

Second Sunday in Advent

December 7, 2025

10:00 a.m. – Holy Communion

First Lutheran Church

Pastor Bryan Anderson



Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

***Opening Hymn #67 (LBW) – Away in a Manger**

***Brief Order for Confession – LBW Page 77**

***Lord Have Mercy – LBW Page 78**

***This is the Feast – LBW Page 81**

***Prayer of the Day**

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-6

The royal line of David is like a tree that has been cut down; but just as new branches sprout from a stump, so a new king will arise from among David's descendants. **2** The spirit of the Lord will give him wisdom and the knowledge and skill to rule his people. He will know the Lord's will and honor him, **3** and find pleasure in obeying him. He will not judge by appearance or hearsay; **4** he will judge the poor fairly and defend the rights of the helpless. At his command the people will be punished, and evil persons will die. **5** He will rule his people with justice and integrity. **6** Wolves and sheep will live together in peace, and leopards will lie down with young goats. Calves and lion cubs will feed together, and little children will take care of them.

Second Reading: Romans 15:7-13

Accept one another, then, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you. **8** For I tell you that Christ's life of service was on behalf of the Jews, to show that God is faithful, to make his promises to their ancestors come true, **9** and to enable even the Gentiles to praise God for his mercy. As the scripture says, "And so I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing praises to you." **10** Again it says, "Rejoice, Gentiles, with God's people!" **11** And again, "Praise the Lord, all Gentiles; praise him, all peoples!" **12** And again, Isaiah says, "A descendant of Jesse will appear; he will come to rule the Gentiles, and they will put their hope in him." **13** May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace by means of your faith in him, so that your hope will continue to grow by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hymn of Praise #39 (LBW) – Joy to the World

***Gospel Reading: Matthew 3:1-12**

At that time John the Baptist came to the desert of Judea and started preaching. **2** "Turn away from your sins," he said, "because the Kingdom of heaven is near!" **3** John was the man the prophet Isaiah was talking about when he said, "Someone is shouting in the desert, 'Prepare a road for the Lord; make a straight path for him to travel!'" **4** John's clothes were made of camel's hair; he wore a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. **5** People came to him from Jerusalem, from the whole province of Judea, and from all over the country near the Jordan River. **6** They confessed their sins, and he baptized them in the Jordan. **7** When John saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming to him to be baptized, he said to them, "You snakes - who told you that you could escape from the punishment God is about to send? **8** Do

those things that will show that you have turned from your sins. **9** And don't think you can escape punishment by saying that Abraham is your ancestor. I tell you that God can take these rocks and make descendants for Abraham! **10** The ax is ready to cut down the trees at the roots; every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown in the fire. **11** I baptize you with water to show that you have repented, but the one who will come after me will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. He is much greater than I am; and I am not good enough even to carry his sandals. **12** He has his winnowing shovel with him to thresh out all the grain. He will gather his wheat into his barn, but he will burn the chaff in a fire that never goes out."

Sermon

Hymn of the Day #36 (LBW) – On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

***Prayers of the Church**

***Lord's Prayer**

***Great Thanksgiving – LBW Page 88**

***Words of Institution**

Communion

Announcements

Choral Blessing

Dismissal

P Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



You are invited to use our QR code for online giving.
Offering is also received in the plates at the entrance to the sanctuary.

Organist: Brian Wick
Reader: Chris Petersen
Altar Guild: Richard Selvig
Communion Asst: Hannah Eckwall
Greeters: Dale & Sherry Wirth
Counters: Hannah Eckwall & Laura Lieffring
Ushers: Jane Scholz & Kevin Kamm
Fellowship Servers: Neil & Emily Larson Family
November 30th Worship Attendance: 8:30 AM–21; 10:00 AM–60: Total: 81

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to all who join in worship today, especially any visitors. Guests are invited to fill out the visitor slip so we can become better acquainted. Fellowship will follow worship in the hall.

We keep the following in our prayers and acts of love: Cindy Nelson, Kermit Thompson, Elaine Solum, Judi Desmond, Carole Larson, Levi Ramsey, and Sandy Jessen, sister-in-law of Laura Lieffring. *If you want to be included on the public prayer list, please notify the church office.*

2026 Offering Envelopes are now available: To save on postage, we hope to pass out as many packets as we can. Please pick yours up today at the table in the entry. Please note: Individuals enrolled in online or automated giving will not receive offering envelopes unless requested.

Our Daily Bread home devotionals are available to pick up in the entry. We invite you to share with a friend.

The family of LaMoyne Emerson would like to invite everyone to celebrate his 90th birthday next Sunday, December 14th from 1-3:00 PM. There will be refreshments, snacks, coffee and sweets. No gifts please!

The Clear Lake United Methodist Church is once again sponsoring a “Christmas for Children” drive to provide gifts for area children who otherwise may not receive gifts at Christmas time. Anyone wishing to donate items can do so by leaving them in the container labeled “Christmas for Children” in the church entry.

Snow Shoveling Volunteers are needed. Volunteers are asked to sign-up on the sheet at the back of worship for a week time slot. If it snows that week please remove all from the walkways as shown on the shoveling map with the sign-up.

Family Christmas Caroling
Next Sunday, December 14th
3-5:00 PM
(Start at church.)



THIS WEEK

Today 11:00 AM-Fellowship
11:00 AM-Choir Practice

Tuesday 9:00 AM-Quilting

Wednesday 10:00 AM-Staff Meeting
Fellowship & Fun Night
5:30 PM-Supper
6:00 PM-Fellowship & Fun
6:15 PM-7th & 8th Grade Confirmation
6:15 PM-High School Bible Study
7:30 PM-9th Grade Confirmation

Thursday 9:30 AM-Morning Grace Bible Study
2:00 PM-Ridgeview Bible Study
6:30 PM-Church Council

Saturday 7:30 AM-Women's Book Study

Next Sunday 8:30 AM-Contemporary Worship
9:30 AM-Fellowship
10:00 AM-Christmas Program Practice
10:00 AM-Traditional Worship
11:00 AM-Potluck
11:00 AM-Choir Practice
1-3:00 PM-Birthday Party for LaMoyne Emerson, Sr.
3-5:00 PM-Family Caroling