



Welcome to worship!

First Lutheran Church

Office Hours: Mon - Fri: 8am - 4pm

651-345-5003 • info@firstlc.org • firstlc.org

Pastors: Paul Miller, Kary Jonas

Coordinator of Children's Ministry: Sara Thompson

Music Administrator and Organist: Kerstin Suby

Congregational Administrator: Jennifer White

Custodian: Loren Prigge

Prelude

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

arr. by Chip Davis

GATHERING

Welcome/Announcements

Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony - Fourth Candle

Song *Hope is a Star* (Choir begins, then Congregation sings.)

Choir: Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn, telling the world that the Savior is born. Love is a flame that burns in our hearts. Jesus has come and will never depart.



When God is a child there's joy in our song, The last shall be



first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall



be a - fraid, none shall be a - fraid.

Congregation:

P. In this season of Advent, we remember that Christ's coming will bring us love. For those who are forsaken and alone

Christ will bring us love.

For those who are angry and hostile

Christ will bring us love.

For those who have turned away from personal interaction

Christ will bring us love.

For those who are pariahs, touched by scandal

Christ will bring us love.

Candle Lighting & Prayer

Song *Hope Is a Star* (Congregations sings lyrics above)

Prayer

Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

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

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 your 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.

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

p. 147

Prayer of the Day

Choir Anthem

Breath of Heaven

Senior Choir

WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

L: Word of God, word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

² **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.**

4 O Lord God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?

5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

7 Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

17 Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.

18 And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

19 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Second Reading

Romans 1:1-7

L: Word of God, word of Life.

: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Prepare the Royal Highway

#264 v.1

Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Kary

Hymn of the Day

O Come, O Come Emmanuel #257 vs. 1-4

Prayers of Intercession

P: God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Peace

Offering / Offertory

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

arr. by Anne Krentz Organ

Offering Response

We Are Waiting for Jesus

ACS #905 v.1

MEAL

Great Thanksgiving p. 152

Sanctus p. 153

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer p. 154

Lamb of God p. 154

Communion

All who desire to receive the body and blood of Christ are welcome at the table.

Communion Hymns

Remember

Senior Choir

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

#265

SENDING

Blessing & Benediction

Sending Hymn

Joy to the World

#267

Dismissal

P: Go in hope, peace, joy, and love to serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Joy to the World

arr. by Hugo Gehrke

Thank you to those who shared their time and talents this morning:

Lectors: Lily Miller

Greeters: Claire Gnotke & Family

Acolyte: Liam Roberson

Lighting of Advent Candles:

Communion Assistants: Parker Atkinson & Brody Fick

Ushers: Avery Ohlhaber & Krystal Krage

Altar: Liz Enger & Kathie Majerus

Sound/Video: Heath Oeltjen, Cheryl Luettinger, Julie Deschneau, Randy Zanto

Tech Student Assistant: Miranda Koehler

Coffee:

This Week at FLC:

Dec. 21 - Worship, 9am; No Sunday School

Dec. 22 - No Scouts

Dec. 23 - No Quilters

Dec. 24 - No Bible Study; Christmas Candlelight Worship, 3pm & 5pm

Dec. 25 - Christmas Day Worship, 9am

Dec 26 - Church Office Closed

Dec. 27 - Iglesia Rehearsal, 3-5pm

Dec. 28 - Worship, 9am, No Sunday School

Dec. 30 - Last Day for End of Year Giving

Dec. 31 - No Bible Study; Church Office Closed

Jan. 1 & 2 - Church Office Closed

Christmas Poinsettias If you ordered a Poinsettia, they can be picked up after any of the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day worship services or after worship on Dec. 28.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study We will not be meeting on 12/24 or 12/31. Wednesday morning Bible Study will reconvene at 8:30am on January 7, 2026

ELCA Good Gifts Update We have collected over \$400 for this ELCA World Hunger appeal. You can still buy a life sustaining gift for families and villages throughout the world in honor of a friend or family member. Donate a flock of chicks, goat, piglet, honeybees, or a cow. Give a village clean water with water filters, an irrigation system, or even a latrine. Send a girl to school or stock a backpack with food. Indicate **"Good Gifts" and what you'd like to buy** on your check or electronic giving to First Lutheran. We'll send in one large contribution to ELCA World Hunger closer to Christmas.

Weekly FLC Connections Announcements & Monthly Newsletters are sent via email. If you are not receiving them, please contact Jennifer White to be added (jennifer.white@firstlc.org) or call the office at 651-345-5003. If you'd prefer to have the monthly newsletter mailed to you, ask to be added to the mailing list.

Keep in prayer: LeAnn Fuchs (niece of Arlene Johnson), Carl Kozlowski, Wayne & Monica Schmidt (cousin of Dale Nibbe), Cheryl Goudy (Sue Benson's sister), Kathy Walstrom (daughter of Eloise Blattner), Patricia A. McMahan (cousin of Dale Nibbe), Lucy Youngren (great-niece of Mavis Hawkins), Cheryl Luettinger, Jan Olson, Gary Sawyer (Dana Sawyer's husband).

