



HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Anchored in His Word
1st Sunday of Advent

Order of Worship

December 1, 2024

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace. **Amen.**

Let us come before God in confession.

Silence is kept for reflection.

To you, O God, **we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen**

Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of + Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near. **Amen**

Opening Hymn

Fling Wide the Door

ELW 259

Greeting

From the one who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ, the first fruits of the resurrection, grace and peace be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray together. Stir up your power, **Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Blessing of the Advent Wreath

We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen**

Why have we gathered here? **To be alert!**

What are we looking for? **The coming of Jesus.**

What candle are we lighting? **We light the candle of Hope!**

*While the candle is lighted, the congregation sings the first verse of
"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"*

ELW 240

[Sit]

Youth Message

"My God, I Put My Trust in You!"

Choral Anthem

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

Lloyd Larson

The Luther Singers

First Lesson

Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Response: Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 25:1-10

(Congregation speaks together.)

¹To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,

nor let my enemies triumph over me.

³Let none who look to you be put to shame;

rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your ways, O LORD,

and teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation;

in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,

for they are from everlasting.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;

remember me according to your steadfast love

and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD;

therefore you teach sinners in your way.

⁹You lead the lowly in justice

and teach the lowly your way.

¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness

to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

Second Lesson

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Response: Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia Verse

[Stand]

**Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia!**

Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord**



Luke 21:25-36

Jesus said: ²⁵There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Response: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ**

[Sit]

Sermon

"People Get Ready..."

[Stand]

Hymn of the Day

Christ, Be Our Light

ELW 715

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the
right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

Prayers

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence.

[After each petition, the congregation responds with: **Receive our prayer.**]

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen**

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

(The congregation is asked to greet one another with the words of Christ: "Peace be with you.")

Offering

[Sit]

Offertory

[Stand]

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray together. Creator God, **you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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 him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy . . . *(Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

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.

Lord's Prayer

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

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

[Sit]

Communion

All are welcome at the Lord's table.

We're nourished together by the body and blood of our Lord.

Communion Hymns

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

ELW 494

Lord of All Hopefulness

ELW 765

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

ELW 800

Post-Communion Canticle

[Stand]

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ry one what he has done.

Let ev'ry one who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.

He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy

With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray together. Generous God, **we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation.**

We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen

Hymn

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

ELW 244

Benediction

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for the journey,
+ bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen**

“The Peace of God”

Whatsoever things are honest,
 whatsoever things are true,
Whatsoever things are pure and lovely,
 think on these things.
Whatsoever things are wholesome,
 whatsoever things are good,
If there be any virtue, be any praise,
 think on these things.
And the peace of God
 that passes all understanding
Shall keep your hearts,
 shall keep your minds
 on Jesus Christ.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“Our worship is ended; our service and our witness continue!”

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Prayer List

In addition to those named during worship today, a full prayer list is available in *the anchor*.

Today's Heavenly Helpers

* Assisting Minister	8:15 service	Carol Townsend
	10:45 service	Ellen Hancock
* Church Pianist		Sandy Hunter
* Choir Director		Matt Newton
* Lector	8:15 service	John Kilpatrick
	10:45 service	Janice Weber
* Greeters	10:45 service	Leon & June Edgemon
* Ushers	10:45 service	Mike Hoover & LeRoy Polk
* Communion Assistant	10:45 service	Janice Weber
* Counters		Mary Leyden & Mike Hoover

Last week's attendance, in person and streaming: 143

Calendar of Events for This Week

Monday	- Knitting & Crochet ministry, 2 PM
Tuesday	- Men's Bible Study/Elijay, 9 AM, Mike's Restaurant - Ladies Bible Study, 12:15
Wednesday	- Food Pantry, 10 AM-12:30 PM - Choir rehearsal, 6 PM
Thursday	- Quilters, 10 AM - Co-ed Bible Study, 2 PM
Friday	- Ye Olde Funsters, 10 AM to carpool
Saturday	- Ladies Christmas Luncheon, 11:30 AM

Next Week's Scripture Readings Are...

Old Testament – Malachi 3:1-4
Psalmody – Luke 1:68-79
Epistle – Philippians 1:3-11
Gospel – Luke 3:1-6

Mid-Week Altar Guild –

Next Week's Worship Assistants Are...

8:15 **Lector** - Jan Austin
10:45 **Lector** - Judy Kruger
Greeters - Art & Wanda Dodge
Ushers - Janice Weber & Jeannine Sieck
Communion Asst - Judy Kruger
Counters - Eileen Ashley & Karen Baker

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Poinsettias for Christmas

If you'd like to sponsor a poinsettia plant (or two) for this year's Christmas decorations at Hope, please sign up on the sheets on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please indicate either "in honor of" or "in memory of" special people in your life. The cost for each plant is \$12.00 this year. You can place your check in the offering plate.

Please note: names written on offering envelopes might be unintentionally overlooked. Please use the signup sheet in the narthex.

Ye Olde Funsters

The next outing for Ye Olde Funsters will be this Saturday, December 6th. Meet at the church at 10 AM. to carpool to Murphy, NC. For details or questions, call Jack O'Donovan at 706-669-1285.

Ladies Christmas Luncheon

The Ladies of Hope will gather for their Christmas luncheon next Saturday, December 7th, at 11:30 AM in Founders Hall. Thanksgiving and Christmas are less than a month apart this year so schedules are full! After much thought, this year's theme will be "Keep it Simple!" We will share soup, finger sandwiches, munchies and, of course, desert. Also, please bring a gift for the traditional gift exchange.

Remember to "Keep it simple:" a dozen homemade Christmas cookies, homemade fudge, anything chocolate, a craft item... simple.

Christmas Cantata on December 15th

On Sunday, December 15th, we will worship together at 10 AM as the choir presents their Christmas cantata, "Go Sing It on the Mountain," by Pepper Choplin. You'll hear some old favorites and some new music to celebrate the season. Plan to join us at 10 AM!

Hope Lutheran Church

Ministering in His Mountains



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*"Making Christ known through reaching, welcoming,
praising, equipping and sending"*