



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

Prepare the Royal Highway

arr. by Zach Unke

GATHERING

Welcome/Announcements

Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony - First Candle

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

Choir: Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright. Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth, giving a promise of safety and worth.

Congregation:



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 - afraid, none shall be a - afraid.

P: In this season of Advent, we remember that Christ is coming to bring us hope. For those of us bound by bitterness and anger

C: Christ is coming to bring us hope.

P: For those of us feeling trapped and misunderstood

C: Christ is coming to bring us hope.

P: For those of us burdened by ceaseless worry

C: Christ is coming to bring us hope.

P: For those of us whose lives feel out of control

C: Christ is coming to bring us hope.

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

Senior Choir Anthem

Evermore
Kerstin Suby, violin

WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

L: Word of God, word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 122

¹ I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

² **Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³ Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

⁴ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.**

⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

⁶ **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.**

⁷ Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.

⁸ **For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.**

⁹ Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good.”

Second Reading

Romans 13:11-14

L: Word of God, word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Prepare the Royal Highway

#264 v.1

Gospel Reading

Matthew 24:36-44

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 24th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Paul

Hymn of the Day

Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flying

#436

Prayers of Intercession

P: God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

Peace

Offering / Offertory

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

arr. by Mary Howarth

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

Rejoice, Rejoice Believers #244

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning ACS #949

SENDING

Blessing & Benediction

Sending Hymn *Hark, the Glad Sound!* #239

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Keep awake

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers arr. by Aaron David Miller

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

Lectors: Parker Atkinson & Nolan Kohrs

Greeters: Atticus Alkire & Family

Acolyte: Ramsey Meyer

Communion Assistants: Reid Meyer & Bennet Kohrs

Ushers: Brody Fick & Miranda Koehler

Altar: Sandy Bendickson & Kathie Majerus

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

Sounds Visual Student Assistant: Lily Miller

Coffee: Janet & Jeff Chestnut and Jenny Gabor

This Week at FLC:

Nov. 30 - No Sunday School, Advent by Candlelight, 5:30pm

Dec. 1 - Book Group, 9am; Cub Scouts, 6:30pm; Troop 94, 7pm

Dec. 2 - Staff Synod Advent Event, 8:30am, Scouts Committee, 6pm

Dec. 3 - Bible Study, 8:30am; KFC 3pm; Bells, 5:15pm;

Confirmation, 6pm; Worship, 6:30pm; Christmas Tree Decorating, 7pm;
Senior Choir, 7pm

Dec 5 - Hispanic Inclusion Event, 5pm

Dec. 6 - Iglesia Rehearsal, 3-5pm

Dec. 7 - Worship, 9am (Jameson Carroll Baptism); Sunday School, 10am

Weekly Bible Study Pastor Paul or Pastor Kary lead a weekly Bible Study at 8:30am on Wednesdays. The topic follows the lectionary and is often a deeper dive discussing the gospel lesson from the previous Sunday. All are welcome to join us any Wednesday throughout the year.

A Mitten Tree will go up the week. First Lutheran Church is partnering with the Lake City Kiwanis Toy Project. Participating families have indicated clothing needs for each child in their family. Watch for the mitten tree and more directions by next Sunday.

Thank you to Randy Meincke for his end of the season preparation of our church grounds for winter. The lawn has been fertilized and the last of the leaves have been removed. And to **Dale Nelson** who transformed the front of the church and columbarium area from a lovely fall motif to festive Christmas décor. Thank you both for your time and effort to make our grounds and entrance look so welcoming!

A Christmas Tree will be arriving next week. Thank you to **Tim & Jenny Schlagenhaft** for donating a real Christmas tree again this year and to the **9th grade Confirmation students and families** for decorating the tree and our church in preparation for Jesus' birth.

Birthday Cake for Jesus Mary Santelman and friends invite you to Coffee Fellowship next week, Dec. 7 to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ with birthday cake and fellowship.

Sunday School Christmas Program Join us on Dec. 14 as the Sunday School students share the Christmas story with the congregation during our regular 9am worship service.

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. McMahon (cousin of Dale Nibbe), Lucy Youngren (great-niece of Mavis Hawkins), the McGovern family, Jake Suckow.