

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH www.stjohnhamlin.org

ADVENT MIDWEEK 2

"All About Mary: She Was Betrothed to a Man"

December 10, 2025 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM Services



AS WE GATHER

During Advent, we wait *for* Jesus, *with* Jesus. The darkest part of the year is brightened by the hope that the Savior who came for the world once is coming again. And we do not wait alone. Together, the whole Christian Church is accompanied in this waiting by the Christ who promises to be with His people always. Jesus' mother, the virgin Mary, knows a lot about waiting. With pregnant anticipation, Mary waited *for* Jesus, the promised Messiah who would reign from David's throne forever. But Mary was always waiting *with* Jesus, the Son of the Most High nestled within her womb. Throughout this Advent, we will listen with Mary, sing with Mary, and wait with Mary. Because, on darkest days, the Christ comes as near to you as He did to Mary to wait *with* you for the glorious sunrise that's coming.

Today we shall learn more about our Savior, Jesus, by learning about Mary's husband, Joseph. Jesus, true man, was raised and taught by a human father, Joseph, a faithful husband for Mary.

OPENING SENTENCES *Isaiah 7:14; Jeremiah 33:16*

Pastor: The Lord Himself will give you a sign.

People: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and

shall call His name Immanuel.

Pastor: In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will

dwell securely.

People: And this is the name by which it will be called: "The

LORD is our righteousness."

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ★ Son and of the Holy

Spirit.

People: Amen.

During the hymn, the Advent candles may be lit.

HYMN "My Soul Rejoices" LSB 933 v. 1

PSALM Psalm 61; antiphon: v. 2

Pastor: From the end of the earth I call to You when my heart is

faint.

People: Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

Pastor: Hear my cry, O God,

People: listen to my prayer.

Pastor: For You have been my refuge,

People: a strong tower against the enemy.

Pastor: Let me dwell in Your tent forever!

People: Let me take refuge under the shelter of Your wings!

Pastor: For You, O God, have heard my vows;

People: You have given me the heritage of those who fear Your name.

Pastor: Prolong the life of the king;

People: may his years endure to all generations!

Pastor: May he be enthroned forever before God;

People: appoint steadfast love and faithfulness to watch over

him!

Pastor: So will I ever sing praises to Your name,

People: as I perform my vows day after day.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: From the end of the earth I call to You when my heart is

faint.

People: Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, from the house of Your servant David You raised up Joseph to be the guardian of Your incarnate Son and the husband of His mother, Mary. Grant us grace to follow the example of this faithful workman in heeding Your counsel and obeying Your commands; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

FIRST READING

Hosea 2:18-23

(The faithful Lord shows mercy on Israel in an unbreakable vow of righteousness, justice, and steadfast love.)

¹⁸ And I will make for them a covenant on that day with the beasts of the field, the birds of the heavens, and the creeping things of the ground. And I will abolish the bow, the sword, and war from the land, and I will make you lie down in safety. ¹⁹ And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. ²⁰ I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the LORD.

²¹ "And in that day I will answer, declares the LORD, I will answer the heavens, and they shall answer the earth,

²² and the earth shall answer the grain, the wine, and the oil, and they shall answer Jezreel,

²³ and I will sow her for myself in the land.

And I will have mercy on No Mercy, and I will say to Not My People, 'You are my people'; and he shall say, 'You are my God.'"

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Matthew 1:18-25

(After a visit from the Lord's messenger, Joseph displays his faithfulness to his betrothed and to his God.)

¹⁸ Now 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. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But 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. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All 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). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN "My Soul Rejoices" LSB 933 v. 2

SERMON

OFFERING

PRAYERS

Pastor: Son of David and Son of Joseph, Your arrival fulfills every promise ever made by the Lord, our God. Teach us to know You as the joy of every longing heart, that we might kneel before You, just as Your earthly guardian Joseph

knelt beside Your manger, in trust that You hear our prayers and will bring us deliverance.

O holy Child of Nazareth, You learned and grew in the house of a carpenter. Build every father within Your great family into an honorable man, sacrificing for the sake of their household and leading them in holiness for the sake of Your name. Particularly bless fathers who have a troubled relationship with their children; heal their hurts and bind them in kindness and love. Son of Joseph,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Incarnate Son of God, You dwelt among sawdust and splinters. Bless all those whose work is difficult and dangerous and take under Your protection all who put their hands to any useful task. Sustain the commerce and industry of this nation. Give all who work the just rewards for their labor and the knowledge that their work is a blessing in Your sight. Son of sweat and toil,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Son of heaven's splendor, You came into our world yet had no place to lay Your head. Mercifully care for the homeless, the hungry, the poor, the unemployed, the lonely, the sick, and the troubled of mind and heart.

Relieve their want, provide for their livelihood, and make their needs known that Your servants might bring to them the blessings of Your hand. Son of suffering,

People: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.

CLOSING SENTENCES Luke 1:49, alt.

Pastor: He who is mighty has done great things for me.

People: Holy is His name.

Pastor: To God – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – be all

honor and glory in His holy church, forever and ever.

People: Amen. Christ died! Christ is risen! Christ shall come

again!

BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24–26

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

HYMN "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child" LSB 374 v.2

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ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH 1107 LAKE ROAD WEST FORK HAMLIN, NY 14464

www.stjohnhamlin.org 585-964-2550

12/10/2025 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Pastor: Rev. Christian Bode

Elders: Jim MacMaster 1:00 PM, Jonathan Marriott 7:00 PM

Trustee: Van Nettnin 1:00 PM, Randy Paap 7:00 PM

Musician: Lillian Meyer 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Scarlett Aeckerle 7:00 PM

Reader: Tracey Unterborn 1:00 PM Cindy Metherell 7:00 PM

Altar Guild: Dian Bannister, Kelly Foos

Greeters: Jim & Yvonne MacMaster 1:00 PM

Randy & Lynn Paap 7:00 PM

Finance: Marianne Heise, Gay LaDue, Terry Rath, Tracey

Unterborn

Ushers: Steve Baase, Corky Beadle, Brian Rath, Wes Miller

1:00 PM Larry Hueser, Jim Raymond 7:00 PM



BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE 12/14 AT 3:00 PM

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

4:00 PM FAMILY SERVICE / PUPPETS

7:00 PM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

11:00 PM CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

