



Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the “Means of Grace” — God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship

December 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

REJOICE, GOD IS HERE!

Welcome & Intro

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Reading

John 1:1-5, 14

O Come Holy Night

Video

Hymn of Confession

When in The Hour of Deepest Need

LSB 615 v 1,5

1 When in the hour of deepest need

(tune 357)

**We know not where to look for aid; When days and nights
of anxious thought No help or counsel yet have brought.**

**And so we come, O God to you this day And all our woes
before You lay.**

Refrain

5 O from our sins, Lord, turn your face; Absolve us through
your boundless grace. Be with us in our anguish still;
Free us at last from ev’ry ill. *Refrain*

Absolution

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

LSB 357 v 1,6

**1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear. *Refrain***

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Refrain

**6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain***

Reading

Romans 1:1-7

1 Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God— 2 the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures 3 regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, 4 and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. 5 Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. 6 And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. 7 To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

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

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of our Lord

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

A Blessed Messiah was Born

Choir

Homily

Presentation of the Offering

Please sign the Friendship Register located on each pew and pass it to others seated with you so that we may have a record of all those who are worshipping and receiving communion with us today.

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Sanctus

Tune of 374

C Holy, Holy, Holy LORD

We sing Alleluia!

God of Sabaoth adored

We sing Alleluia!

Heaven and Earth with full acclaim Singing Alleluia!

Sing Hosanna to the King,

Singing Alleluia!

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Agnus Dei

Tune of 370

C What feast of love is offered here,

What banquet come from heaven?

What food of everlasting life,

What gracious gift is given?

This, this is Christ the king,

The bread come down from heaven.

Oh, taste and see and sing!

How sweet the manna given!

What light of truth is offered here,

What covenant from heaven?

What hope of everlasting life,

What wondrous word is given?

This, this is Christ the king,

**The sun come down from heaven.
Oh, see and hear and sing!
The Word of God is given!
What wine of love is offered here,
What crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life,
What precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the king,
The sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
The Son of God is given!**

Distribution

We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith.

If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit.

This is Jesus

Choir

Reading

Luke 2:8-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

P This is the Gospel of our Lord

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Candle Lighting Ceremony

Noel

Choir

Reading

Isaiah 60:1-3

“Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

2 See, darkness covers the earth

and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.

3 Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Joy to the World

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Announcements

Sending

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Spirit of Christ Music Ensemble

Trumpet - Blake Peterson

Horn – Emily Borra

Arrangement & Bass - Graydon Peterson

Keyboard – Joe Bensing

Choir

Natalie Hofman

Sue Anderson

Whitney Buus

Sarah Skogerboe

Jody Rose

Toni Peterson

Betsy Will

Karen Olson

Steve Johnson

Wayne Chambard

Monica Lux

Robert Pajak

Phil Marquardt

Mike Matheson

Eric Skogerboe

Kevin Zimmerman

Technical

Jason Baker

Nathaniel Marquardt

Hannah Schoenbauer

Clayton Yares

Dan Stockwell

Staff

Office Manager- Amy Fey

Music Director- John Peterson

Serving in Worship

December 21, 2025

Pastor

Jason Neel

Usher

Art Hayden

Elders

Phil Marquardt

Carl Schwanbeck

Readers

Wayne Chambard

Robert Pajak

Organist

Karine Platt

Acolyte

Eden Miller

In our prayers:

Celebrating Birthdays: Linda McCarty 12/23, Jonathan Weinhold 12/26, Kenny Schieffer 12/26, and Collin Mathiason 12/27.

Wedding Anniversaries: Randy & Cheryl Herschman 12/21.

This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
Wednesday	4:00 p.m.	Sunday School Program
	4:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service
	9:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service
Thursday	10:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Service
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour

Notes of Information:

Wednesday Night soup suppers: Thank you all who provided a soup, dessert, crackers, bread and fellowship. We are all very blessed here at Spirit of Christ. Thanks again!!

Sunday School Program: Please join us today at 4:00 for the "Sunday School Kids Christmas Program". The kids will be sharing with you the Christmas Story and we all will be singing Christmas Carole's. Refreshments will be served following the program. Please support our Youth and join us on December 21st.

Christmas Day Services: Christmas Day Services will be held at 10:00am this year.

Stewardship Messages: *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10)*

2026 calendars: The 2026 youth calendars are available for purchase in the narthex or church office. The calendars are \$10. All the proceeds from the calendars will be given to the youth to support mission trips.

Book Club: Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet in the fellowship hall at 7 p.m. Dates and books are:

There is NO Book Club in December
January 26 - The Women by Kristin Hannah
February 23 - James by Percival Everett

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager

Prayer Opportunity: An Elder will be available weekly at the end of service at the Communion Rail for personal prayer support. If privacy is requested that it will be accommodated.

NACE: At this time NACE is **no longer** taking any clothes at this time. Food needs are canned Fruit, Sides and Peanut Butter. For more information, reach out to Toni Peterson.

Carl's Movie Minute:

David: One for the kid. An animated movie focusing on the story of David. Dec. 19-23 at AMC Mounds View, Emagine White Bear, and East Bethel.

Zero A.D. The story of events around Jesus' birth told as a dark thriller, focusing on the post-birth reactions of Herod and others (and the massacre that followed). Not exactly a light-hearted Christmas movie, however it has a star-studded cast and covers the part of the story we'd prefer to forget but was significant. Opens 12/19 at locations TBD (but likely the usual ones).

Looking forward to '26 at least 9 Christian themed movie ready for '26 release beginning in late January.

<i>Average Weekly Offering</i>	\$6,858
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$7,271

Readings for next week:

Isaiah 63:7-14, Galatians 4:4-7, Matthew 2:13-23



BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

L E I S T C A M J K K R A M H
U P R D I M U C F K E A W D T
K J O N A H J U D G E S B E U
E D P S S V A E I D X K I Z U
R W J O S H U A S M C V H E P
O M J L A I S A I A H K F K M
Q Z G J O H N E S D O W G I A
S R J E T A H O E J E B C E E
W E P X J F D S N K P Q W L S
E H J O B A P C E E O W X L O
R T A D K U S O G B O J K N H
B S K U T Q A L E I N A D D N
E E P S X L L J M E K J T N K
H P U Z T K M T R U T H W J W
V R O M A N S F V E Z R A U P

WORD LIST

ACTS	EZRA	JOB	LUKE
DANIEL	GENESIS	JOHN	MARK
ESTHER	HEBREWS	JONAH	PSALMS
EXODUS	HOSEA	JOSHUA	ROMANS
EZEKIEL	ISAIAH	JUDGES	RUTH

Homemade
GIFTS MADE EASY



SPIRIT of **CHRIST**
Lutheran Church

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www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org

Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another, reaching out to all people,
proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

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Prayer Chain (Sue Hurst):	Sd_hurst@yahoo.com