

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Joe Johnson

Pastor Amanda Johnson

Cindy Doeden - Church Office: 636-5701; Hours: 9am-3pm, M-F
Radio Broadcast at 8:30am on KMSR 1520 AM and KMAV 105.5 FM
TV Broadcast at 8:30am and 10:30am on HTC Channel 34

Sunday, December 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM

PRELUDE

Organist: Vicky Grothmann

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: "I Come with Joy"

ELW 482

- 1) I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free, the life of Jesus to recall in love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.*
- 2) I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed, the new community of love in Christ's communion bread, in Christ's communion bread.*
- 3) As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud division ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends, and strangers now are friends.*
- 4) The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near, is in such friendship better known, alive among us here, alive among us here.*
- 5) Together met, together bound by all that God has done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.*

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

CANDLE LIGHTING HYMN: "Christ Be Our Light"

ELW 715 vs 1-2

*1) Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.*

***Refrain:** Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.*

2) Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice. (Refrain)

ADVENT CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

C: **Amen.**

L: Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

L: God of all time,

C: **we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

L: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!

C: **Amen.**

GREETING

L: 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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Creator of Joy,

C: **We come to you in our shared sorrows and needs. Helps us to also gather in shared joy and celebration. Reminding us of the complete joy found in Jesus Christ. God with us. Emmanuel. Amen**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Glo - - - - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o;

7
glo - - - - ri - a in ex-cel-sis De - o.

WORD of the DAY: Luke 1:39-56

³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

Mary’s Song of Praise

⁴⁶ And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.

Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name;

⁵⁰ indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;

he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly;

⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty.

⁵⁴ He has come to the aid of his child Israel,

in remembrance of his mercy,

⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,

to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

“The Magnificat” by Marty Haugen

Solo: An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth, to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, “rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child and his name shall be Jesus, the chosen one of God Most High.”

And Mary said, “I am the servant of the Lord, I live to do your will.”

All:

*1) My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you.
You have looked with love on your servant here and blessed me all my life through.
Great and mighty are you, O Holy One, strong is your kindness evermore.
How you favor the weak and lowly one, humbling the proud of heart.*

*2) You have cast the mighty down from their thrones, and uplifted the humble of heart,
You have filled the hungry with wondrous things, and left the wealthy no part.
Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One, strong is your justice, strong your love.
As you promised to Sarah and Abraham, kindness forevermore.*

*3) My soul proclaims your greatness, O God, and my spirit rejoices in you.
You have looked with love on your servant here and blessed me all my life through.*

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

ELW 836

*1) Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love! Hearts unfold like flow'rs
before thee, praising thee, their sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the
gloom of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.*

*2) All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays, stars and
angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flow'ry meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird, and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in
thee.*

*3) Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest, wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest! Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are
thine; teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!*

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 into hell.**

**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.**

PRAYER SONG: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

ELW 257 V. 1

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

PRAYER SONG: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

ELW 257 V. 2

O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh: in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING / OFFERTORY: "What Child Is This"

ELW 296 V. 3

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him. The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby; joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

OFFERING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *ELW p. 154*

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.

SENDING HYMN: "Joy to the World"

ELW 267 vs 1-2

1) Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

2) Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

BLESSING / THREE BELLS

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Helping people experience the Love of God.**

POSTLUDE

BAPTIZED TODAY after the 10:30am service is Anthony James Knecht, son of Benjamin and Kendra Knecht. Anthony was born on September 21, 2025 in Fargo, North Dakota. His Godparents are Elizabeth Branson and Christopher Knecht.

O Lord, Hear Our Prayers

Praise & Thanksgiving to God for...

The people of Our Savior's

Those celebrating birthdays today: Roger Anderson, Jace Leshuk, Dustin Nagel

God's Healing Presence for...

Bryan Mueller	Lindsey Gilbertson (Kathy Duval's brother)
Bonnie Spicer	Marilyn Hall (Sarah Lovas' mom)
Jeanie Swenson	Connie Fillion (Phyllis Leraas' sister)
Mya Oelrich	Asher Madsen (Vicki Madsen's great grandson)
Dan Bjorklund	Tim Klocke (Mike Tweten's friend)
Clarice Satrom	Robert Thompson (Isaac, Ava, Mia's grandpa)
Vicki Dahlstrom	Dennis Sollid (Anne Kittelson's dad)
Jerry Boeddeker	Steve Rinke (Stacy Dickhoff's step-dad)
Becky Foss	Todd Donner (Tanya Buethner's brother)
Deb Kritzberger	Scott Berry (Benjamin Strand's uncle)
Carol Christianson	Jon Pawlikowski (Veronika Lee's dad)
Kenna Kappes	Dennis Taus (Phyllis Leraas' brother-in-law)
Peggy Gilbertson	Elaina Mueller (Bonnie Mueller's granddaughter)
Susie Anderson	Marta Datsik (McSparron's Exchange Student-Ukraine)
Charlie Anderson	Barry Sailor (Tara Fandrich's uncle)
	Hunter Gordon (Eunice Morlock's grandson-in-law)

Safety for those serving in the Military... especially those serving in combat areas:

Our Sympathy to... Those in our church family who have experienced the death of a family member or friend:

SENIOR PASTOR: Pastor Joe Johnson, 701-430-3787

EDUCATION PASTOR: Pastor Amanda Johnson, 218.556.8895

VISITATION MINISTER: Joy McSparron, 701.361.9990

HEAD USHERS: (8:30) Peter Lovas (10:30) Carissa and Scott Olsen

ACOLYTES: (8:30) Brynn Spokely, Audrey Theis

(10:30) Wyatt Torgerson, Bergit Abentroth

ATTENDANCE: December 14, 2025 – 37 (8:30); 66 (10:30)

STEWARDSHIP REPORT: December 14, 2025: \$2,867.00; Dec. to date: \$7,953.01.

Income through Nov. 30, 2025: \$358,305.21; Expenses through Nov. 30, 2025:

\$388,253.51 Income less Expense: -\$29,948.30

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (Due in the church office by 9am Thursdays)

Today! - HELP MILLIE BE MOBILE: Pancakes & Sausage

Sunday, December 21 from 9am-1pm at St. Rose of Lima Parish Center, 503 3rd St.

SE, Hillsboro. Free will donation. Make checks payable to “Millie McLean Benefit”.

Benefit account also available at Dakota Heritage Bank, Hillsboro. Sponsored by

Hillsboro Knights of Columbus with help from the St. Rose of Lima Altar Society to

benefit Millie McLean, daughter of Alex and Anna McLean, granddaughter of Mark and

Michelle McLean of Hillsboro. Millie was born with a rare genetic condition called Tibial

Hemimelia and will require several medical visits, procedures such as hand surgery and

double lower leg amputation, as well as adaptive equipment.

ND State Hospital Gifts: Two boxes of gifts were sent to the volunteers at the State

Hospital to dispense at Christmas to clients there. THANK YOU to those of you who

donated; we had many nice gifts to share. It is our small way of letting them know

someone remembers them and cares about them. Thank You, WELCA

QUILTING: We will resume quilting on **Monday, January 5 at 9 AM.** We are always

looking for new people to assist with this project. Making kits and quilts is one of our

most needed projects. *Lutheran World Relief tells us how receiving a quilt or kit, when in*

dire need, is a reminder to the recipient that someone is thinking of them. If you are

available on any part of Mondays, January through March, 9am-4pm, consider coming

and joining in the fun! Come for all or any part of the day, bring a sack lunch or go out

for lunch, bring snacks to share if you wish. No experience necessary. We hope to see

you there!

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Sunday, December 21

8:30am Worship Service
9:30am Coffee/Fellowship
10:30am Contemporary Worship
7:00pm AA Meeting

Monday, December 22

Meal Delivery Week
Steeple Talk Jan. news due

Tuesday, December 23

7:00am Text Bible Study
-at Hillsboro Café

Wednesday, December 24

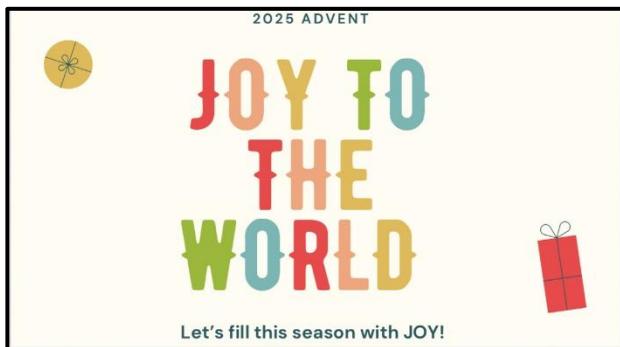
1:30pm Worship Service at Care Center
3:30pm Candlelight Christmas Eve service
at Our Savior's
5:30pm Candlelight Christmas Eve service
at Our Savior's

Thursday, December 25

Merry Christmas Day!

Sunday, December 28

9:30am Worship Service
10:30am Coffee/Fellowship
7:00pm AA Meeting



The Offering

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The image shows a hand holding a gold offering plate with money being placed into it. Below this is a promotional graphic for VANCO Mobile Faith Engagement. It includes logos for Google Play and the App Store, a QR code, and a text number for donations.