

Announcements

THE WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Denise Arnold

Music: Linda Monahan

Coffee hour: Cathy Haleverson

Flowers: Ron Walther

Communion Asst.: Barry Walther

Reader: Hilary Walther

Greeter: Odin & Ruby Walther

Next week

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Denise Arnold

Jan Thompson

Jackie Erickson

Carol Rife

Jackie Erickson

Allan Erickson

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Ron Walther.

JOIN US FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 2nd – Sit & Be Fit – 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

Dec 3rd – Advent – White Elephant Event/potluck 5:30pm.

Dec 7th – Council meeting (after service) Moved due to Christmas dinner on 14th.

Dec 8th & 9th – FISH

Dec 9th – Sit & Be Fit – 10:30 in the sanctuary due to FISH.

Dec 10th – Advent – Ladies' craft night. 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Dec 13th – Men's Breakfast 8:30 in the Fellowship Hall.

Dec 14th – Christmas Dinner – 11:00 am after service.

Dec 16th – Sit & Be Fit – 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall .

Dec 17th – Advent – Caroling at noon.

Dec 20th – Cookie Therapy for all. 10:00 am.

Dec 21st – Brown Bag Nativity Fun – during service.

Dec 28th – Jan 3rd – Family Promise Week

No Sit & Be Fit Dec 23 & 30. Resumes January 6, 2026

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Worship for Sunday, November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent



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Pastor: Rev. Dr. Denise Arnold (cell) 253-740-9006

Pastor's hours: Tuesday-10:30am-3pm & Thurs 9:30 am-3pm

Pastor Denise email: pastordenisearnold@comcast.net

Office hours: Tues. 9am-2pm & Thurs. 9am-2pm

Introduction to the day

Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thessalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come from a world of darkness

All: Into Christ’s world of light.

Leader: We come from a world of weariness

All: Into God’s strength and hope.

Leader: We come from a slumbering world.

All: Strengthened by the Spirit, we come to awaken our souls and watch for the coming of Christ

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose home is heaven and earth,
whose salvation is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Long-expected God,
**we confess that we look to ourselves
for the peace and security only you can provide.
We reach for swords and spears,
reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.
We become impatient while waiting
and weary of keeping awake.
Free us from self-reliance,**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

COMMUNION HYMN O Come Let us Adore Him (Refrain)

PLEASE RISE FOR THE COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

**Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation.
We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for
showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and
go with us as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.**

BLESSING

God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light, God, our hope for
the journey, bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *ELW 300 First Noel*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel. **Thanks be to God.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

LOVE HAS COME

Musical notation for the hymn 'Love Has Come'. It consists of four staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff.

1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -

Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.

hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the

you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

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.**

**and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.
Increase our trust in God’s timing,
and awaken us to your advent among us,
that we may abound in the hope you have promised.
Amen.**

God judges us not as we deserve,
but according to God’s own righteousness.
✝ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace,
and ready to welcome the Savior.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (ELW 257)

Sing Hymn ELW 240 Light one Candle to Watch for Messiah Sing verse 1

Musical notation for the hymn 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel'. It consists of two staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff.

1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.

He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (MAGNIFICAT from Marty Haugen)

All:

1., 3. My — soul pro - claims your
2. You have cast the might - y

great - ness, O God, and my spir - it re - joic - es in
down from their thrones, and up - lift - ed the hum - ble of

you, You have looked with love on your
heart, You have filled the hun - gry with

first last time

ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.

Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One.

strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more.
strong is your jus - tice strong your love,

How you fa - vor the weak — and low - ly one,
As you prom - ised to Sar - ah and A - bra - ham,

hum - bling the proud of heart,
kind - ness for - ev - er — more.

OFFERING

146 We are an offering

F/G G C² Dm⁷ C²/E C/E

We lift our voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our

F C/E Dm⁷ F/G G C² Dm⁷

lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our

C²/E C/E F C/E Dm⁷ F/G G/F

hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing.

Em⁷ Em⁷/A A Dm⁷ Dm⁷/G Esus D/F# E/G# Am

All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we

Dm⁷ C²/E Bb/C Dm^{7sus2} Dm⁷ F/G

give to you, we give to you.

G C² Dm⁷ C²/E C/E

We lift our voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our

F C/E Dm⁷ Dm⁷/G C

lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray,
Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God of the people, we come seeking wisdom and instruction. Uphold and strengthen lay leaders, teachers, deacons, pastors, and bishops. Teach us your ways and lead us in your paths. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of the earth, we seek your goodness in the grandeur of creation. Empower us to care for forests and oceans, as we see you in the world around us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, grant wisdom to leaders, judges, and mediators. Cast out words of hate and transform them into words for building up community. Remake implements of war to sow peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of healing, bring comfort and strength. We pray for our kindred and companions who are ill or despairing. Surround all with care and consolation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of new possibilities, when addiction wounds, jealousy tears down, and relationships fray, show us how to journey with one another. Nurture therapists, counselors, and sponsors in their care for others. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For what else do the people of God Pray?

God of all time, build up our lives that we would reflect your grace. At the last, bring us with all the saints (especially) to your holy city where peace and goodness make a home. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC BY RJ CRUZ

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come the mountain of the LORD’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

PSALM: Psalm 122

¹ I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD.”

² **Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³ Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself;

⁴ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD.**

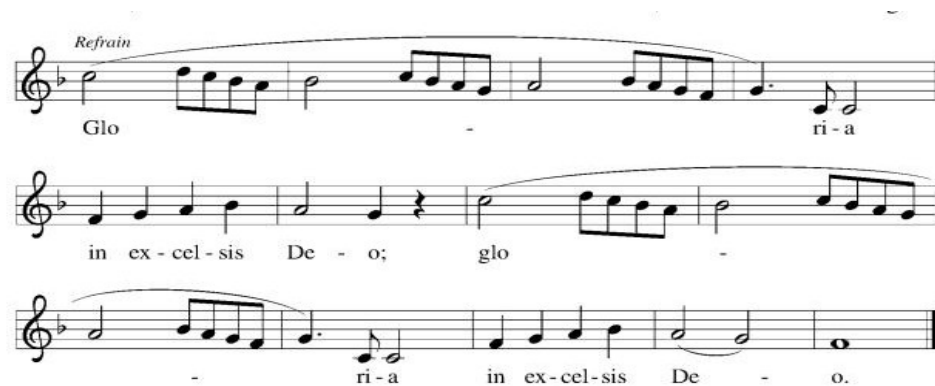
⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

- ⁶ **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.**
⁷ Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers.
⁸ **For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity.**
⁹ Because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to do you good.”

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

- ¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers;
¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy.
¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ “About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field;

one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S/COMMUNITY TIME

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY *People, Look East* (ELW 248)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Or, “who proceeds from the Father.” The phrase “and the Son” is a later addition to the creed.

THE PRAYERS

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.