
✠ Fourth Sunday In Advent ✠

December 21, 2025

WELCOME TO MOUNT OLIVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST OUR COMING KING!

AS WE GATHER

The gift of God's Son is the gift, above all else, of love. Love, as Paul wrote, is "the greatest of these." In Christ, we see the fullness of God's love in saving sinners. Today we receive that love in His feast of love, the Lord's Supper.

Guests: At Mount Olive, we confess Christ's words that the Lord's Supper is His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Paul writes in 1 Cor.11: 27-29 that one may receive this gift to their detriment if they do not discern the true Body and Blood. If you have questions or are not a member of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation, please speak with Pastor Torkelson before communing. He is happy to talk with you.

**Please fill out an attendance card available in the back of the pew
and place it in the offering plate.**

OPENING HYMN

Jesus! Name Of Wondrous Love

LSB 900



1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,
2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid-en moth - er told,
3 Je - sus! Name of price - less worth To the fall - en of the earth
4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
Kneel - ing in her low - ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.
For the prom - ise that it gave, "Je - sus shall His peo - ple save."
When the cup of hu - man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved
Burst their fetters and are
saved.

6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823-97, alt.

Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

KYRIE

LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 7:10-17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹"Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹²But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." ¹³And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

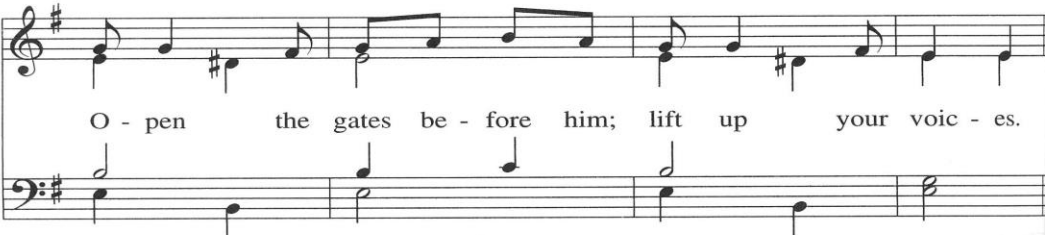


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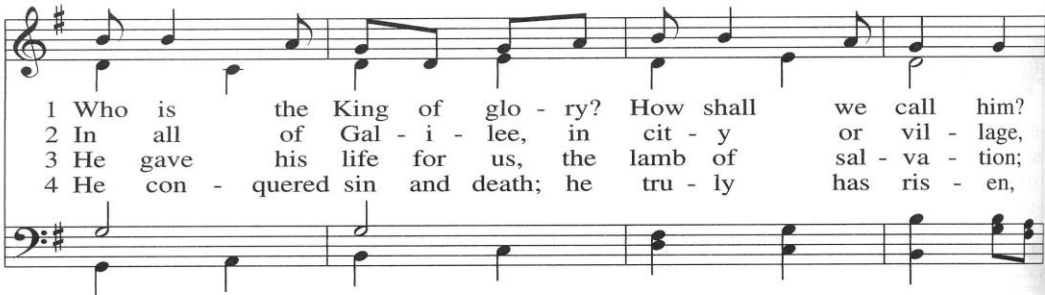
The King of Glory Comes

Refrain

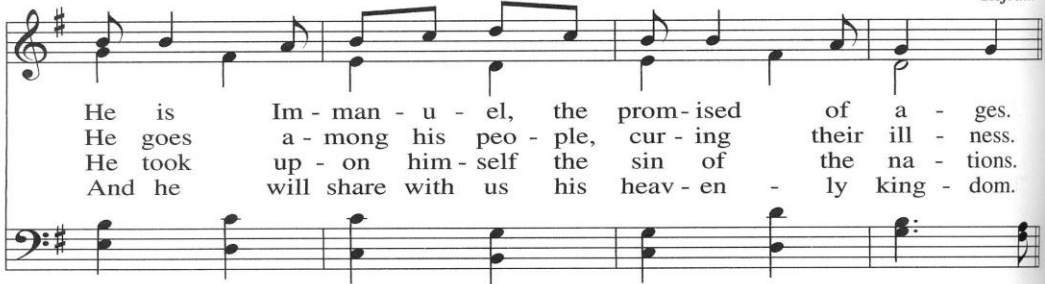

The King of glo - ry comes; the na - tion re - joic - es.



O - pen the gates be - fore him; lift up your voic - es.



1 Who is the King of glo - ry? How shall we call him?
 2 In all of Gal - i - lee, in cit - y or vil - lage,
 3 He gave his life for us, the lamb of sal - va - tion;
 4 He con - quered sin and death; he tru - ly has ris - en,

Refrain


He is Im - man - u - el, the prom - ised of a - ges.
 He goes a - mong his peo - ple, cur - ing their ill - ness.
 He took up - on him - self the sin of the na - tions.
 And he will share with us his heav - en - ly king - dom.

EPISTLE

Romans 1:1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

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

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

LSB 190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). ²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

LSB 357



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest
3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from

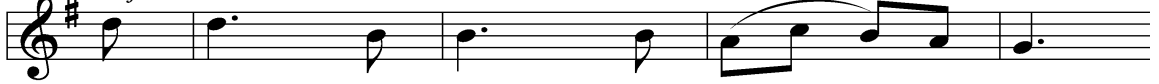


cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly
all things might - i - ly; To us the path of
tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.
give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

5 O come, Thou Key of David,
come,
And open wide our heav'nly
home;
Make safe the way that leads
on high,
And close the path to misery.
Refrain

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from
on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing
nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of
night,
And death's dark shadows put
to flight. *Refrain*

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain*

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum,
1710 Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
Tune: French, 15th cent.
Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Love: God's Highest Gift

All readings

NICENE CREED

LSB 191

☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition: **P** Lord, in your mercy, **C** hear our prayer.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

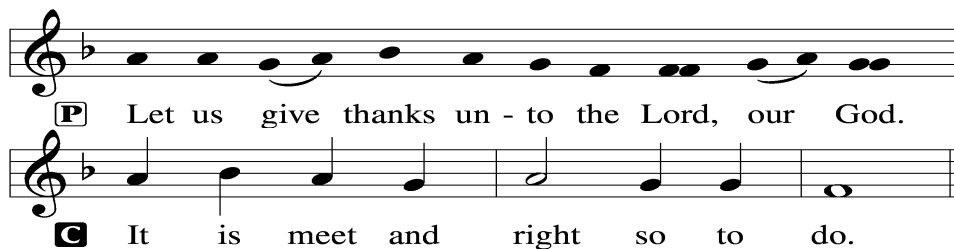
LSB 192

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

PREFACE

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spir - it.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

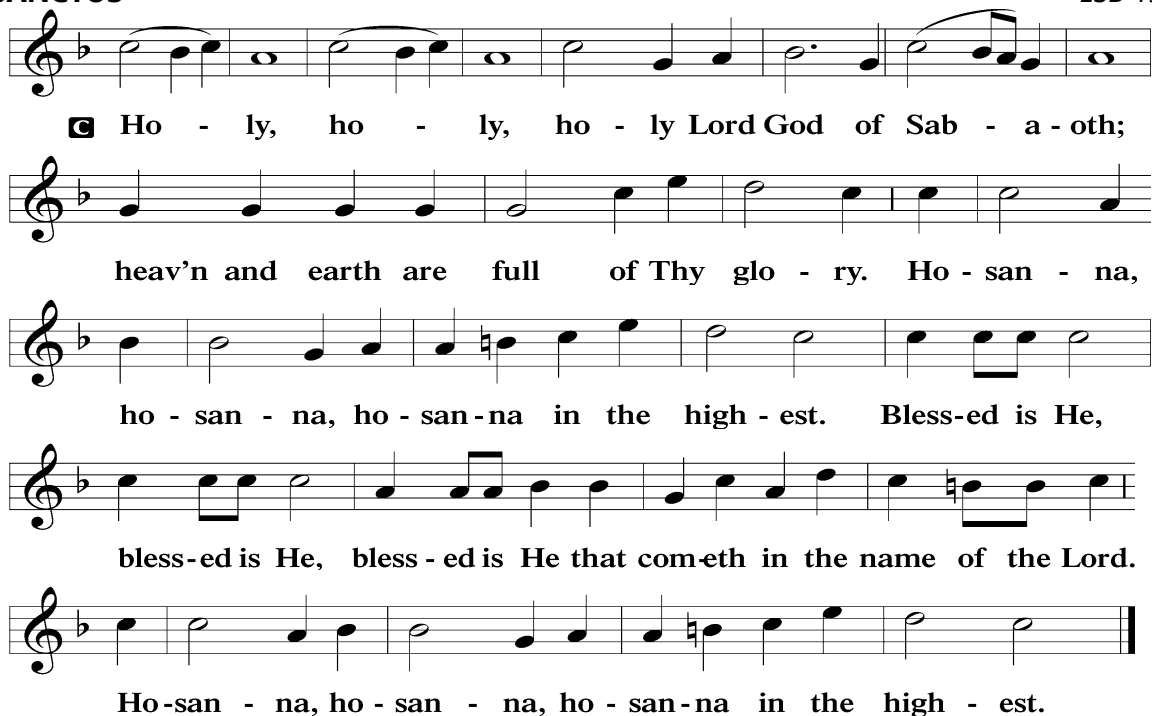
PROPER PREFACE (ABBREVIATED)

LSB 194

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
 ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
 bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
 Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LSB 197

PAX DOMINI

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.

C A - men.

The musical notation for 'Pax Domini' consists of two staves in G major (one sharp, F#). The first staff contains a melody of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, F#5, E5, D5, C5. The second staff contains a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, followed by a whole note G4. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

The musical notation for 'Agnus Dei' consists of five staves in G major (one sharp, F#). The melody is a simple, repetitive phrase: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, F#5, E5, D5, C5. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

DISTRIBUTION

HYMNS

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

LSB 341

O Savior, Rend The Heavens Wide

LSB 355

At The Name Of Jesus

LSB 512

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

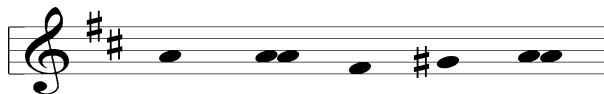
A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us

through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



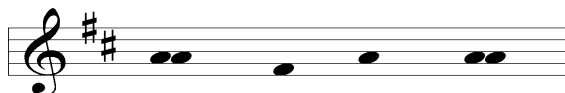
C A - men.



P The Lord be with you.



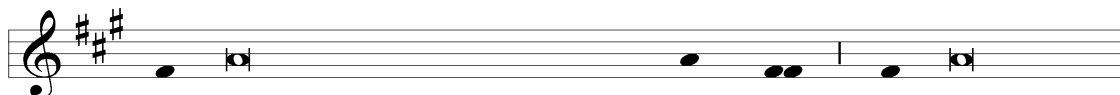
C And with thy spir - it.



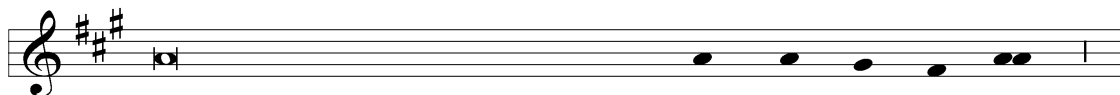
A Bless we the Lord.



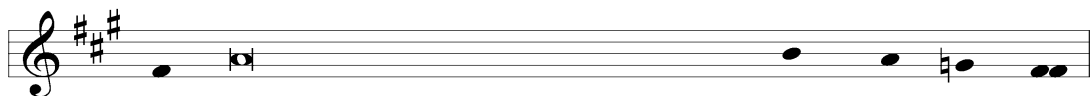
C Thanks be to God.



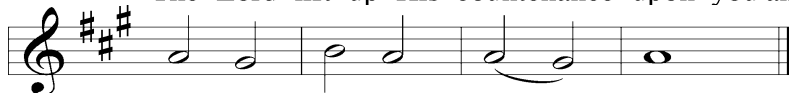
P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN

Prepare The Royal Highway

LSB 343



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing; Your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch-es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Tune: Swedish, 17th cent.

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005669

Tune: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



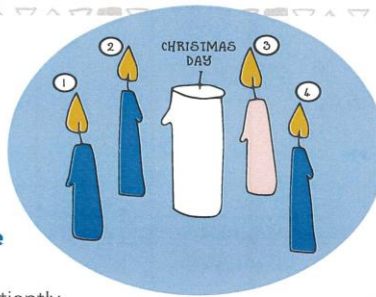
SERVANTS IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY

Officiant: Pastor Dan Torkelson
Organist: Trevor Magness
Elder: Jordan Braasch
Lector: Carl Koehler
Audio/Visual: James Fenske, Barb Koehler
Acolyte: Emma Bluhm
Greeter: Paul Skidmore
Usher Team: Casanova
Camera: Carl Koehler
Altar Guild: Charisse Treece

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What does it mean when four candles have been lit on the Advent wreath?

You've been preparing and patiently waiting for that wonderful day of celebration. When four of the candles on the Advent wreath have been lit, it means that Christmas is almost here! That's right! The day on which we remember the birth of our Savior is right around the corner!



What does this mean to me?

Today is the Fourth Sunday in Advent. Today is the last Sunday of preparation for the birth of Jesus. Next week the Church will celebrate Christmas Day, one of the most important days of the whole year. As you can see, Advent has prepared us for the coming of Jesus, our wonderful Savior from sin!



Parents:

Remind your children of the important part that Advent plays in the lives of all Christians. This is the time in the Church Year that prepares us for the coming of our Savior. Be sure to bring your children to both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.



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Children's Sunday School Christmas Program

December 24, 2025

4:00 pm

Christmas Eve Services

December 24, 2025

4:00 pm – SS Program

6:30 pm – Worship Service

Christmas Day Worship

December 25, 2025

9:00 am