



**First Sunday in Advent
Holy Communion
November 30, 2025: 9:30 am**

**Shalom Lutheran Church, ELCA
681 Voyager Drive — Alexandria, MN 56308
www.shalomlutheran.org
(320) 762-8641**

Pastor—David Fleener
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Youth & Music Director—Sam Meehan
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Office Administrator—Geri Rindahl

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“We believe God is calling us to invite people into a deeper relationship with Christ, that they may discover true peace and be prepared to follow Him in compassionate service”

GATHERING

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

The congregation may stand.

CONFESSION

P: Blessed be God: Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit.

C: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and each other.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: 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.**

**Teach us to fear you alone,
so we may be free from all other fears.
Increase our trust in your holy 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.

In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, you are freed and forgiven,
saved by grace,
and ready to welcome our Savior.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG:

"Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"

ELW 242



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.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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PASTORAL 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.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

L: Blessed are you, God of Jacob, for you promise to transform weapons of war into implements of planting and harvest and to teach us your way of peace; you promise that our night of sin is far gone and that your day of salvation is dawning. As we light the first candle on this wreath, wake us from our sleep, wrap us in your light, empower us to live honorably, and guide us along your path of peace. O house of Jacob, come,

C: let us walk in the light of the Lord. Amen.

CANDLE LIGHTING SONG:

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" v. 1 ELW 240



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles 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.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 2:1-5

L: A reading from Isaiah:

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains

and shall be raised above the hills;

all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,

to the house of the God of Jacob,

that he may teach us his ways

and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction

and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations

and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

Continued on next page

they shall beat their swords into plowshares
 and their spears into pruning hooks;
 nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
 neither shall they learn war any more.
 O house of Jacob,
 come, let us walk
 in the light of the LORD!

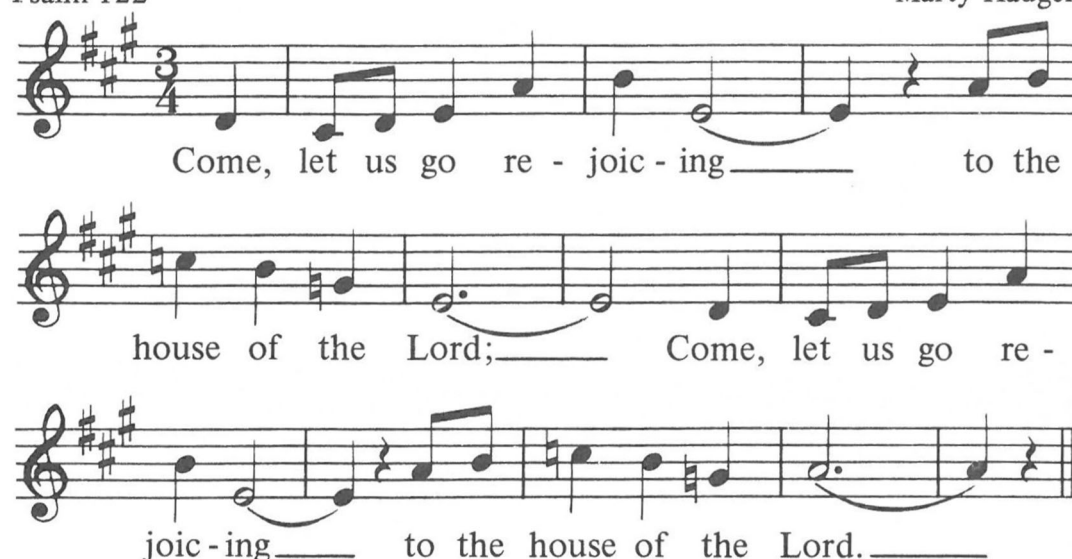
L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 122

Psalm 122

Marty Haugen



SCRIPTURE: Romans 13:8-14

L: A reading from Romans:

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and

drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL WELCOME: *ELW Setting 3*



GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

P: The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

The congregation may be seated.

CHILDREN'S SERMON:

“The Third Commandment”

Pastor David Fleener

SERMON “The Good Thief”

Pastor David Fleener

The congregation may stand.

SONG OF THE DAY: "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying" ELW 436



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.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. composite
 Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
 Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress

APOSTLES' CREED

A: With the whole church, we confess our faith:

**C: 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 THE PEOPLE

After each petition:

A: God of grace,

C. Hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

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

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

The congregation may be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT AND OFFERING

Offering baskets will be passed. If you prefer to give digitally, you can scan the QR code to give. White cards to place in the plate are available in the guest pad for those who give digitally.



MUSICAL OFFERING:

The congregation may stand.

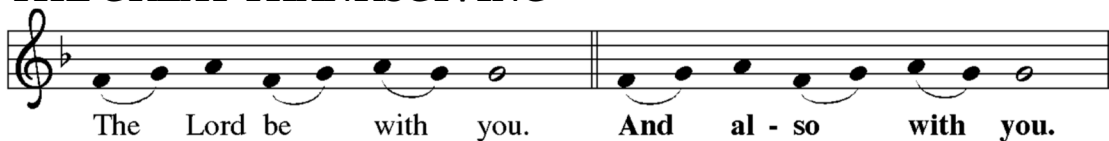
OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: 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.

C: **Amen.**

MEAL

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



PREFACE

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

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, 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.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will

and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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P: Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and
ascension,

and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,

A - men, a - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

12

COMMUNION INVITATION

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

The congregation may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD:

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

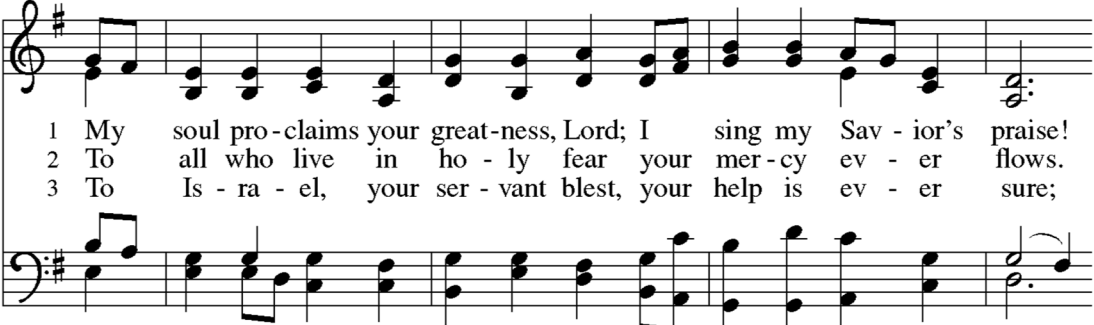
Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

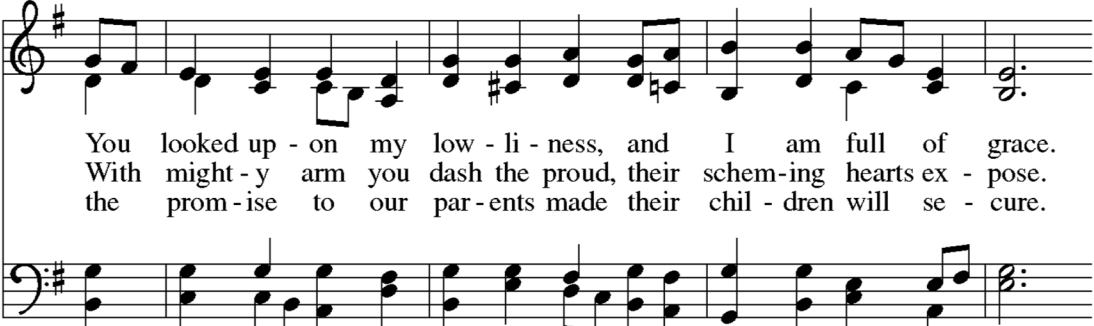
grant us peace, grant us peace.

The fourth system concludes the phrase with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

COMMUNION SONG: "My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness" ELW 251



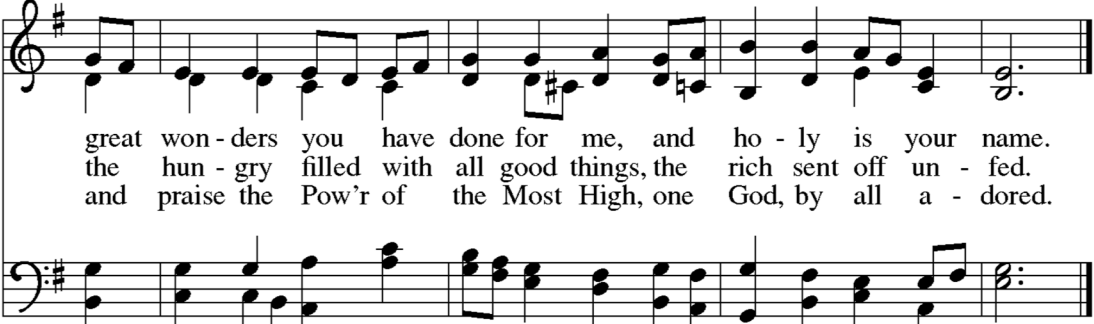
1 My soul pro-claims your great-ness, Lord; I sing my Sav - ior's praise!
 2 To all who live in ho - ly fear your mer - cy ev - er flows.
 3 To Is - ra - el, your ser - vant blest, your help is ev - er sure;



You looked up - on my low - li - ness, and I am full of grace.
 With might - y arm you dash the proud, their schem-ing hearts ex - pose.
 the prom - ise to our par - ents made their chil - dren will se - cure.



Now ev - 'ry land and ev - 'ry age this bless-ing shall pro - claim—
 The ruth-less you have cast a - side, the low - ly throned in - stead;
 Sing glo - ry to the Ho - ly One, give hon - or to the Word,



great won - ders you have done for me, and ho - ly is your name.
 the hun - gry filled with all good things, the rich sent off un - fed.
 and praise the Pow'r of the Most High, one God, by all a - dored.

Text: *With One Voice*, 1995, based on the Magnificat
 Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.
 Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

COMMUNION SONG: "Abide with Me"

ELW 629

1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847

Music: EVENTIDE, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

The congregation may stand.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven
that gives life to the world.

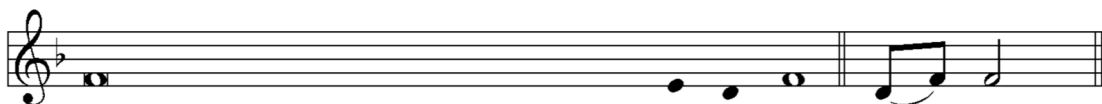
Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who
hunger and thirst,
and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

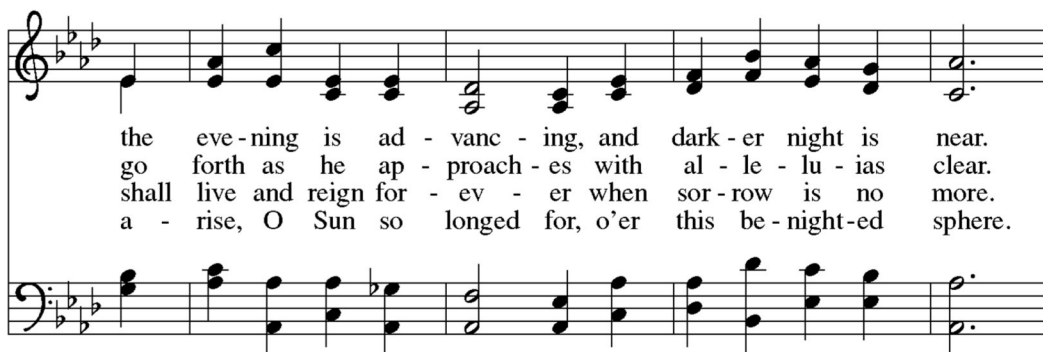
P: Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.



Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, A - men
bless you now and for-ever.

SENDING SONG: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" ELW 244



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!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
 Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.

SHALOM LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Week of November 30, 2025

Church Office Hours: M-F 8:00 am—12:00 pm

Welcome to our Shalom gathering! All God's children are welcome here, especially our guests, whoever you are or wherever you come from. We invite you to sign the guest pad in your row and hope you'll join us for refreshments after worship in the Community Room. If you have any questions about Shalom or how we worship, please ask our greeters and ushers (wearing name tags). You may also ask Pastor David. If you can't catch him after worship, you may call the office at (320) 762-8461 or email him at pastor@shalomlutheran.org.

COMMUNION: Lutherans believe Holy Communion is the true body and blood of Jesus Christ, given and shed for us for the forgiveness of our sins. All baptized Christians who trust these words of promise are welcome to receive today. Children under the guidance of their parents or caregivers may also receive. Those who do not receive may come forward with arms crossed over their chest for a blessing. To receive communion, come forward to receive the bread from the pastor. Gluten-free bread is also available in small plastic containers by the individual communion cups. You may take a cup from the tray by the pastor, then move to either the wine or grape juice chalice. The wine chalice is first, the grape juice chalice is second. Wine or grape juice will be poured into your cup. Place used cups in the baskets. Those who cannot come forward for communion are asked to inform the ushers so that communion may be brought to them.

HOSPITALITY servers for Dec 7, Rachel & Ryan Buse, Tom & Renae Hills, Courtney Bouressa.

GIVE THANKS: A reminder that our local food shelf is in need of donations, both financial and food. Especially needed are canned meat, soup, cheese and eggs. The grocery cart in the community room is ready and waiting for your contribution.

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER begins this Wednesday, December 3 at 6:30 pm.

CONFIRMATION meets at Love INC on Wednesday, December 3 at 5:15 pm to help set up for the Toys for Kids drive.

REMINDER: Please continue to support our Coffee Fund with your donations. The donation box is located on the treat table in the Community Room!

It's that time of year again. We are coming into the Christmas season. That means a few different things.

1. Caroling-We will be caroling with the Gospel of Uke at Edgewood this year on December 14th at 2pm.
2. We will be doing the same Christmas program that we did last year that everyone loved so much. Come join us on 12/21, grab a costume and immerse yourself in the story of the birth of Jesus Christ!
3. Following the Christmas program, during coffee hour, we will be holding our annual youth bake sale. Come support the youth and get some delicious goodies! Like we have in years past, we will give folks the option to contribute baked goods to this years bake sale. If you have too many baked goods an nowhere to bring them for the holidays, you can bring them to Shalom for the youth bake sale.

JOIN US FOR CAROLING on December 14th, 2 p.m. at Edgewood!

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

*Phyllis Strand, *John & Carrie Carlberg, *Bob Hildebrandt, *Dave & Mary Owen, *Gerry Kingsburg, Bill Malvin (Dave Malvin's Father), *Delores Martin, *Evie Raguse, *Charles & Jeanne Tanksley, Teri Market, *Jeanette Priebe, *Bonnie Anderson, *Dave Burbank, Joan Searles (Pastor David's aunt), *Skeeter Kingsberg, Ben DeLong (brother of Chrissy Oachs), Rod Miller (Geri's brother). **Shalom member*

Jan/25—Oct/25 Activity			
<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Surpl/(Deficit)</u>	
\$ 53,466	\$ 65,875	\$ (12,409)	Building Fund
\$ 204,698	\$ 225,538	\$ (20,840)	General Fund

The annual General/Bldg Funds budget was approved with a budget of Offerings equal to the congregation approved expenses. Current General/Bldg fund cash balance is \$106,226.

Shared Ministry

<u>Shared Ministry</u>	<u>11-30-25</u>	<u>12-07-25</u>
Acolyte	Aiden Bailey	Mara Malvin
Assisting Minister	Carol Hedlund	Nola Smith
Communion Assist	Judy Hoffman	Cheryl Burbank
Communion Assist	Dave Morgan	Angie Erickson
Greeters	Barb Beyer	Linda Fenelon
Greeters	Dave Beyer	Connie Faccioitto
Lector	Joann Garland	Tam Bukowski
Musicians	Mike Flaten	SOS Band
Proclaim	CJ/Kim/Julie	CJ/Kim/Julie
Ushers	Al Anderson	Fritz Bukowski
Ushers	Cheryl Burbank	Sherri Endreson
Counters	Dave Harris	Renae Hills
Counters	Renae Hills	Al Anderson

THIS WEEK AT SHALOM

Sunday	11-30	9:30 am 10:30 am	Worship in-person or online Hospitality
Tuesday	12-02	7:30 am 9:00 am 5:00 pm 6:30 pm	Men's Bible Study at Common Ground Dartball Gospel of Uke Runestone Chorus
Wednesday	12-03	5:00 pm 5:15 pm 5:30-6:30 pm 6:30 pm	Meal Confirmation at Love INC Faith time Shalom Ringers
Thursday	12-04	8:00-9:45 am 10:00-11:00 am 6:00 pm 5:30 pm	Shalom Piecemakers Bible Study Shalom Singers Tech
Sunday	12-07	9:30 am 10:30 am	Worship in-person or online Hospitality GWOH