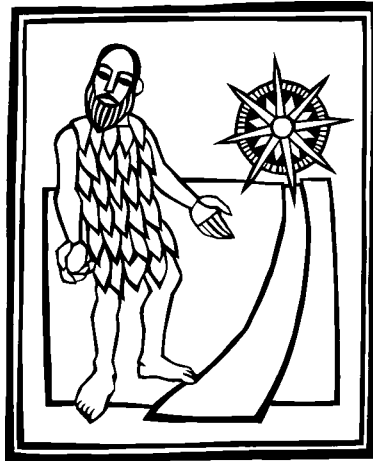


Redeemer Lutheran Church

743 East Magnolia Road, Salina,

Kansas 67401

785-827-8195



DECEMBER 14, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Welcome!

May our hearts be open to our creator
and to one another as we share in
worship together.

Pastor Del Strecker, Transition Pastor
Tom Mertz and Mary Bridges, PMA's
Ruth Mirtz, Organist
Ann Metcalfe, Director of Music

ANNOUNCEMENTS

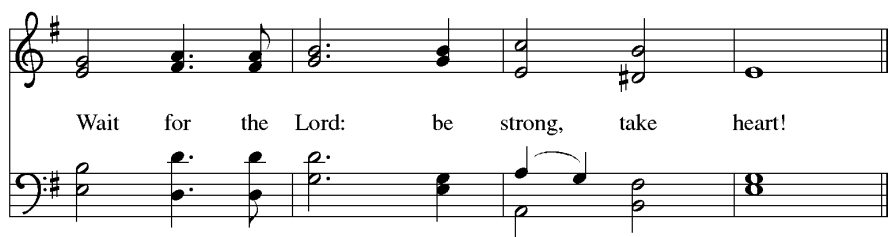
Lighting the Advent Wreath: Advent 3

We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath
that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.
As we light the candles on this wreath,
strengthen our hearts
as we await the Lord's coming in glory.
Enlighten us with your grace,
that we may serve our neighbors in need.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.
Amen.

Light three candles.

Wait for the Lord (ELW 262)(sung three times)

Wait for the Lord



BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

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

Long-expected God,

**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 God's timing,

and awaken us to your advent among us,

that we may abound in the hope you have promised.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

**ENTRANCE HYMN *Awake! Awake, and Greet the
New Morn* (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.

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

Lord, have mercy:

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy:

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy:

Lord, have mercy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³ Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.” ⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened; ⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸ A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God’s people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 146:5-10

⁴ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁵ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps his promise forever;**

⁶ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The Lord sets the captive free.

⁷ The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

⁸ the LORD cares for the stranger; The Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

⁹ The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

A reading from James.

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

² When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?”

⁴ Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” ⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind?

⁸ What, then, did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹ What, then, did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ ¹¹ “Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON PASTOR EMILY MECKLEY

HYMN OF THE DAY *Christ, Be Our Light* (ELW 715)

Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

THE PRAYERS

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

God of power and mercy, we praise you for Jesus and his acts of healing and liberation. Lead us to proclaim the good news from generation to generation, that all may place their hope in you. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When lands are parched and dry, bring rain and snow; where wilderness is barren, sow seeds of life. Fill the lands with trees that grow, plants that flower, and creatures that thrive, as nature proclaims the wonder of your works. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When there is injustice or corruption among nations and leaders, root it out. Turn their attention to inequity and the cries of the poor. Instill a deeper sense of compassion and care in all who govern. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

When bodies weaken and hearts grow fearful, speak your blessing especially for **Marge Hansen, Alicia Miller, Cecelia Anderson, Paige Alstatt, Sandi Drown, Wayne and Dorothy Hanke, Jerome Herrman, Zach Swanson, Beverly Alstatt, Sandra Anderson, Larry Shulda, Sue Jacobson, Susan Burkland, Will Biggs, Cody Larson, Darla Personney, Dan Ott, Chuck Hadlauer, Allie Paine, Maxi Cardelle, T.J. Karst, Frank and Mary Gwing, Rev. Melinda Melhus, Kyler Russell, and Becky Shulda.** We lift up **Eric Blomberg, Tanner Gibson, and Brayden Harper** who are serving in the military. In uncertain times, remind us of the promise spoken to our ancestors in faith. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

When people are imprisoned or held captive, break the chains and offer release. Strengthen the work of the church in restorative justice, breaking cycles of poverty, and welcoming the immigrant especially we pray for Global Refuge and Lutheran Social Services. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

As we await your coming, we give thanks for the faithful who have lived and died in faith especially Mary, mother of Jesus, and John of the Cross. May their boldness of faith inspire our witness and work. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC O Come. O Come Immanuel

Flute and Piano Duet

Shirley Meyer and Ruth Mirtz

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that we
 sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
 Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers v
 of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
 Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Nourishing God,
 you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert.
 Through this meal, satisfy our parched places,
 that we may rejoice and be for the world
 signs of your kingdom come.
Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

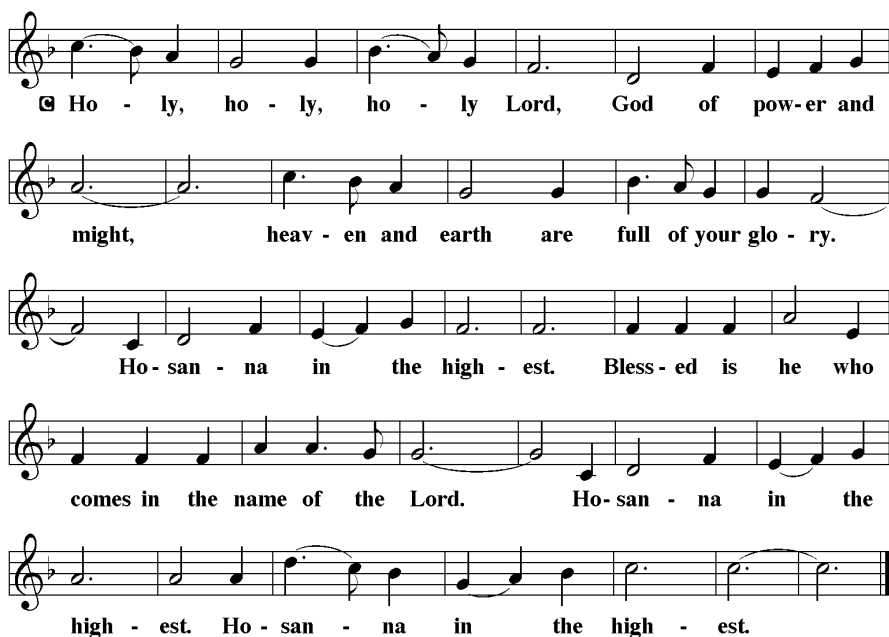
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will. He is your Word, inseparable from you. Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you. It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted,

in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This is my blood poured out for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people. And we ask you: Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ. Through him all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church both now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

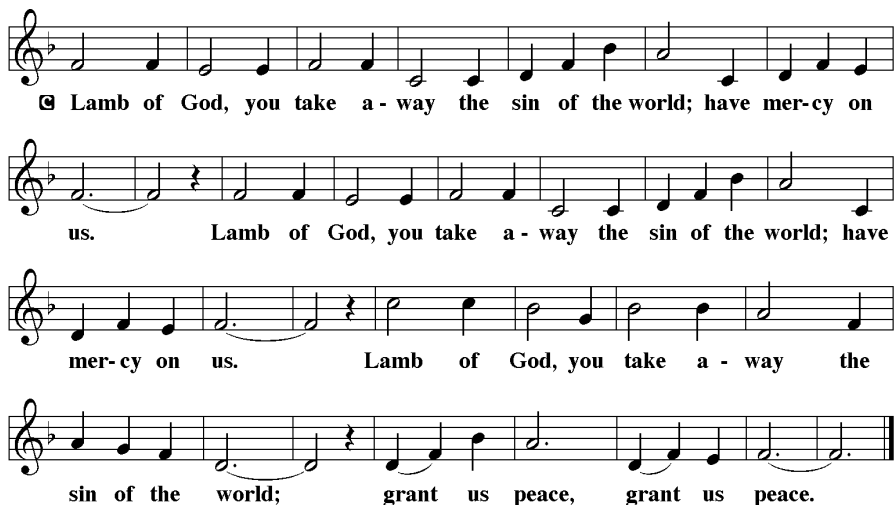
Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

COMMUNION HYMN



☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

TABLE BLESSING

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.

Amen

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

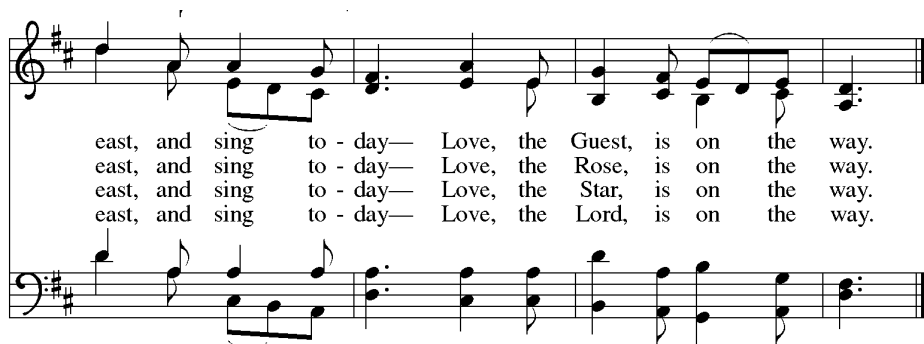
SENDING HYMN *People, Look East* (ELW 248)

People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
that in course and the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
bright as sun and the moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Flowers Today: Thank you and Happy 59th anniversary to Rod & Rosemary Anderson.

Time & Talent Sheets: Please get you time and talent sheets in as soon as possible, deadline is December 31st.

Transition Survey's: Transition survey's will be handed out on December 21st Due Date to be announced at a later date.

Congregational Meeting: The first have of congregational meetings will take place on December 21st after worship at 10:45am this is to discuss budget and election of council members food will be provided by council . The second half of congregational meeting will be held on January 18th following worship.

Carrying the Cross: Pastor Del is looking for volunteers to carry the cross on Sunday mornings (They are called a

crucifer). There is a sign-up sheet out in the narthex. This is for children, youth or adults.

Rejoicing Spirits: We need volunteers to help run Rejoicing Spirits, if interested please contact Shellee Callahan 785-822-6878 or Debbie Beckman 785-452-5662.

Advent Worship: We will be holding Advent worship services on the following dates with the following themes: December 17: Healing and Restoration (Matthew 11: 2-11). There will be soup served from 5:30-6:30 with worship at 6:30 p.m.

Outreach: Outreach is an important part of a healthy congregation. We are needing three additional volunteers to serve on the Outreach committee. At this point, there are only 2 members on the committee. If you are unsure what the outreach committee does, please visit with Mary Shaffer, who is the Church council representative on the committee.

Visitation: At its September Council meeting, the church council decided as a part of our outreach to do home visits to church members. There is a list of church members who we feel could use a visit from a church member on the welcome center in the narthex. Some of these are on Pastor Del's, PMAs Tom and Mary's communion list, but they want to see and hear what is going on at Redeemer from the membership. Please consider signing up to do some visiting.

Safe Families: This year we are trying to help children who have been placed in a program called Safe Families.

Safe Families is a volunteer-driven program that supports families in crisis to prevent child abuse and neglect by providing a temporary "circle of support" for children and their parents. The program, which is rooted in biblical hospitality and compassion, aims to keep families stay intact by offering solutions like temporary hosting for children in the homes of trained volunteers, mentoring, and other support services to prevent social isolation. This service helps children from birth to eighteen years of age. These children are in need of the following items listed on the sheets near the welcome center.

Staff Christmas Fund: If you would like to give a monetary Christmas gift to the Redeemer Staff (Pastor, Ruth, Ann, Becky, & Samantha) please mark your checks or envelopes with "Staff Christmas." If you make a donation online in Realm, please choose the "Staff Christmas" fund.

Schedule for the week

Sunday, December 14, 2025: 9:30a.m. Worship

Monday, December 15, 2025: 6:00p.m. Silver needles meeting.

Tuesday, December 16, 2025: 11:30am Souper Sisters

Wednesday, December 17, 2025: 5:30 p.m. Godly Play; Soup Supper, 5:30-6:45 p.m., Advent Worship 7:00 p.m. 7:15p.m. Bells rehearsal.

Thursday, December 18, 2025: 9:30 a.m. Silver needles sew-in.

Partners in Ministry

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Greeters: Tom and Mary Mertz

Ushers: Lana Jordan and Mike Ramage

Lector: Denise Dusin

Communion: Ray Beckman

Sound: Kris Neff

Sunday, December 21, 2025

Greeters: Kahlan Metcalf and Kayden Tonninges

Ushers: Wayne and Carol Keeler

Lector: Jan Jackson

Communion: Debbie Beckman

Cantor: Sam Neff

Sound: Perry Jurgensen

Fellowship: Council

Sunday, December 28, 2025

Greeters: Cecelia Anderson and Kathy Heinrich

Ushers: Marry Shaffer

Lector: Kris Johanson

Communion:

Sound : Ray Beckman

Fellowship: Debbie Beckman

Prayer Request

MEMBERS: Marge Hansen, Alicia Miller, Cecelia Anderson, Paige Alstatt, and Sandi Drown.

REDEEMER FRIENDS

Wayne and Dorothy Hanke (Parents of Debbie Beckman)

Jerome Herrman (Nephew of Charlotte and Dave Herrman)

Zach Swanson(Grandson of Sandi and Tom Drown)

Beverly Alstatt (Mother of Craig Alstatt)

Sandra Anderson, (Cecelia Anderson's daughter-in-law)

Larry Shulda (Husband of Becky Shulda)

Sue Jacobson (Sister of Wayne Keeler)

Will Biggs (Charlotte and Dave Herrman's son-in-law)
Cody Larson (Brother-in-law of Jordan and Zach Burkholder)
Darla Personney (Friend of Sheila Alstatt)
Susan Burkland (Sister of Kathy Heinrich)
Dan Ott (cousin of Craig Alstatt)
Chuck Hadlauer (Friend of Shelia Alstatt)
Allie Paine (Friend of Sheila Alstatt)
Family of Gary Batt (Uncle of Cheryl Itschner)
Maxi Cardelle (Friend's grandson of Kathy Lowman)
T.J Karst (Cousin of Charlotte Herrman)
Frank and Mary Gwing (Friends of Nancy McDonald)
Rev. Melinda Melhus (Friend of Nancy McDonald)
Kyler Russell (Grandson of Nancy McDonald)
Becky Shulda.

MILITARY

Eric Blomberg, US Navy, Norfolk, Virginia (Nephew of Mary Shaffer)
Tanner Gibson Hill AFB, Ogden UT (Great-Nephew to Cecelia Anderson) Brayden Harper, USS Washington (Great-Great Nephew of Mary Bridges)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Like us on Facebook
Worship is livestreamed on YouTube