

**FAITH**  
**LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
Love God. Love Others. Serve.



# Second Sunday in *Advent*

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

- 9 a.m.** Traditional Service with organ and choir  
**11:11 a.m.** Contemporary Service with praise band

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Special Singing Holden Evening Prayer**
  - Wednesday, December 10 at 6 p.m.
  - Holden Evening Prayer
  - Cookie Fellowship
  - Children's Ornament Making
- **Advent Prayer with Father Bruce**
  - December 11 at 6 p.m.
  - December 18 at 6 p.m.

**225 JAMESTOWNE BLVD, FARRAGUT, TN, 37934**  
**WWW.FAITHLOVES.ORG**  
**865.966.9626**

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE  
DECEMBER 7, 2025 • 9AM  
2nd Sunday of Advent  
Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Setting 10

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*At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction. From the Lord's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.*

**PRELUDE** *What Star Is This That Beams so Bright*

Faith Bells

**CONFESSION FOR THE ADVENT SEASON**

Pastor: It is Advent, the holy season of preparation.

**Congregation: Prepare the way of the Lord!**

P: Blessed be the One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit + who comes to wake us from sleep, from spiritual darkness, to lead us into the light of grace.

*Silence for confession.*

P: God of all time,

**C: we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

P: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In † Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

**C: Come Lord Jesus. Amen.**

*OUR VISION*

To be an inspired body of Christ.



*OUR MISSION*

Love God. Love Others. Serve.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN** *hymnal 250 (stand)*

***Blessed Be the God of Israel***



1 Bless'd be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free  
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,  
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre - pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree.  
the oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all;  
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de - clared that with a might-y arm  
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise,  
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



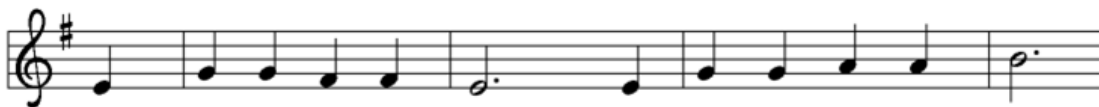
God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.  
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.  
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

**GREETING**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

**KYRIE** *hymnal, page 203*



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.  
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.  
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Assisting Minister: Wake up, wake up. The time of God is near.

**Congregation: We do not know the hour, so we live like the time is here!**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE *hymnal, page 204*



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.

2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.

3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:

Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;

Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.

Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.

For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with You.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray,

**Congregation: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## PARISH NEWS

**FIRST READING Isaiah 11:1-10** *pew Bible, page 627*

Dave Birkholz, Lector

*Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

**PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19** *pew Bible, page 522*

Lector: Give the King your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

**Congregation: May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.**

L: May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

**C: May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.**

L: May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

**C: May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.**

L: In his days may righteousness flourish

**C: and peace abound, until the moon is no more**

L: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**C: Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth. Amen and Amen.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13** *pew Bible, page 1037*

*God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.*

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION FOR THE ADVENT SEASON *hymnal page 205*



### **GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12** *pew Bible, page 880*

*Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

**Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord!**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."<sup>3</sup> This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.<sup>5</sup> Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him,<sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?"<sup>8</sup> Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance,<sup>9</sup> and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.<sup>10</sup> Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.<sup>12</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

**Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ!**

**SERMON:** *Rinse, Lather, Repent*

Pastor Bob Stelter

***Prepare the Royal Highway***



- 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 may 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 will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:  
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!

## NICENE CREED

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we proclaim our faith.

**All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all  
things were made. For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and  
is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father  
and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has  
spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection  
of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS *stand or kneel*

Larry Koran, Assisting Minister

Assistant: 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.

*A brief silence.*

A: In the anticipation of these days, prepare our hearts for your arrival. Stir our spirits through the gifts  
of artists, musicians, poets, and preachers, as together we proclaim your advent among us. God of  
grace,

**Congregation: hear our prayer.**

A: The earth breaks forth in singing as it heralds the Messiah's coming. Fill our hearts with wonder as  
we join heaven and nature in announcing this holy birth. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: You send your saving grace and peace to the nations. Lead us in work for justice and care for the  
common good. May we meet the Christ-child we seek in the faces of our neighbors. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: When tears of grief, exhaustion, or loneliness come, or physical or emotional hurt overwhelms us,  
come to our aid. Uphold all who are anxious, who know the challenges of depression, or who are ill.  
God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Surround expectant parents and those suffering from infant loss with communities of support. Bless  
young children and new parents. Guide us in ways that provide safety for all children and those who  
care for them. God of grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Other intercessions may be offered from the prayer concerns.*

A: We give thanks for all who have treasured the gospel and lived in faithful service. Strengthen our  
earthly journeys until, at the last, your face shines upon us and we are held in your love. God of  
grace,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Individual prayer petitions are invited.*

Pastor: Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through  
Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

**Congregation: Amen.**



MISSION & VISION TEAM UPDATE

William Halsey

CHILDREN'S TALK

Greg Bohlken

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

***THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE***

**Verse 1** This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

**Verse 2** The Light of the World is a'comin', I'm gonna let it shine.  
The Light of the World is a'comin', I'm gonna let it shine.  
The Light of the World is a'comin', I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

**THE PEACE**

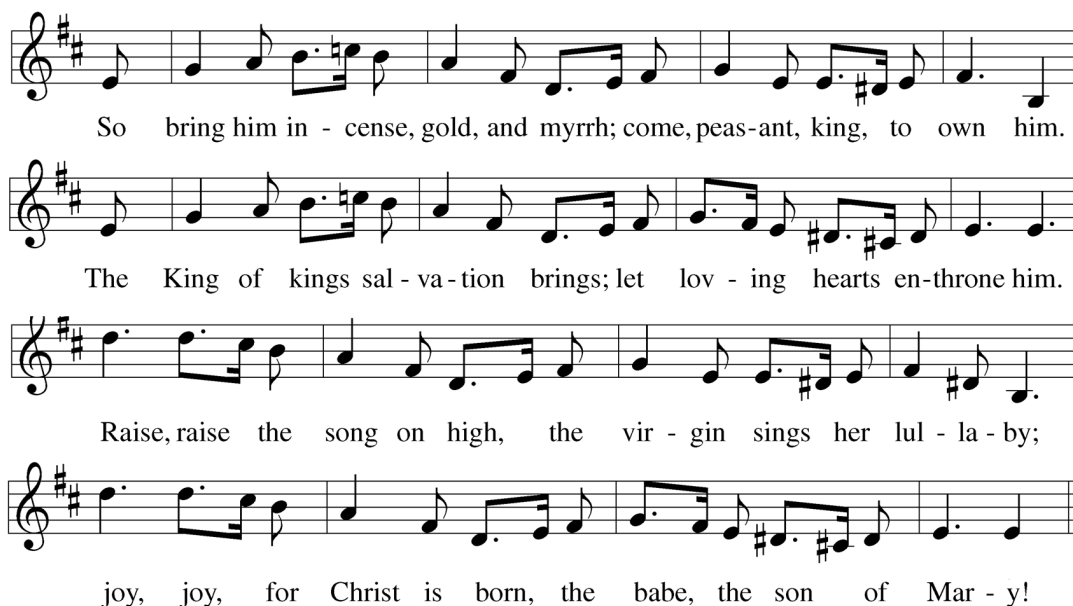
Children: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Congregation:** And also with you.

**OFFERING FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY**

**OFFERING ANTHEM** *Down to the River to Pray* Ken Medema

**OFFERTORY** *What Child is This* hymnal 296



So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.

The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Assistant: Merciful God,

**Congregation:** we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—  
ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious  
love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us,  
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING *Now the Feast & Celebration*

*Pastor:* *Congregation:*

The — Lord be with you. And — al - so 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 God thanks and praise.

## PREFACE FOR THE ADVENT SEASON

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## THE SANCTUS *hymnal, page 207*

### *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR ADVENT

Pastor: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat;  
this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,  
saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you  
and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Congregation: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pastor: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most  
High, one God, now and forever.

**Congregation: Amen**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: With one will and one voice, we pray:

**All: 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION FROM PASTOR STELTER

**LAMB OF GOD** *hymnal, page 208 (seated)*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN** *hymn 249*

***On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry***



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the  
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us  
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
way for God with - in, and let us all our  
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -  
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.  
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

**COMMUNION BLESSING** *stand*

Pastor: Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His Grace.

**Congregation: Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Assisting Minister: Having received this holy communion, let us pray.

**Congregation: Almighty God, pour out your Spirit upon us. Inspire us to have faith toward your and love toward the world. Strengthen us for service. Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Savior of the Nations is coming! Marvel, be strong and get ready. May your heart be His home. Blessings to you † in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit .

**Congregation: Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN** *hymn 254 (stand)*

***Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus***



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev-'ry na - tion, joy of ev-'ry long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer-it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

**SENDING**

Assistant: Prepare the way of the Lord.

**Congregation: We will love God, love others, serve.**

Assistant: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Variations on "Veni Emmanuel"* David Lasky

**WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY**

**ALTAR GUILD** Jen & Dave Ribble

**GREETERS** Debbie & Anthony Ragucci

**USHERS** Jim Hallahan, Craig Runger

**ASSISTING MINISTER** Larry Koran

**LECTOR** Dave Birkholz

**COMMUNION MINISTERS** Mary Beth Hallahan, Greg Bohlken  
Marj West, Lisa Stelter

**PROJECTION & LIGHTS** Doug Bales

*The flowers on the altar are given by **Nancy & Steve Dean** in honor of their grandson **Adam's 2nd birthday**.*

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# Love God. Love Others. Serve.



## PRAYERS

**Members:** Terry Biesboer, Gene Bird, Dave Birkholz, Jan Bishop, Mary Blackburn, Rob Blackburn, Roger Brown, Nancy & Leon Cole, Michael Condon, Myles Cooper, Debbie Courtney, Nancy Dean, Nancy Dickinson, Irene Dorfinger, Patsy Elmore, John Elmore, Karoline Frasch, Pat Gary, Nick Gary, Mary Beth Green, Jonas Greenman, Chip Hester, Deb & Doug Houck, Tom Jayne, Paul Jurkoic, Michael Lee, Bonnie Legako, Lin & Mike McKinley, Harold Peters, Joe Poole, Dr. Ted Primka, Sandra Prior, the Saylor family, John Shoemaker, Pamela Spaar, Bill Steele, Rich Wellner, Jean Witte, John Woods.

**Friends:** Rogan Acuff, App family, Bill Birkholz, Sheila Birkholz, John Burkett, Michael Carfi, Steve Case, Meg Corrigan, Vanessa Coates, Linda Cosby, Michael Condon, Nancy Crain, Michael Damico, Irma DeBord, Shayna DeBord, Dennis family, Carolyn Killhyon, Michelle Dionne, Van Dudley, Brandy & Brian Duke, Dan Edmunds, Favre family, Alanna & Arnie Fenske, Kathi Fenske-Hong, Phylis Garrison, Cindy Gioe, Angél Gobel, Gregory Goodall, Gary Gouzy, Gutelius family, Hale family, Patrick Harvey, Joy Hymer, Christine Johansen, Juniper Johnson, Duane Koran, Barb Korsmo, Dick Korsmo, Darren Lee, Tammy & Mark Leonhart, Loyacano family, Joe May, Jeff McCown, Roger McCown, Tillie Meffert, Josh Nicols, Cynthia & Jack Park, Chris Patrick, Rose & Steve Penney, Ashley Raunch, Shannon Remington, Lois Richardson, Carolyn Russell, Sarah Ryg, Salles families, Marilyn Savilisky, Scaglione family, Richard Sena, Lynn Siegfried & family, Audra Tyler Moore, Frank Tyler, Barb Weldon, Mya, Ro & Haven Wolfe, Kim Yee, Gary Yonke, Mark Zalesky, Zenher family, Aaron & Zionah, Angel & Ben, Cheri & George, Christine, Darcy, Dave, Debbie, Eve, Hayden, Janie, Jodi, Judy, Laura, Lauren, Myra, & Sandra, Stephanie, Tonya, Vanessa, Zoe *and those we name to You.*

**Joyous Welcome New Member:** Jen Page

**Thanksgiving:** for all of the volunteers, bakers, shoppers and crafters who made the 20<sup>th</sup> Cookie Walk a great success.

**Comfort in the midst of death for the family and friends of:** Sarah, Donna Smith, David Jones, Donna Knick, Nick Leonhardt, Ann Sudder, Scheryl Reider.

**Shepherd of Hope Pantry Friends:** Eddie, Faye, Edna, Anne, Max, Savannah, May, Jorge, Johnny, Ease, Vivian, Susan, Brood, Robert, Chris, Alisa, Zachary, Donna, Amber, Kelly, Adrien, Ronnie, Mary, Andrew, Noorjau, Merita, Brook, Tricia & Andrew, Ryan *and those known to God.*

**Salvation Army Friends:** Paula, Julie, Stephanie, Daphne, Elizabeth, Ren, Lisa, Cheryl, Wendy, Al, Gabby, James, Gibby, Jay, Alfredo, Chris, Grant, Grant, Jr., Zyane, Lois, Adam, Jason, Gary, Brandon, Sean, Jason *and those known to God.*

**Concern & Assistance:** Those dealing with addiction while incarcerated. Mentally & physically challenged. Veterans. Refugees and those living in fear of deportation. Persecuted Christians. The people of Jamaica, Nigeria, Iran, Israel, Syria, Palestine, Ukraine, Russia.

**Partnerships:** Bishop Yehiel Curry & the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Bishop Kevin Strickland & the Southeastern Synod; Alicia & David Brondos, Missionaries in Mexico; Seminarian Sam Sosebee; Shepherd of Hope Food Pantry; English Language Learning Classes, Quiet Music Ministry; Tyson House; Deacon Ministry; Knox Area Rescue Ministry; Via de Cristo Ministry; Salvation Army Women's & Men's Homeless Shelters; Street Hope; Cole Center Caregivers and Parkinson Band; Mercy Ships; Lutheran Church & School in Guatemala; AL-ANON; Narcotics Anonymous.

**Peace & Protection for all armed forces, especially:** Jacob Cole, Kyleigh Cole, Anthony Hu, HM, Andrew McDonald, Alex Primka, Christine Russ, Sam Thompson, Chris Yonke, Mitchell Yount.

### Church Council Leadership Team

Stephen Dean, President

David Mabry, Vice President

Mary Bales

Laura Beardsley, Secretary

Carrie Parrott, Treasurer

Ritchie Case

Connie Rist

Dawn Titsworth

Pastor Stelter

# Love God. Love Others. Serve.

*As followers of Jesus, we rejoice in God's plan for a just, loving and peaceful world. We commit ourselves to making it a reality for all people everywhere. Just as all are welcome at the Lord's table during holy communion, all are welcome to this family of faith. People of all races, ages, social status, sexual orientations and gender identities are united here in our mission to love God, Love Others, Serve.*

## DECEMBER 7



### **Theme: Second Sunday In Advent**

*Worship will include the ceremonial lighting of the Advent wreath. The sermon will focus on John the Baptist's call to repentance and readiness.*

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**If you are new,** please sign a worship card and place it in the offering plate.

### **DIG IN, GROW DEEP, LEARN WITH OTHERS.**

*Sunday School Classes  
held at 10:15 a.m.*

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**Adult Bible Class:** The Holy Land Revealed – In the classroom side of the Cup

**Teen Sunday School (6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade):** In the Youth Room

**Confirmation Class (8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> grade):** In the Library

**Children's Sunday School for 5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger:**

- Ye Littles of Faith for Kindergarten and younger in East hallway classroom next to Nursery
- The Mighty Kids Kingdom for 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grades in West hallway classroom, 2 doors past youth room

**Tuesday Bible Study (Open to All):** In the classroom side of the Cup

### **NURSERY**



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**Jesus welcomed everyone—and so do we!** Children are a cherished part of our church family.

Coloring pages are available near the center doors, and a staffed nursery is open on Sundays down the hall by the restrooms (with a convenient diaper changing station). For parents who'd like to stay with their little ones, our Cry Room at the back of the Sanctuary offers a comfortable space with a nursing area, diaper changing station, and full view of the service so you can participate in worship together.

Love God. Love Others. Serve.

# EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



## EVENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 7

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

- 9 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
- 10:15 a.m. Bible Study/Sunday School Classes
- 10:15 a.m. English Language Class
- 11:11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service
- 3 p.m. Farragut Christmas Parade Staging
- 5 p.m. N.A. Gathering and Potluck

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

- 12 p.m. Via de Cristo Reunion
- 6:15 p.m. English Language Class

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

- 1:30 p.m. Bible Study (Open to all)
- 6:30 p.m. Spirituality Book Club
- 7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

- 5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Advent Event
- 6:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

- 6 p.m. Evening Prayer with Father Bruce
- 7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

- 7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

- 11 a.m. Al-Anon

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

- 9 a.m. Traditional Worship Service
- 10:15 a.m. Bible Study/Sunday School
- 11:11 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service



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Faith Guest wi-fi password: *beblessed*

## DAILY LECTIONARY READINGS THIS WEEK

**Monday:** Isaiah 24:1-16, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12, Psalm 21

**Tuesday:** Isaiah 41:14-20, Romans 15:14-21, Psalm 21

**Wednesday:** Genesis 15:1-18, Matthew 12:33-37, Psalm 21

**Thursday:** Ruth 1:6-18 2, Peter 3:1-10, Psalm 146:5-10

**Friday:** Ruth 4:13-17, 2 Peter 3:11-18, Psalm 146:5-10

**Saturday:** Isaiah 40:1-11, John 1:19-28, Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

**Sunday:** 1 Samuel 2:1-8, Luke 3:1-18, Psalm 146:5-10

### Faithful Response

Offerings last week: **\$ 62,480**

Offerings year to date: **\$ 779,005**



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