



CHRIST

LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Divine Service

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

✠ December 21, 2025 ✠

“And Called His Name Jesus”

“Joseph is the head of the Holy Family, father of the holy trinity on earth which resembles so closely the Holy Trinity on high.”

—St. Peter Eymard

“I know not how anyone can ponder on the sufferings, trials, and tribulations the Queen of Angels endured whilst caring for Jesus in his childhood, without at the same time thanking St. Joseph for the services he rendered the Divine Child and his Blessed Mother.”

—St. Teresa of Avila

We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today, and pray God’s richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

All members and our guests are asked to complete the worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew. Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex. We are so glad to have you worshipping with us today!

LARGE PRINT worship folders are available at the usher stand at the back of the nave.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion¹, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins², and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal³. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?

Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?

Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?

Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith⁴, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

¹Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

²Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

³1 Corinthians 11:28-32

⁴1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

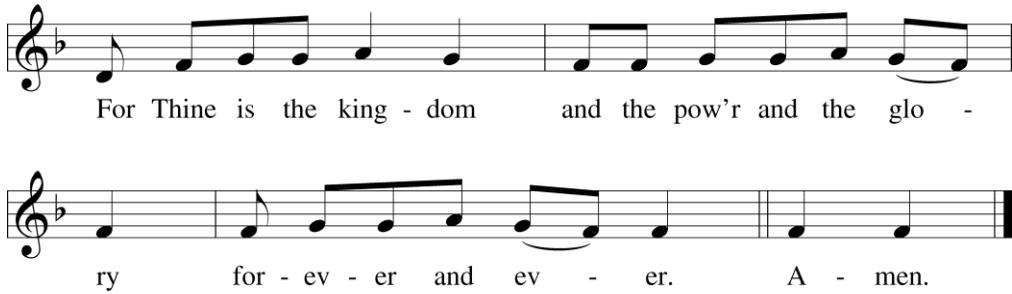
Preface p. 160

Sanctus p. 161

Prayer of Thanksgiving p. 161

Lord's Prayer #957





For Thine is the king - dom and the pow'r and the glo -
 ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord	p. 162
Pax Domini	p. 163
Agnus Dei	p. 163
Distribution Hymns	
O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is	#372
Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness	#636
Nunc Dimittis	p. 165
Post-Communion Collect	p. 166
Benediction	p. 166
Closing Hymn	O Bride of Christ, Rejoice #335



IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

For comfort, health, and recovery:

**Jessica Barber, Christy Chapman, Jana Entrekin, John Garner,
Jennifer Haggard, Angelia Hall, Jim Hansford, Joseph Holleman,
Elaine Johnson, Richard Mullis, Eloise Springer, Nicole Tatum**

For those who mourn:

The Caraway Family, The Rogers Family

For those who are ill or distressed:

**Jenalee Adams, Blair Alford, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L.
Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan
Brown, Hunter Burkhalter, Wayne Burt, Bobby Carroll, Joan
Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers,
Tahlia Ferderer, George Fields, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Tim
Hansen, Faye Hartman, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman,
April Ann Hubmann, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, John Koster,
Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Edlia Miller,
Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Pippin Family, Deborah-Annette
Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Jonnie Pearl Smiley, Bob
Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Eloise Springer, Gary
Stoeckmann, Dana Taquino, Lesley Tatum, Nicole Tatum, Donny
Thomas, Nikki Vines, Leonard Watson, Cynthia Widlitze,
Barbara Zeigler**

For college and graduate students:

Sara Fields, James Hansford

For military servants and their families:

Glen Hansford, James Hansford, Bill Nelson, Steven Tatum

This week's prayer family:

Andy Evers and his loved ones

Serving Today:

Pastor: Rev. George Fields

Acolyte: Nathan Hansford

Interpreter: Denee Smith

Elder: Keith Martin

Organist: Sister Sara Fields

Altar Guild: Sabrina Goodlett

Confirmation of Nathan Brownstein: “We rejoice with thankful hearts,” as the rite says, that Nathan has been confirmed in the baptismal faith! We pray that God would continue His good work in Nathan until the day of its completion in the life of the world to come.

Fond Farewell: Dearest Denee Smith, our long-time sign language interpreter, is retiring from serving Christ Lutheran. Amidst our deep sadness in seeing her go, let us not let her leave without fanfare and outpouring of gratitude! We will celebrate her service and send her off with **a reception directly after today’s Divine Service**. Please join us as we thank God for the wondrous gift He has given us in Denee.

Fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-laaaaaaa! Christmas is not complete without caroling! Join us **tonight** as we spread the merry, Christological cheer. We shall meet **at Newk’s at 5 p.m.** (4450 I 55 N, Jackson, MS 39211) for dinner and begin caroling at several nursing homes at 6 p.m. Caroling books will be provided.

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols: We will hold vigil for the birth of our Lord on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24th. Join us at 6:00 p.m. to meditate upon this most holy miracle!

Christmas Day Divine Service: Celebrate the Holy Nativity with us as we greet our Incarnate Lord on Christmas Day (10:30 a.m.)! See Him present among us upon the altar and partake of Him in Holy Communion.

Christmas Recital & Musical Merry-Making: The annual Christ Lutheran Christmas Recital is coming soon – with a twist! As we enjoy the musical talents God’s given those among us, we will also sing some of our favorite Christmas hymns (a two-week Christmas season is way to short to get in all the good ones!). Join us for all the musical merry-making on **Saturday, January 3rd, at 2:00 p.m.!**

Readings for next Sunday, December 28th, the First Sunday after Christmas:

Introit Jer. 31:15-17; Psalm 111; Isaiah 63:7-14; Galatians 4 :4-7 ; Matthew 2 :13-23.

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This week at Christ Lutheran Church: December 22 – December 28

Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols
Thursday 10:30 a.m. **Christmas Day Divine Service – The Feast of the Nativity**
Sunday 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages
10:30 a.m. **Divine Service – The First Sunday after Christmas**



Issues, Etc.[™]

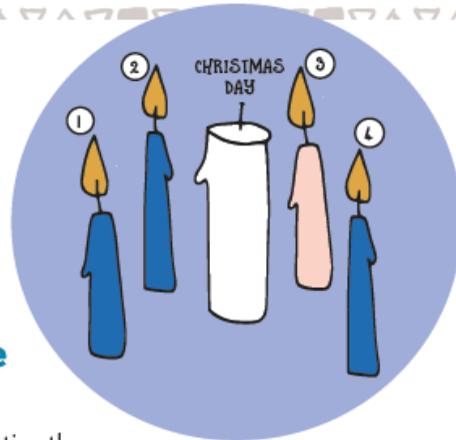
Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio

YOUR LIFELINE TO THE LUTHERAN WORLDVIEW... You can listen to in-depth teachings on interesting subjects like:

SACRED MUSIC FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON... “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come,” “O Jesus Christ, Thy Manger Is,” “Once in Royal David’s City,” “Silent Night, Holy Night,” “Joy to the World,” and more...

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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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