

# ADVENT



NORTHDALE LUTHERAN CHURCH TAMPA, FL DECEMBER 1, 2019

# **Northdale Lutheran Church and School**

## 15709 MAPLEDALE BLVD TAMPA, FL 33624 WWW.NORTHDALELUTHERAN.ORG 813-961-9195

"WE GROW IN GOD'S WORD SO THAT WE CAN GO WITH GOD'S WORD"

# THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

**Welcome to Northdale Lutheran!** We are so glad you are joining us to proclaim what God has done and to sing his praises. Here the Lord also comes to us and strengthens us with his mighty Word. Take a moment to meet and greet those around you! Also:

- Restrooms are in the entrance and through the nursery hallway.
- Help us be more welcoming by signing the guest registers in each row.
- To help keep the sanctuary as a quiet place of worship and meditation and for your convenience, a Quiet Room is available for the whole service for young children in the back of the sanctuary. Please make use of this room if your child becomes loud in worship. *Please do not leave children unattended in the Quiet Room. We ask that at least one adult be present while children are in this room.*
- Everything you need for worship will be printed in the worship folder.

## WORSHIP THEME

Keep watch for the unexpected coming of Christ! The coming of Christ defines our present time because we know that he comes with unexpected judgment the unbelieving world and unexpected grace for his people. We are filled with hope, with love, and with light.



## ADVENT

Advent is a Latin word that means "coming." The season of Advent is the four week period before Christmas that the Church uses to remember the "coming" of the Christ. We celebrate that he came once as a baby in Bethlehem, and that he will come again at the end of time. The color for this season is blue. As we wait for our Savior to return, we do so with our eyes looking to the skies. The blue reminds us to keep looking to the sky for the return of our Savior.

## ADVENT WREATH

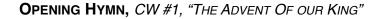
The Advent Wreath is a combination of two very common symbols: light and the fir tree. From the early centuries of Christianity it has been the practice to represent Christ by a burning candle. The fir tree has a long history of religious use. No doubt the Advent Wreath was suggested by the Christmas tree.

It seems that the Advent Wreath originated a few hundred years ago among the Lutherans of eastern Germany. A wreath of evergreens, made in various sizes, was either suspended from the ceiling or placed on a table. Four candles representing the four Sundays of Advent were fastened to the wreath.

Eventually the use of the Advent Wreath became wide spread and moved also from the home into the church. The general symbolism of the Advent Wreath lies in the growing light of the wreath, increasing each week as we approach the birthday of Jesus, the Light of the world.



## **CALL TO WORSHIP**





6 All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free, With Father, Spirit, ever one Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806-76, alt.

Tune: ST. THOMAS (SM) Aaron Williams, 1731-76.

## INVOCATION

(The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.)

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

## C: And also with you

## CONFESSION OF SINS:

M During the season of Advent, we remember how a lowly baby, born in Bethlehem, came to pay for the sins of the entire world. We also rejoice that he is coming again in his power and glory on the last day.

## C: With all the prophets and the Apostles we say, "Come, Emmanuel!"

M: Christ, the Light of this world has come once. We prepare for his coming again as we confess our sins.

O Advent King, come free us from the burden of our sins.

## C: Reign in our hearts so that sin is not our master.

M: O Word made flesh, give to us the robe of your righteousness.

#### C: Cleanse us of our sin and cover us with your perfection.

M: O righteous judge, do not cast us away.

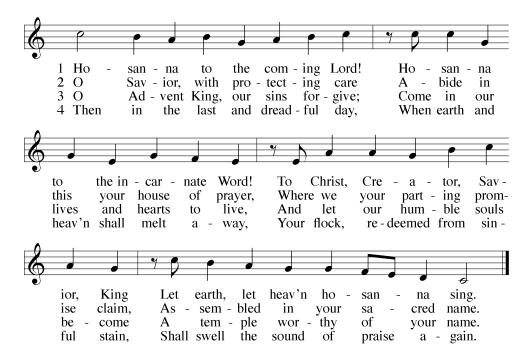
## C: Be merciful and come to us with your grace, mercy and peace.

- M: When the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of Sons. God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in him and through him to reconcile all things, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. In Jesus, your sins are forgiven and you are reconciled with God. Go now in the peace of Christ.
- C: Amen

## **PRAYER AND PRAISE**

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

## C: Sing CW #21, vs. 1 & 3



Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, abr., alt. Tune: VOM HIMMEL HOCH (LM) Schumann, *Geistliche lieder auffs new gebessert*, Leipzig, 1539.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

BE SEATED

## THE WORD OF GOD



## THE SECOND LESSON: ROMANS 13:11-14

Paul encourages us to let the nearness of the kingdom and unexpected nature of its arrival define our present time. Because Christ is coming soon, we live as citizens of his kingdom awaiting his arrival.

And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup>The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup>Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.



#### PSALM OF THE DAY, PSALM 18

God turns the darkness into light so we can live as his people.





#### Refrain

The LORD is my rock, my fortress and by deliverer;\* my God is my rock, in whom I take <u>ref</u>uge.

He reached down from on high and took <u>hold</u> of me;\* he rescued me from my powerful <u>enemy</u>.

He brought me out into a <u>spa</u>cious place;\* he rescued me because he delight<u>ed</u> in me.

#### Refrain

You, O LORD, keep my lamp <u>burn</u>ing;\* my God turns my darkness <u>in</u>to light.

You save the <u>hum</u>ble\* but bring low those whose eyes are <u>haughty</u>.

You give me your shield of <u>vic</u>tory,\* and your right hand sus<u>tains</u> me.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son\* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,\* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

## THE GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 24:36-44

The certainty of Christ's coming is never in question—only the timing. So Christ tells us to keep watch and to be ready.

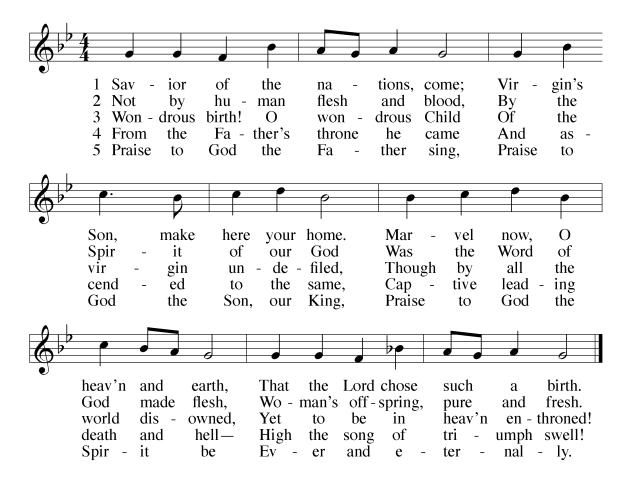
"But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

<sup>42</sup> "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

BE SEATED



SERMON HYMN, CW #2, "SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME"



Text: Ambrose, 340–97, abr.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76, alt. Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) *Geystiliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524.

## SERMON TEXT: ISAIAH 2:1-5

This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: <sup>2</sup>In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills. and all nations will stream to it. <sup>3</sup>Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. <sup>5</sup>Come, descendants of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

## SERMON THEME:

## Jesus' Coming Defines You

## THANKSGIVING

#### PLEASE STAND

## THE NICENE CREED

(Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.)

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 Marv. and became fully 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 in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

BE SEATED

## OFFERING

Please sign the Friendship Register in each of the pews and pass it to those sitting next to you.

Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Luke 12:34) The members of Northdale Lutheran joyfully give our offerings to the LORD in response to His Word and in thanks for the many ways he has blessed us. We have joined together as a congregation to use these offerings to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world through the work of our Synod. Your gifts moved by the Holy Spirit out love for God and his blessings are welcome.

Online giving is now set up and available through our membership software entitled Breeze. You can give through Breeze two ways: 1) You can give by texting "Give" to (813) 652-0408. 2). You can go to https://northdale.breezechms.com/give/online. You can certainly ask if you have any questions.

PLEASE STAND

## ADULT CONFIRMATION (10:30 A.M.SERVICE)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

## LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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 forever. Amen.

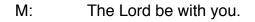
# THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

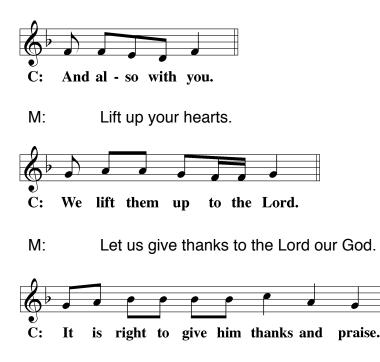
Northdale Lutheran practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of Northdale Lutheran or another WELS/ELS congregation partake of the sacrament today. If you have questions about becoming a member to partake of the sacrament, please speak to pastor after worship.



## PREFACE

(The words of the Preface mark the beginning of the Sacrament section of the service and lift the worshipers' hearts in praise. The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy.)





M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed



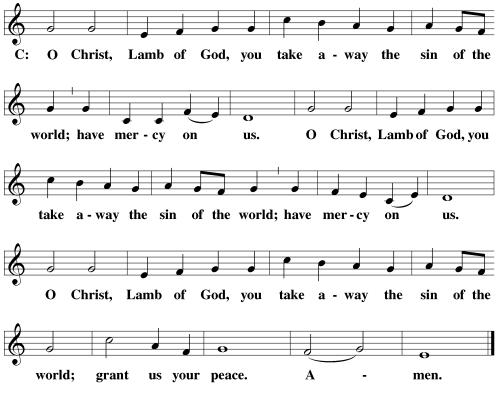
us with every spiritual blessing. Through his holy prophets, he promised a King to bring light to those living in darkness and in the shadow of death. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this,





whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

## DISTRIBUTION

(The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith.)

**GUESTS:** SO THAT THERE IS NO MISUNDERSTANDING, WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE SPEAK WITH THE PASTOR BEFORE COMMUNING WITH US.

**MEMBERS:** WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO USE "PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION" ON PAGE 156 IN THE FRONT OF THE HYMNAL.

BE SEATED

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS** 

CW #8, "COME, O PRECIOUS RANSOM, COME"



Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: MEINEN JESUM LASS ICH NICHT (78 78 77) Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1699, alt.

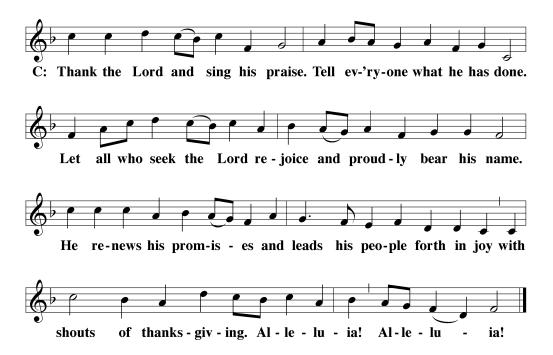


Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722, abr.; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907, alt.

Tune: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG (76 76 D) Hymnal and Order of Service, Rock Island, 1901.

PLEASE STAND

## SONG OF THANKSGIVING



## FINAL PRAYER

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace



BE SEATED

## 10 for 10 Video Week 10

Copies of today's sermon and last week's sermon can be found on the table in the narthex on the way out of church. You can also find them on our website at **www.northdalelutheran.org**. In addition, all of our services are live streamed & can be viewed through the live streaming link located on our church website. We also e-mail out daily devotions. If you would like to receive these daily devotions, please e-mail Pastor Vann at <a href="mailto:pastor@northdalelutheran.org">pastor@northdalelutheran.org</a> and let him know. You can also become a friend on Facebook.

## Announcements:

<u>Sunday Morning Bible Study:</u> We continue our Bible Study on the Four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) in our Sunday Morning Bible Study. We had a great turn out for our first class. We are excited to have so many people eager to learn about the Gospels. This class takes a look at the life of Jesus in a chronological order. It is a great way to become more acquainted with your Savior Jesus and know all that he did to live as your substitute here on this earth. It is through the study of God's Word that we remain connected to our Savior and grow in our faith and godly living. This is a great time for you to begin coming to Bible Study on Sunday. We hope to see you on Sunday morning.

**Thanksgiving Food Drive:** Our annual Fall Food Drive will continue through the first part of December. Every year at this time, we gather food to donate to Metropolitan Ministries to help feed those less fortunate than us. This is a great way for us to put our faith into action and to use what God has given us to his glory and to serve others. While we are not big enough here to host our own pantry, we collect food so that we can direct those who are needy to Metropolitan



ministries to receive the physical help that they need. Please purchase and bring in non-perishable food items.

**Women's Bible Study:** We have a special Women's Bible Study that meets once a month. This is a great time for our ladies to get to know one another and grow together as they study God's Word. They meet the first Sunday of every month at 12:00 noon after the Sunday Service. They have been studying through the book, Prepared to Answer, which helps to equip people to answer those hard questions that friends and neighbors often ask. Amy Vannieuwenhoven leads this class. We'd love to see this group grow as they begin meeting again. So I encourage all of the ladies to consider participating in this fun, growth group. They Meet after second service today.

<u>Mid-Week Advent Worship</u>: We have the opportunity to gather for a special mid-week Advent worship service on Wednesday, December 11. We will worship at 2:00 and 6:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to take a few moments during a busy season to pause and reflect on the goodness of our God as we prepare for his second coming. Join us!

**Annual Christmas Dinner/White Elephant Gift Auction:** Our annual Christmas Dinner/White Elephant gift auction will be held on Sunday, December 15 after our second service. This is an annual gathering that is a blast. We ask each person to bring a gift to auction off and all of the proceeds help to fund our Women of Northdale who take care of the paraments and the decorations in our church. There will be a potluck dinner served that day. We will have a sign up sheet in the entryway if you are planning to attend, just so we know we have a variety of foods available. Set your calendars and plan to attend this great fun activity.

**Christmas Worship Schedule:** It is time to once again be thinking about our Christmas worship of our Lord and King. What joyous days of celebration these are for God's people as we ponder God's love in the miracle of Jesus becoming flesh. We invite you and any guests you might want to invite and/or bring to join us for each of these special opportunities to gather before God and worship him for his goodness in sending Jesus to be our Savior. Our Christmas Worship is as follows:

Christmas Eve Worship: Tuesday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Children's Service

6:30 p.m. Candlelight Service

Christmas Day Festival Service: Wednesday, December 25 10:00 a.m.

## Called Staff

Pastor Charlie Vannieuwenhoven: 813-787-4854 Principal Dane Mattes: 920-588-7599 Aimee Hardman: 813-464-5113 Christopher Haring: 517-202-7283 Joanne Mattes: 920-588-7596 Bethany Schwartz: 920-222-9279 Amy Vannieuwenhoven: 813-787-5025

## This Week:

Sunday (12/1):	12:00pm - Women's Bible Study
Monday (12/2):	6:30pm - Ministry Leadership Team Meeting
Tuesday (12/3):	6:30pm - Bible Information Class
Wednesday (12/4):	6:30-7:30pm - Catechism Class
Sunday (12/18):	8:00 & 10:30am - Worship
	9:15am – Teen Bible Study and Sunday School for Children
	9:25am – Adult Bible Study
	11:30am - Fellowship

## Serving Today

Music: Dane Mattes Ushers: 8:00-Rubin Gaviria 10:30 - Chris Haring/Diane Cihlaski Acolyte: 8:00-Mateo Amaya 10:30-Grace Mosakowski Elder: David Mosakowski

#### **Serving Next Week**

Music: 8:00—Rachel Wilson 10:30—Aiden Berg Ushers: 8:00—Brian Busch 10:30 — Joe Picone/Kim Schacker Acolyte: 8:00—Daniel Busch 10:30— Aryssa Kingsborough Elder: David Mosakowski

## Attendance Last Week

8:00 a.m.—33 10:30 a.m.—85 Total: 118 Yearly Average: 103 % of Members in Worship: 42%

## **Financial Information**

Contributions for 11/24: \$2,104.00 Contributions Online through 11/24: \$1,395.00 Contributions budgeted: \$4,423.08 Contributions budgeted to date: \$92,884.68 Contributions received to date: \$92,186.85 Ahead or (Short) through 11/24/19: (\$697.83)

## **Building Our Faith ~ Family ~ Future**

Total Gifts Pledged to the Project: \$370,000.00 Received Last Week: \$5,360.00 Total received to date: \$326,823.72 Projected Completion date: March 2020