

Welcome to Moe Lutheran

Second Sunday of Advent
December 7, 2025



Advent is the first season of the Christian church year. The word “advent” has its origin in the Latin word for “coming.” In these days leading up to Christmas, we anticipate celebrating the coming of Christ, God’s gift of love to the world!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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.**

ADVENT HYMN OF EXPECTATION:

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

(Vs 1, 2, 3)

ELW 242

LITANY:

On this second Sunday in Advent, we light the candle of peace.

As God's people we long for peace!

We long for a peace that eases our grief.

We long for a peace that calms our anxiety.

We seek peace in our relationships,

We seek peace at the core of our being.

We yearn for homes that know peace.

We yearn for a world that knows peace.

Today we light one candle for hope and one candle for peace.

Two Blue Candles are lit on the Advent wreath

WE SING: *Melody: "Away in a Manger"*

In darkness surrounded, the world waits for light
to shatter the shadowy darkness of night.

To green'ry encircled, the faithful draw near
And longingly listen, God's message to hear.

Two candles are burning, through darkness shines light,
As angels come winging through God's holy night.

Singing of peace and goodwill on the earth,
Sharing the message of Christ's holy birth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Almighty God, awaken us to your good news of salvation. Give us a peace that passes human understanding. As we prepare to receive our Lord, make us instruments of His peace in our world. Amen.

CHURCH SCHOOL SINGS

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

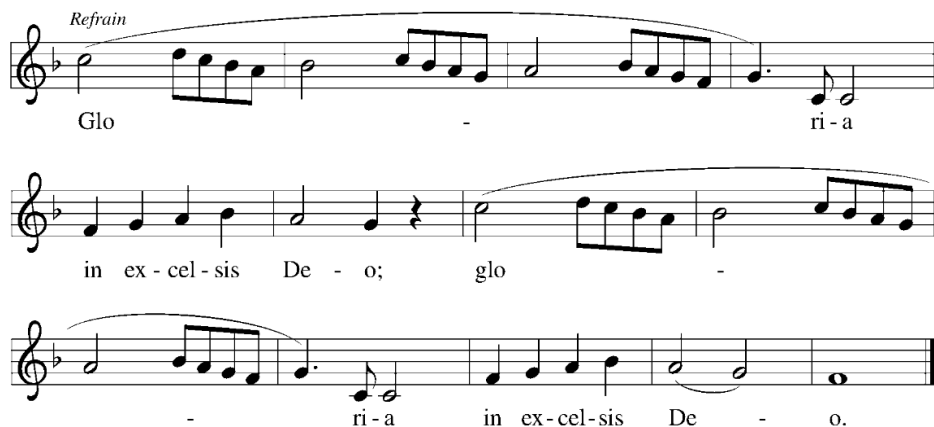
⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

- he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
- ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.
- ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- ⁹They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.
- ¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples;
the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

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

PSALM 72:1-7, 18-19

- ¹Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.
- ²**May he judge your people with righteousness,
and your poor with justice.**
- ³May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴**May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.**
- ⁵May he live while the sun endures,
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
- ⁶**May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.**
- ⁷In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
- ¹⁸**Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.**
- ¹⁹Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may his glory fill the whole earth.
- Amen and Amen.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:*"Angels We Have Heard on High" refrain****GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12**

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

SERMON

CREED for ADVENT

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

The One who is full of patience,
who is not afraid of silence,
who does not need to fill each moment with activity and noise.
The One who is beyond bluster and flurry,
and who does not jostle for attention.

We believe in God the Son, Savior of creation,

who slipped into Bethlehem one night, mostly unnoticed,
who lived thirty years without headlines or hurry,
who frequently took time alone with his patient Father,
who waited for the right time to become the suffering servant,
who stood quietly before the noise of his accusers,
whose silence overpowered their words,
who died, then rose again on a quiet Sunday morning.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,

who strengthens, empowers, renews and refreshes,
sometimes arriving with obvious power,
sometimes with the quiet breath of a whisper.

We believe in one God

who patiently waits for us in love,
and who longs for us to do the same.

PRAYERS:

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

Refining God, move through your church. Root out practices that harm your people and kindle a fire for sharing the gospel among bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Renewing God, transform your creation. Steer us from habits that harm what you have made and guide us in practices that preserve and restore creatures and habitats. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Ruling God, teach the nations your ways. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace and care for refugees, immigrants, and all caught in the center of conflict. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Rescuing God, restore your people who are in any need. Heal all who are suffering. Provide comfort and strength, and nurture sustained wholeness for the future. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Reforming God, fill this congregation with your presence. Bring meaning to our seasonal preparations, and bless the efforts by worship servants, musicians, staff, clergy, and lay leaders as they work in the weeks ahead. Lord, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Reassuring God, we remember those who have died and rest in you. Guide us in deep gratitude for their life and allow us to learn from their faithful witness. 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.

OFFERING with special music

Bells

OFFERTORY:

What Child Is This

For Advent or Christmas

E Minor: Em D G D B⁷ Em Am/C
Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures

B Em D G D B⁷
here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise

Em Am B Em Bm G
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. This, this is

D B⁷ Em Am/C B
Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;

Bm G D B⁷ Em Am B Em (or E Major)
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674
Music: 16th Century English Melody

GREENSLEEVES
87.87 with Refrain

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 & praise.

Holy one, you are the beginning and the end, the giver of life.

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION: Come and receive our Lord's good gifts!

POST COMMUNION BLESSING:

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.

BENEDICTION

CHRISTMAS HYMN OF EXPECTATION:

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

ELW 282

DISMISSAL: *Go in peace. Christ is near.* **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer for Lighting Advent Wreath at Home

God of peace, during this Advent season, keep us from getting caught up in the busyness and chaos of the world around us. Help us to slow down, so that we may find rest in the Prince of Peace, your son, Jesus Christ. As we prepare for his coming, make us instruments of your peace in our homes, in our schools, in our work and in our world. Amen.