

With thankful hearts we pray, “Come, Lord Jesus,” confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini The peace of the Lord be with you always. **Amen.**

Agnus Dei LSB 210

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray. | 2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray. |
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Distribution Hymn Savior of the Nations, Come LSB 332

Post-Communion Collect

Let us pray... We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benediction

Closing Hymn O God of God, O Light of Light LSB 810

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Our Response to God’s Grace:

Worship Attendance: 12/14- Sanct. 59, FB 84+ BC 15/ SS N/A

Offering: Home \$4,955; Undesignated \$715; Missions \$130, Other \$15, Lutheran Witness \$20, Total \$5,835

2026 Offering Envelope Boxes are here! Envelopes in these boxes provide an easy way to regularly bring your offerings to worship. They also provide a way for our financial secretary to track your giving so that they can provide you with a summary, if you choose, for the year to easily use for your tax deductions for charitable giving. Please look on the table by the ramp door in the entryway for your giving box Also, if you see someone’s box that you might be able to deliver to them, please do so! If you do not find a box with your name on it please let the church office know so that we can get you one!

In our Prayers: Kathy Patterson, Steve Wright, Karen Lawing, LaVonne Karsten, Dennis Arndt, Harold & Beverly Rehberg (health)

This Week (12/21/2025), Lord Willing:

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| Sun 12/21 | 9:00 Bible Class/ Sunday School |
| | 10:00 Worship*+ (Jr. Choir Sings) |
| | 11:15 Sr. Choir Rehearsal |
| Tues 12/23 | 5:00 GOES Committee fills Christmas bags/ 2026 responsibilities |
| Wed 12/24 | 5:30 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service by children* |
| Thurs 12/25 | 9:00 Sr. Choir Rehearsal |
| | 10:00 Christmas Day Worship*+ (Sr. Choir Sings) |
| Sun 12/28 | 9:00 Bible Class/ Sunday School |
| | 10:00 Worship* |

* Facebook Live (FM 90.5 locally – Sundays only) + Holy Communion

Opening Hymn Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates LSB 341

Invocation/Confession/Absolution

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy has given you His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading (see back of bulletin)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Isaiah 7:10–17

Epistle (see back of bulletin)

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Romans 1:1–7

Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

Matthew 1:18–25

Glory to You, O Lord.

(see back of bulletin)

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon Hymn O Little Town of Bethlehem

LSB 361

Sermon “Signs”

Isaiah 7:10-17

Offering

Prayers

Lord God, You promised the virgin-born Son to reluctant King Ahaz, and in the fullness of time the Word became flesh. Open our hearts and strengthen our faith gladly to receive Your Son in the signs where He is present: not in signs of our own choosing, but in the Holy Word and Sacraments. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, preserve Your apostolic Gospel and its ministers. Cause the name and the resurrection of Christ Jesus to be proclaimed among all the nations, including among us who are called to belong to Him, that the obedience of faith may be brought about in every place. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, it is Your will that we live chaste and decent lives in all that we say and do. Preserve all couples who are engaged to be married in faithfulness and honor, that they may come to their wedding day without fear, shame or disgrace. Since Christ is Immanuel, who saves His people from their sins, clothe all brides and grooms in the forgiveness of Jesus, in which all can stand before You cleansed and confident of Your blessing. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, You do not bear with the tiresome flattery and unbelief of kings and rulers forever. Have mercy on us, Lord, and spare our nation. Clear away all empty shows of piety and renew genuine faith in the virgin's Son, that His coming at the last may not be a sign against us. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, You named Your Son “Jesus” because He was born to save us from our sins. Give us repentant hearts. Do not let us bow to temptation or abuse His name by seeking our own way, but lead us to confess our sins and rejoice in His salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, look with kindness on the sick. Comfort those who mourn. Sustain all who are in the midst of any need [*especially* _____]. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, heavenly Father, we give You thanks for Your Son, Jesus Christ, who is truly Lord and ruler of the house of Israel. With the Holy Spirit, You spoke to Moses out of the burning bush and gave the law in terror to test Your ancient people, that the fear of You would be before them. As Moses stretched out his arm at Your Word to bring Israel out of bondage, and as he stood in the breach against Your wrath, so You have given Christ to redeem us with His arms outstretched on the wood of the cross. Grant that, as we recall with thanksgiving His advent in the flesh, we may always confess Him and remain watchful for His advent in glory at the Last Day; for You live and reign, ever one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near.