



Welcome!

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Sunday, December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent



Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Jesus' contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man." With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

Central Lutheran Church: Called to Share God's Love.

We're glad you are here! Help us welcome you by signing a Welcome to Worship pad.

Please give the name of each person attending worship, including children.

Visitors, may we have your complete address?

Children 5 years and under are welcome in our worship services or in the nursery in room 4.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

arr. Dr. Paul Manz
Debbie Pankow

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Bahn family

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.

Light the first candle.

SONG ELW # 240 v.1

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra-el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

You may face the baptismal font as the service begins. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, alive in the world, reviving creation, arriving soon. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy, **we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.**

God of might, **we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.**

God in our midst, **we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us.**

Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN ELW # 436

"Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.
grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun-d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

GREETING

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

KYRIE ELW SETTING EIGHT

ELW pp. 184-85

Refrain

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

- ♪ For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- ♪ **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**
- ♪ That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- ♪ **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**
- ♪ For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
- ♪ **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**
- ♪ For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- ♪ **Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

In the Old Testament, “righteousness” often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today’s reading, Jerusalem’s future name—“The Lord is our righteousness”—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.

¹⁴ The 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. ¹⁵ In 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. ¹⁶ In 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.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 25: 1-10



¹ To ¹ you, O LORD, || I lift ¹ up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be ¹ put to shame, ||
nor let my enemies triumph ¹ over me.**

³ Let none who look to you be ¹ put to shame; ||
rather let those be put to shame ¹ who are treacherous.

⁴ **Show me your ¹ ways, O LORD, || and teach ¹ me your paths.**

⁵ Lead me in your ¹ truth and teach me, ||
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all ¹ the day long.

⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compas- ¹ sion and love, ||
for they are from ¹ everlasting.**

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and ¹ my transgressions; ||
remember me according to your steadfast love
and for the sake of your good- ¹ ness, O LORD.

⁸ **You are gracious and up- ¹ right, O LORD; ||
therefore you teach sinners ¹ in your way.**

⁹ You lead the low- ¹ ly in justice || and teach the low- ¹ ly your way.

¹⁰ **All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast ¹ love and faithfulness ||
to those who keep your covenant and your ¹ testimonies.**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.

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

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you.

¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³

And 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR ANTHEM

"Come, Messiah, Come"

by Jack Schrader
directed by Tai Wai Li

*Come, come, Messiah, come dispel the darkness;
Come and break the silence. Break the chains that bind us,
We are scattered, lost, and wand'ring, come, O Lord, and find us.*

*Come as King in all your glory. Come, fulfill redemption's story,
Crush the pow'rs that enslave us. Come as the Spotless Lamb to save us.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW # 257

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!



5 Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

GOSPEL*Please stand.***Luke 21:25-36**

God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.

The holy gospel according to Saint Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ²⁵ "There 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. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." ²⁹ Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these

things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ "Be 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, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be 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."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON**Rev. Mark Galbraith****SERMON****Rev. Mark Galbraith**

The offering plate is located on a table at the center back of the Sanctuary. We welcome your donations to support Central's ministries and beyond via cash, check, card via the Square app on the tablet at the table, or at our website at centluth.org. You are invited to make your contribution during a hymn or the passing of the peace. The offering plate will be delivered to the altar at the offertory time. Thank you.



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
 2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev-'ry na - tion, joy of ev-'ry long-ing heart.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer-it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 OF INTERCESSION

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

We Ask Your Prayers for:

Alaska Native Lutheran; Anchorage Grace Korean; Dillingham Trinity Lutheran Church;
Jan Adasiak, Gary Bergman, Wendy Bergman, Jan Beverlin, Al Boecker, Joe & Lisa Boecker,
Lori Boecker, Yvonne Boecker, Harlan & Ella Braun, Erik Bryant, Maria Bulkow,
Charlene Chanonto, Betsy Cooper, Kathy Earhart, Dixie Foley, Shannon Foley,
Dianne Hillemeier, Mark Johnson, Pete Kropidowski, Dee Lambert, Ed & Donna Luiten,
Ed Mjolsnes, Arne & Norma Mjolsnes, Marlene Rapp, John Rogers, Kristina Slater, Lynn Soiseth,
Remi Thrasher, Lee & Jackie van Horn, Andrea Vancil, Bob Voris, Bobbi Whitmire,
Carol West-Dahl, Mark Wohlgemuth, Mary Wolter, Kallen Young, Kariana
Please pray for the families of those who've died: Marie Brown

Each petition ends: Lord, in your mercy, **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.**

MEAL

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

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OFFERTORY ELW # 998

"In Silence We Wait"

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the lyrics: "In si - lence we wait, in dark - ness you". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "come to us; bring us your light." The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence at the end of the second line.

In si - lence we wait, in dark - ness you
come to us; bring us your light.

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand.

Let us pray. 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 our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

It is indeed right, . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS ELW SETTING EIGHT

ELW p. 190

♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Lord gives us a meal and gives us a prayer. We pray together :

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.

† INVITATION TO THE MEAL †

This is not Central's table, not a Lutheran table;
this is God's table, and you are all welcome.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

All are welcome at the Lord's Table, whether you are a member or a guest. Today ushers will direct you to a side of the altar rail. You may commune by eating the bread and selecting an individual cup of either red wine or white grape juice. If for any reason you would prefer to receive a blessing in lieu of communion, please hold your hand over your heart. Please remain at the altar rail until Pastor or the Assisting Minister dismisses your side of the altar rail.

Votive candles are available to light in memory of loved ones in the stand on the left side of the altar. Please use the Oil Candle Lighter. It is the small metal box with two removable metal wands. Each wand has a wick on one end that is kept moist with oil from inside the box. Light the wick end of the wand from an already lit votive candle. After lighting a new votive candle, blow out the flame on the wand and place it back into the container, which will re-wet the wick with new oil. Please do not let the wick burn for a long time, as it will use up the oil in the wand and the wick will actually start to burn (which we do not want). Please do not pick up the votive candles to light them. Let each worshipper re-light and extinguish the wand at their turn; do not pass the burning wand to another person.

LAMB OF GOD ELW SETTING EIGHT

ELW p. 191

♪ **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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

Called to Share God's Love

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH VISION

Living out God's Grace and Love through Worship, Learning, Fellowship and Service

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CORE VALUES

We are a congregation that

- is open to all,
 - values a community of all ages,
 - is grounded in scripture and sacrament.
 - nurtures individual gifts,
 - believes that everyone has something to offer,
 - values involvement in the greater community,
 - supports all in the challenges and celebrations of their lives,
- as God meets us where we are.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY DECEMBER 8

Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philipians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

COMMUNION HYMN ELW # 242

"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
 4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

COMMUNION HYMN ELW # 244

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.

The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace and peace. **Amen.**

SENDING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. 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.

SENDING HYMN ELW # 723

"Canticle of the Turning"
acc. by Lisa Bulkow, flute



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

BLESSING

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.**

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

“Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

arr. J. S. Bach
Debbie Pankow

Study:

The Divine Drama continues with the same class offered each week first on Tuesday evening, 6:30 to 8 pm, and again on Wednesday, Noon to 1:30 pm, both in person and via zoom.us. **New and continuing students, join us for these next three weeks for: “A Clear View of Jesus’ Birth: A Middle Eastern Perspective”**a special video teaching series, presented by the Reverend Dr. Kenneth Bailey.

Dr. Bailey, an ordained Presbyterian Teaching Elder, who also served as a Theological Canon in Residence for a couple of Episcopalian diocese in the USA and Middle East, will be presenting a series of lectures on the birth narrative of Jesus from a middle eastern perspective. During his career, Dr. Bailey taught the scriptures in the Middle East for over 45 years, and he brings a unique Middle Eastern perspective to some of the most beloved parts of scripture, including the parables of Jesus, the Lord’s prayer, and of course, the birth narratives of Jesus - that will be the focus of our four week special adult faith formation series during the Advent season.

When you think about it, the Bible did come out of the culture of the Middle East, so it behooves us Westerners to perhaps consider hearing the scriptures from that culture and context first and foremost!

Bring your Bibles, notebooks, a friend, and a readiness to be surprised, enlightened, challenged, and we hope, deeply encouraged as we prepare to celebrate the birth of the king of Kings and Lord of Lords!

Learn more about Dr. Bailey and his teaching resources at www.kennethbailey.net

Book Group is reading All the Beauty in the World: The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Me by Patrick Bringley. An “exquisite” (The Washington Post) “hauntingly beautiful” (Associated Press) portrait of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and its treasures by a former New Yorker staff who spent a decade as a museum guard. Discuss with friends on Monday, December 16, at 4:30 pm.

The **Early AM Study** continues with weekly meetings via zoom at 7 am Tuesdays to study The David Story by Robert Alter.

Confirmation class and faith formation classes for all ages resume in January.

Worship:

We worship each Sunday at 9:30 am. Watch for the addition of Advent worship services on Wednesday evenings, 12/4, 12/11, and 12/18 at 7 pm. Christmas Eve services will be at 5 and 10 pm.

Call Process:

Mission Study small groups are wrapping up. Remember, we want to listen to you! Every member and attendee of Central is invited to select a time to share and listen as part of our prep for calling our next pastor. TODAY after church is our final listening session. Come to the Cordova Room after worship.

Fellowship:

Advent Potluck:

Sunday, December 15, following worship. All are welcome! Bring a festive dish to share, from a colorful salad to holiday cookies to a casserole.

LSSA’s Golden Connections, led by Deacon Linda Bender, includes the next events “Getting Ready for Christmas” on Wednesday, 12/4: 11:30-1:00 at St Mark Lutheran and “Christmas Party” on Wednesday 12/18: 11:30-1:00 at St Mark Lutheran. Lunch is provided. RSVP to Deacon Linda.

Serve:

Year-round, we collect shelf-stable foods for LSSA Food Pantry. Our December focus is snack foods: granola bars, crackers, dried fruits, trail mix....

On fourth Thursdays of each month, our congregation provides **dinner for the women and children at the Clare House shelter**. THANK YOU for the Thanksgiving meal Lisa Bulkow, Sharon Jones, Anna Bryant Harris, Barbara Markley, Shayla Marshall, Anita Soiseth, Kathy Dale, Sue Ellen Tatter, Bonnie Kragt, Karen Voris, Becky Schaeffer and Gordy Nelson, Sue Tonkins and Kathy Freeman.

News:

Winter has arrived and the **Helping Hands Clothes Closet** is busy with folks looking for winter gear. Keep looking for those donations of coats, clothing, shoes and boots, belts, winter accessories like GLOVES, sleeping bags and blankets, backpacks. . . . all those items in kids and adult sizes in usable condition.

LSSA Christmas Stockings:

LSSA gives filled Christmas stockings to the families with young children who visit the LSSA food pantry during the month of December. Central ladies make and fill several dozen and thus are collecting: story & activity books about Jesus’ birth, new coloring books, card games, little play-doughs, wrapped candies and snacks, pencils, crayons, stickers and small toys (think party supplies aisle or dollar bin). Distribution of stockings is December 3-24.

Thank you to our worship leaders today:

<i>Presider:</i>	Deacon Linda Bender
<i>Choir Director:</i>	Tai Wai Li
<i>Musician:</i>	Debbie Pankow
<i>Assisting Minister:</i>	Keith Padden
<i>Lector:</i>	Annette Iverson
<i>A/V Wrangler:</i>	volunteer
<i>Projectionist:</i>	volunteer

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Sunday 12/1 First Sunday of Advent

9:30 am **WORSHIP SERVICE with Rev. Mark Galbraith** (Sanctuary) or via centluth.org followed by last Small Group Listening Session (Cordova Room)
11 am KOREAN PRESBYTERIAN WORSHIP SERVICE (Small Chapel, Community Room)
2 pm ANLC WORSHIP SERVICE (Sanctuary)

Monday 12/2

Russian tutoring meets most days in rooms 3-4

1 pm ANLC Funeral and Potluck for Susanna Acoman (Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall)
6:30 - 9 pm Anchorage Concert Chorus (Sanctuary)

Tuesday 12/3

7 am Early AM Study of The David Story via zoom.us
10:30 am Sarah Southside Fellowship Circle @ Bells on Specking Road
1 - 3 pm Helping Hands Clothing Closet open (HH Closet)
4 - 7 pm Alaska Children's Choir (Room 8)
4:45 - 5:45 pm Pickleball (Fellowship Hall)
6:30 - 8 pm A Clear View of Jesus' Birth study (Community Room) and via zoom.us

Wednesday 12/4

8:30 - 10 am Coffee Klatsch @ Kaladi Bros. on Brayton
11:30 am - 1:30 pm LSSA Golden Connection "Getting Ready for Christmas" @ St Mark
Noon - 1:30 pm A Clear View of Jesus' Birth study (Community Room) and via zoom.us
2 pm KOREAN PRESBYTERIAN WORSHIP SERVICE (Small Chapel)
5:45 pm Bell Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)
7 pm ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE (Small Chapel)
7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Thursday 12/5

10 am - 1 pm Log Cabin Quilters (Fellowship Hall)
6 - 8 pm Anchorage Garden Club (Community Room)

Worship online
via centluth.org

Friday 12/6

2 pm KOREAN PRESBYTERIAN WORSHIP SERVICE (Small Chapel)
set up for ANLC Holiday Craft Bazaar (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday 12/7

9 am Men's Breakfast @ Flo's Pancake House
9:30 - 10:30 am WW Meeting (Community Room)
open 10 am - 4 pm ANLC Holiday Craft Bazaar (Fellowship Hall)
11 am - 12:30 pm Waln recital (Sanctuary)
11:30 am - 1:30 pm NAMI (Community Room)
1 pm Viewing, 2 pm Marie Brown Funeral and Reception (Sanctuary, Small Chapel, and via centluth.org)

Bible studies & meetings
Zoom.us meeting ID
963 8911 9335

Sunday 12/8 Second Sunday of Advent

9:30 am **WORSHIP SERVICE with Rev. Mark Galbraith** (Sanctuary) or via centluth.org
11 am KOREAN PRESBYTERIAN WORSHIP SERVICE (Small Chapel, Community Room)
2 pm ANLC WORSHIP SERVICE (Sanctuary)