
Lorraine Kleinschmidt Rob Koebe
Hugo Koppa Kim Love Bob Meyer
Gene Mootz Debbie Olson
Hayden Partyka Mark Pester Bob Porath
Marge Radenz Karen Rajek Rod and Laurie Runge
Jo Schedler Audrey Steckling Lorraine Steckling
Carl Uttech Deb Wiederhoeft Florence Williamson
Susie and Ellie Zastrow



ADVENT

Adventures

We direct *our hearts*
and *our worship* now toward
the coming of Jesus
at Christmas and
at the end of time.



*This Year's Advent Midweek will follow the
Theme of Advent Adventures and will feature
the four names of the Advent Candles*

Wednesday, December 3 – *Hope*

Advent Adventures of Hope in Hardship

Luke 1:5-25;57-66

Wednesday, December 10 – *Peace*

Advent Adventures of Peace in Peril

Luke 1:26-38

Wednesday, December 17 - *Joy*

Advent Adventures of Joy

in Life's Jarring and Jolting Journey

Luke 2:8-20

Wednesday, December 24 - *Love*

Adventures of Love in A World at War With Itself

Luke 2:1-7

Lenten Midweek Services
6:30 p.m. at Faith



Sunday: Daniel 3:1-30;

Revelation 20:1-15

Monday: Daniel 4:1-37;

Revelation 21:1-8

Tuesday: Daniel 5:1-30;

Daniel 7:1 – 8:27; Revelation 21:9-27

Wednesday: Daniel 6:1-28; Daniel 9:1-27;

Revelation 22:1-21

Thursday: Isaiah 1:1-28; 1 Peter 1:1-12

Friday: Isaiah 2:1-22; Isaiah 3:1 – 4:6; 1 Peter 1:13-25

Saturday: Isaiah 5:1-25; Amos 1:1 – 9:15; 1 Peter 2:1-12



In the beauty and celebration of Christmas, we are decorating the Faith Sanctuary and Narthex with poinsettias this year. Donations for the POINSETTIA FUND will be taken through

Sunday, December 14. Please fill out the form on the Scrip table and enclose it with your

check payable to Faith Lutheran Church. Place the form in the basket on the Scrip table or drop off at the church office.



Gifts for children: *Watch for the tree with tags in the back of church at Faith.*

Gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 14. For information, contact Bonnie Grueneberg at 715-613-0003 or e-mail at bkg9005@gmail.com



CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR PINE CREST RESIDENTS

Pine Crest is asking for donation of Christmas presents and/or money which allows Pine Crest to give a gift to each resident. Items

should be dropped off by Sunday, December 7 at Faith. A list of items can be found on the table in the church entryway.



Annual FRUIT SALE

Order forms are in the back of the church.

Deadline to order Wednesday, November 26

For more information, contact Terry Seidler at 715-203-5736. *All are welcome to order*



ST. JOHN'S and FAITH CALENDAR

Sunday, November 30 *FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT*

8:30 a.m. Worship at St. John's
Sunday School during the sermon at St. John's

9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith

10:15 a.m. Worship at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

Monday, December 1

1:30 p.m. Women of Faith Christmas Outing at Ballyhoo's

Wednesday, December 3 *MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICE*

5:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal at Faith

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class at Faith

6:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith

Thursday, December 4

10:30 a.m. Community Bible Class at St. John's

6:00 p.m. Mary Martha Guild at St. John's

Sunday, December 7

8:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at St. John's
Sunday School during the sermon at St. John's

9:15 a.m. Sunday School at Faith

10:15 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion at Faith

11:15 a.m. Bible Study at Faith

Monday, December 8

NO MONDAY WORSHIP

6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting at Faith

THANKSGIVING IS NEAR!!! Whether you are hosting at home or invited away, get scrip cards for your celebration supplies whether at home or away.. And remember, holidays are coming up soon. Pick up scrip for all your household needs. Help support the ministry of our church through the Scrip program. ... *All without it costing you an extra penny!*

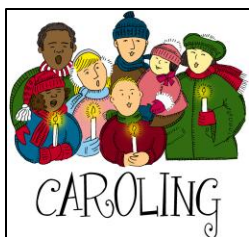


OUTDOOR LIVING NATIVITY

St. John's – Hamburg will be having a **LIVE NATIVITY** on Thursday, December 18 from 3 to 6pm. *Free soup and cookies will be available.*



CHRISTMAS CAROLING



Lunch will be served after worship service at Faith followed by caroling to shut-ins on

Sunday, December 14.

Come along and help share the Christmas spirit. Bring a friend!



Children's Christmas Program

**Faith Lutheran Church
Sunday, December 14**

**St. John's Lutheran Church
Sunday, December 14**



SERVANT EVENT

**Feed My Starving
Children/Mall of America on
Saturday November 15**

We had another successful trip! A total of 53 people participated, and 101 Manna Packs were put together, this was enough to feed 101 children for one year. The food that was packed will be going to Guatemala this time. Thank you to all the Youth and Adults that participated in this Servant Event.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You for your generous sacrificial offerings to the Lord, to help us keep our ministry going. You can also mail your offerings to Our Churches at

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

**15425 County Road K South
Merrill, WI 54452 or**

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

**134058 County Road L
Athens, WI 54411**

(Please do not send hard cash through the mail)

**Please help us spread the Word. Visit us online at Pastor's
(Don Love) Facebook Page, or Faith Lutheran Merrill
Facebook Page <https://faithmerrill.webs.com/>**



Christmas Stars **A Christmas Spectacular** **Saturday, December 6th**

THERE ARE STILL OPEN SEATS.

***If interested, contact Bonnie
Grueneberg ASAP
at 715-613-0003***

Enjoy a day away! We will travel via Progressive Travel motorcoach to the Appleton area. **Departure from Faith Lutheran Church - Merrill - will be at 8:00 a.m.** to arrive at the **Fox River Mall** for a little shopping time and lunch on your own. Our next stop is at the **Xavier Fine Arts Center** to see the Christmas Stars production of **"A Christmas Spectacular"**! Get ready to see some fantastic talent from local folks of all ages from little tots on up to senior adults. Xavier Fine Arts puts on two shows a year, All Rise! for Easter and Christmas Stars for this time of year. The show last year included over three hundred people! Enjoy a mixture of comedy, dance, singing and the full Christmas Story! On our-way home we will make a stop at **Culver's** in St. Point with an estimate return time to Merrill at 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$80.00 per person
(inc. deluxe motorcoach
transportation and show ticket)

**Reserve a seat today by
calling or texting Bonnie**

Grueneberg at 715-613-0003. Once confirmed, fill out the form
below and send it along with your full payment to:

Progressive Travel, Inc.

211085 State Highway 13, Spencer, WI 54479

Attn: Bonnie

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone # _____

Make checks payable to: Progressive Travel, Inc

