WELCOME!

We are happy you have chosen to worship at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd! Please use this bulletin as a guide for today's liturgy. Join us for treats after worship!

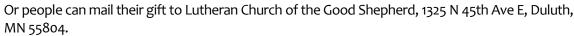
PARENTS & KIDS: We have a few special things to help children enjoy worship:

- Children's Chapel is at the back of the sanctuary with a bookshelf filled with books and other activities. You are welcome to bring a Bible into worship with you today!
- In the back of the sanctuary are Joy Bags filled with fun activities for younger kids.
- Come sit in the front of the sanctuary so your child can see everything that's happening!
- Please come up front for the Children's Sermon! (Parents, you are welcome to come up with your child to help them feel more comfortable.)

We love to have children in worship, but we also understand that sometimes kids need a break.

For more information about LCGS go to www.lcgsduluth.org You will find a sign up for a weekly e-mail of events and updates!

People can give online by going to www.onrealm.org/LCGSDuluth/Give. You can text LCGSDULUTH to 73256 followed by the gift amount, to give online through text.



LCGS Office is open: office@lcgsduluth.org

Monday – Thursday 9am-4pm Friday 9am – noon

Pastor Lisa Buchanan is in the office Monday – Wednesday and working from home on Thursdays. Please call/email to make an appointment if you would like to meet with her and have her full attention! interim@lcgsduluth.org or 218-525-1922

Katie Rich, Director of Faith Formation

has varied hours to meet the schedules of families and programs, especially in the summer! Contact: KatieRich.lcgs@gmail.com

Announcements: Amie Abenth communications@lcgsduluth.org



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

A Community of Christ Experiencing God, Reaching Out, Nurturing Faith 1325 North 45th Avenue East · Duluth MN 55804 218.525.1922, office@lcgsduluth.org, www.lcgsduluth.org

Pastor Lisa Flinn Buchanan

Katie Kaiser Rich- Director of Faith Formation; Parker Hinnenkamp –Cantor; Christine Whitcomb- Office Manager; Amie Abenth- Communications Coordinator- Greg Susens, Custodian

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd Second Sunday in Advent - December 7, 2025

INTRODUCTION

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 – signs that the kingdom of God has come near.

*asterisk indicates where to stand, as able

PRELUDE The Huron Carol WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, (+) one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

C: Amen.

SCAN ME

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: 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. **C: Amen.**

*HYMN "Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

ELW 256

*PRAYER TO LIGHT THE ADVENT WREATH (light two candles)

P: We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent

C: As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness.

P: Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us.

C: Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² 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.

³ 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,

⁴ 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.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ 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.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ 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.

L: Here ends the reading.

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

⁴Whatever 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. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ 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 ⁹ 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";

¹⁰ and again he says, "Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people"; ¹¹ and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";

¹² and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope."

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, Dec. 14: -The Sunday School Christmas Program during worship (9:30 am)

followed by the Advent Workshop!

Christmas Eve Worship Schedule Wednesday, December 24th

2:30PM

4:30PM

9:00PM

There will be no Christmas Day worship.

Sunday, Dec. 28th 9:30am worship - Lessons and Carols

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

This Week at LCGS!

December 7, Sunday SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

(Sunday School AFTER WORSHIP) 9:30AM Worship 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship 10:30 Sunday School Christmas Program Practice

December 8, Monday

9:00AM –4:00PM Quilters 9:00AM Growing Little Loves 10:30AM Growing Little Loves 4:00PM Music lessons with Cantor Parker 6:00pm Bluestone Dance group

December 9, Tuesday

9:00AM Growing Little Loves 4:00PM Music lessons with Cantor Parker 6:00PMBrass Rehearsal

December 10, Wednesday

7:00AM Men's Bible Study 9:30AM Growing Little Loves

December 11, Thursday

9:30AM Women's Faith Study 9:30AM Growing Little Loves 1:00PM Al-Anon 2:30PM Music lessons with Cantor Parker 7:00PM AA

December 12, Friday

8:00AM Women's "Son"rise Bible Conversation (ZOOM)

December 13, Saturday

11:00 AM to 7:00 PM Salvation Army Bell Ringing at Cub

December 14, Sunday THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

9:30AM Worship -Sunday School Christmas Program 10:30AM Coffee Fellowship Our former LCGS Pastor and NE Minnesota Synod Bishop Roger Munson has passed away. His funeral service will be here at Good Shepherd on January 15th. We are so grateful for his ministry and legacy in the area and we pray for comfort for Roger and Helen's loved ones.

Spirited Faith - Individuals or couples in your 30s-50s (*looking at you Gen X and Millennials!*) are invited for fellowship and *casual* faith conversation with Pastor Lisa at Lake Superior Brewing Company on Wednesday, Wednesday, December 17th beginning at 6pm. This will be an opportunity to process life in the company of good people who also value faith and meaning in life. A respectful and nonjudgmental atmosphere is the expectation, as well as purchasing something at LSBC so we can have tables for free. If you have any questions, please text Pastor Lisa at 218-390-5489.



GIVING TREE! We are working with LifeHouse again this year and doing gift certificates! They would like \$20 or \$40 gift certificates and we need them back to the church no later than December 14th. The gift cards to Walmart, Target, Walgreens, and Super 1, don't need to be wrapped. It is just nice to have the tag attached to them. Thank you!!!

Thank you all who brought food for CHUM at the cross in the entry of the main doors!! it is a spot to leave food anytime you have a chance! Thank you also to JEFF PACKER who picked up a big delivery and brought it to CHUM! He wanted to share with everyone that it was 177 pounds!

We also have 2 containers of Snacks for Schools that are in need of refills! if you have a chance to pick up healthy individual packed snack boxes, bring them to the office THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!

Hola!! Our Synod Honduras Leadership Team is scheduling a Honduras Fiesta to celebrate 15 Years of Companion Synod accompaniment with the Lutheran Church in Honduras. It will be held at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in west Duluth on January 17 from 12-3. The Fiesta will feature past and future partnership with our brothers and sisters in Honduras. A meal of tacos, beans and rice, dessert and horchata will be served by "Oasis del Norte." The cost will be \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 6-12, and under 6 free.

by the power of the Holy Spirit.

L: Here ends the reading.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Sung to O Come, O Come Emmanuel)

O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh; in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

*GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³ 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.'"

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁷ 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? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ 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. ¹⁰ 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.

¹¹ "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. ¹² 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."

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN "All Are Welcome"

ELW 641

RITE OF BAPTISM for June Marie Klevin, daughter of Mollie and Grant Kleven ELW p. 227

*SHARING THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share a sign of God's peace with one another.

OFFERING

"Reprise: All Are Welcome"



L: 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.

L: With wisdom and understanding, inspire the faithful around the world. Unite hearts and minds in work to address poverty, access to housing, and equity among peoples. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: With counsel and might, move us to care for creation. As we dream of the day when all creatures will flourish alongside one another, guide us in ways humanity and all creation will mutually thrive. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: With righteousness and faithfulness, encourage nations to live in harmony with one another. We pray for international student and teacher exchanges, for our partner churches, and sister synods in Honduras, India and Russia. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease. Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery and medical procedures. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

L: With welcome and hospitality, embolden us in our shared ministry to overcome all that divides. In acts of repentance, reconciliation, and reparation, may we serve in the way of Christ. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

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

C: Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Give now online



*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.

C: Amen.

*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN "Prepare the Royal Highway" #264

POSTLUDE An Advent Suite

Thank you all our volunteers who signed up this morning and the following who prepare ahead!

Projections Preparer Bruce Johnson
Projectionist Jody Keppers
Streaming Brian Fischer

Hospitality Amy Loken Next week: Jess Kramer



Today we welcome Mollie and Grant Kleven's daughter,

June Marie Kleven

into the body of Christ and into the mission we share. Join us in giving thanks and praise to God!

SUNDAY SCHOOL FAMILIES! Our Sunday School Christmas Program will be next Sunday, Dec. 14 during our 9:30 am worship service.

The day of the program, we just ask that you arrive a little early to find your costumes, etc... (5th and 6th grade readers will meet at 8:45 am to finalize reading assignments.) And after the program on Dec. 14, we would love to have you stay for our "Advent Workshop." We have six creative craft stations planned. You don't have to do it all, but there are some great ornaments and decorations that you might hold onto for many years to come.

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