

*Mary  
treasured  
up all these  
things,  
pondering  
them in  
her heart.*



LUKE 2:19, ESV

## **ADVENT TWO**

Living Hope Lutheran . . . . . December 7, 2025

# LIVING HOPE LUTHERAN

A Congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

3100 East Calumet Street • Appleton, Wisconsin

[appletonlutheran.com](http://appletonlutheran.com)



[Mary]  
treasured  
all these  
things in  
her heart.

Luke 2:51, NIV

**Divine Worship. . . 2pm**

**Christmas Decoration . . . 3pm**

Andrew A. Schaller, Vacancy Pastor

Cell: (605) 880-7886

## **ADVENT TWO**

December 7, 2025

### **PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP:**

**PSALM: 117 (LSB);**

**PRAYERS: Before Communing (Inside Cover, LSB);**

**Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament (Inside Cover, LSB).**

**HYMNS: LSB 810 LSB 349 LSB 352 LSB 331**

### **OPENING PRAYER**

**OPENING HYMN: LSB 810 - “O God of God, O Light of Light”**

**A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT** (Setting 2, WS Pg. 12)

**Pastor:** In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen.**

**Pastor:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**Congregation: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

**C: Amen.**

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy on us.  
Christ, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy on us.

C: ♪ Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;  
Of heav'nly joy and peace on earth we sing.  
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.

♪ Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,  
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,  
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.

♪ Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,  
At God's right hand in majesty most high:  
Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,  
With all the heav'n-ly host we glorify.

Pastor: Let us pray...through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever." **C: Amen.**

## **ADVENT CANDLE**

## **THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE**

### **OT LESSON**

### **MALACHI 4:1-6**

"For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup> But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. <sup>3</sup> And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the Lord of hosts.

<sup>4</sup> "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

<sup>5</sup> "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. <sup>6</sup> And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."\*

**EPISTLE LESSON:****2 PETER 1:3-11**

<sup>3</sup>His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, <sup>4</sup>by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. <sup>5</sup>For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, <sup>6</sup>and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, <sup>7</sup>and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. <sup>8</sup>For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. <sup>10</sup>Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. <sup>11</sup>For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. \*

**GOSPEL LESSON:****LUKE 17:20-30**

<sup>20</sup>Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, "The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, <sup>21</sup>nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There!' for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you."

<sup>22</sup>And he said to the disciples, "The days are coming when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. <sup>23</sup>And they will say to you, 'Look, there!' or 'Look, here!' Do not go out or follow them. <sup>24</sup>For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day. <sup>25</sup>But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. <sup>26</sup>Just as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days of the Son of Man. <sup>27</sup>They were eating and drinking and marrying and being given in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all.

<sup>28</sup> Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, <sup>29</sup> but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all— <sup>30</sup> so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed. \*

### **THE ALLELUIA:**

**Pastor:** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**Congregation:**

♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### **CONFESSION OF FAITH:**

### **THE APOSTLES CREED**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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, the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From there He will come to judge the living and the dead;

I believe in the Holy Spirit; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting. Amen.

**HYMN:** LSB 349 - *“Hark the Glad Sound”*

### **THE SERMON:**

**LUKE 2:19**

<sup>19</sup> But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

\*\*\*

## **THE SILENCE OF MARY**

### **THE OFFERTORY**

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

## **THE OFFERINGS OF THANKFUL HEARTS**

We express our thanksgiving for what the Savior Jesus has done for us by supporting His Work with our time, talents and gifts. Should you wish to leave a gift, there are offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary.

### **THE OFFERING HYMN**

**(WS 788)**

♪ Lord, You love the cheerful giver Who with open heart and hand  
Blesses freely, as a river That refreshes all the land. Grant us, then,  
the grace of giving With a spirit large and true That our life and all  
our living We may consecrate to You.

♪ We are yours – Your mercy sought us, Found us in death's  
dreadful way, To the fold in safety brought us, Nevermore from You  
to stray. Your own life was freely given As an off-ring on the cross  
For each sinner, now forgiven From eternal shame and loss.

♪ Blessed by You with gifts and graces, May we heed Your Spirit's  
call, Gladly in all times and places Give to You who gives us all. You  
have bought us; now no longer Can we claim to be our own; Ever  
free and ever stronger We shall serve You, Lord, a-lone.

### **PRAYER(S)**

#### **THE 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.

**HYMN: LSB 352** - *"Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"*

## **THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT:**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**Congregation:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

**Congregation:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**Pastor:** It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and Everlasting God. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the Messiah, the very Lamb of God, and calling sinners to repentance, that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory; Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sa-ba-oth, 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!

**Pastor:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

## **LAMB OF GOD**

♪ O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose blood, once shed, true life restored, Impart Your joy, our faith increase. Sustain with Your mercy and grant us Your peace.

## THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT:



In the early church, Communion was thought of so highly that no one except confirmed members of the church were allowed even to watch it. This practice was more strict than necessary, of course. But the early church did understand something that many today do not: that Communion was never intended for indiscriminate use by everyone, but was restricted to those who are properly prepared. If you have

never communed with us before, and desire the benefits of the Lord's Supper, please set up an appointment with the pastor to discuss how you can prepare properly. **The Lord's Supper will be received standing before the altar.**

## O LORD, NOW LET YOUR SERVANT

♪ O Lord, now let your servant Depart in heav'n-ly peace,  
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

♪ All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three-in-One;  
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

## THANKSGIVING

♪ My heart has now become Your dwelling,  
O blessed, holy Trinity.  
With angels I, Your praises telling,  
Shall live in joy eternally.  
Lord, may Your body and Your blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!

THE BENEDICTION: (Pastor) CONGREGATION: "Amen."

CLOSING HYMN: LSB 331 - *"The Advent of Our King"*

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in Jesus' name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us and hope that you will return again. If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please either speak with the pastor or with an usher on the way out.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

December 7, 2025

### **THIS AFTERNOON AFTER WORSHIP:**

✓ Church Decoration

### **THIS WEEK**

**Tuesday:** Living Hope Council Meeting

**Sunday:** Worship 2pm, Christmas Practice 3pm.

### **2026 CLC MISSION HELPER TRIP**

*The CLC Mission Helper Program is making preparations for another Mission Trip to Africa for the summer of 2026. The main focus of this trip will be presenting the Gospel, through a series of child evangelism lessons, to member and non-member children in village congregations. Possible areas of evangelism include the CLC-Tanzania, CLC-Kenya, CLC-Zambia, and CLC-Uganda. CLC members are welcome and encouraged to apply. For more information and to apply, visit [www.mht.lutheranmissions.org](http://www.mht.lutheranmissions.org).*

### **ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT**

*Faith Lutheran will be hosting Advent by Candlelight for all women in the congregation, family, and friends, on Sunday, December 7th starting at 3pm at Faith Lutheran in Markesan. Please join us for this wonderful afternoon of Word, music, and fellowship. Please RSVP at the link below. Any questions, please reach out to Jessica Krueger at [cottej88@gmail.com](mailto:cottej88@gmail.com) or 920-369-8113.*

<https://markesanlutheran.com/events/candlelight/>

### **CHURCH DECORATION**

*This morning, after worship the members of Living Hope will gather to decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas Season. Folks are asked to bring snacks or an appetizer to share while decorating. There will be no Bible Class or Sunday School on December 7<sup>th</sup>. In fact, there won't be Bible Class or Sunday School until after the Holiday Season.*

### **MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES**

*Although there are no Midweek Advent Services scheduled for Living Hope this year, the services at Luther Memorial are being streamed shortly after 6pm on December 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> at [www.fdllutheran.com](http://www.fdllutheran.com).*

## **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

*Confirmation Class is scheduled to take place this Tuesday at 3:30pm and Tuesday December 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm.*

## **CHURCH ROOF REPLACEMENT**

*Due to the snow and cold weather, the roof replacement has been rescheduled for the spring. The tentative start date is now April 2, 2026.*

## **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

*There will be a lay-led Christmas Eve Service this year entitled "Let's Go to Bethlehem." The service will take place on Christmas Eve (December 24<sup>th</sup>) at 6pm.*

## **CLC CALL NEWS**

*Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church in Spokane, WA has called Pastor David Naumann, who currently serves St. John's Lutheran Church in Clarkston, WA and Peace Lutheran Church in Orofino, ID. • Pastor Johnathan Schnose has returned the call of Living Hope Lutheran in Appleton. • Messiah Lutheran Church of Eau Claire, Wisconsin has called Pastor Ben Libby to serve as their 3<sup>rd</sup> Full-time pastor. • Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Red Wing, MN has called Pastor Terrell Kesterson of Ascension Lutheran in Batavia (Chicago) IL to serve part-time. • Pastor Emeritus Michael Eichstadt has been called as the vacancy pastor of Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church in Phoenix AZ. • Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church in Phoenix AZ has called Pastor Ben Libby who currently serves Redeemer Ev. Lutheran in Cheyenne, WY.*

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## **HOME DEVOTIONS FOR DECEMBER 8-13, 2025**

**Monday – Luke 21:25-36** Jesus points to the fear and fainting of the unbelieving world when He comes in power and glory. But for His own it is a time of blessing (v28) to look forward to and to stay ready for!

**Tuesday – Romans 15:4-13** The purpose of prophecy was to give us hope, that in that hope we may accept one another as Christ also accepted us. The God of hope gives joy and peace to both Jew and Gentile believers.

**Wednesday – Micah 4:1-7** The prophet Micah looks forward to the time when the whole world looks to the mountain of the House of the Lord, whose word goes forth from Zion with peace and healing for all mankind.

**Thursday – Psalm 91** The Almighty promises protection to all who live in His presence. They will fear no terror by night or day, for He pledges to rescue those who find shelter in Him. Yes, LORD, You are my refuge (v2,9)!

**Friday – Psalm 42:1-5** As a hunted deer pants for cool relief, so the believer longs for God. People may say, “Where is your God?” But the beleaguered believer finds his hope in God and salvation in His presence.

**Saturday – Psalm 42:6-11** When the evils of this world seem to have caught up to and overcome the believer, he remembers the LORD’s mercy by day and at night. He knows that he will again praise Him for his salvation.



These devotions are produced by Pastor/Professor Emeritus Paul Schaller and sent out on a weekly basis. Graphics in the bulletin are taken from Church Art Online via a regular legal subscription.