



NORTHDALÉ
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Northdale Lutheran Church & Academy

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“WE GROW IN GOD’S WORD SO THAT WE CAN GO WITH GOD’S WORD”

Meaning of the Advent Wreath - “Advent” means *Coming*

For centuries the Christian Church has made use of the Advent wreath during the four weeks of Advent leading up to Christmas Eve. The Advent wreath as a whole reminds us of the immortality of our souls and God’s promise of everlasting life to us through Christ.

During each Sunday of Advent, one candle is lit as it draws our attention to theme of that Advent week. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, each with their own significance.



1st Sunday in Advent – “The Watch Candle” (*Blue*)

The Christ Child who first came in humility at Christmas will one day come again in glory at the end of the age. And so we watch for the coming of that day.

2nd Sunday in Advent – “The Prepare Candle” (*Blue*)

Just as John the Baptist came preaching a message of repentance, so also we prepare our hearts with repentance for the birth of our Savior.

3rd Sunday in Advent – “The Proclaim Candle” (*Pink*)

Just as the angels proclaimed the news of Christ’s birth on that first Christmas Eve, so also we continue to proclaim the salvation of Christ to the ends of the earth.

4th Sunday in Advent – “The Behold Candle” (*Blue*)

Just as the Virgin Mary beheld the face of the Christ Child, so also we gaze into the manger to behold the face of the Christ Child’s forgiveness, grace, and love.

Christmas Eve – “The Christ Child Candle” (*White*)

The final candle lit on Christmas Eve, as we rejoice in the night our Savior is born.

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn, CW #327

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
cap - tive Is - ra - el that mourns in lone - ly
ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

Refrain
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp). The first three staves contain the main melody with lyrics. The fourth staff is the start of the refrain, marked with an italicized 'Refrain'. The fifth staff continues the refrain. The music uses various note values including quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some notes beamed together. There are also rests and a final double bar line at the end of the fifth staff.

Advent Gathering

M: We light two Advent candles remembering Jesus, who came in history. He came into a world of sin and death.

C: **We remember Jesus, who came as the promised Messiah. John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord.**

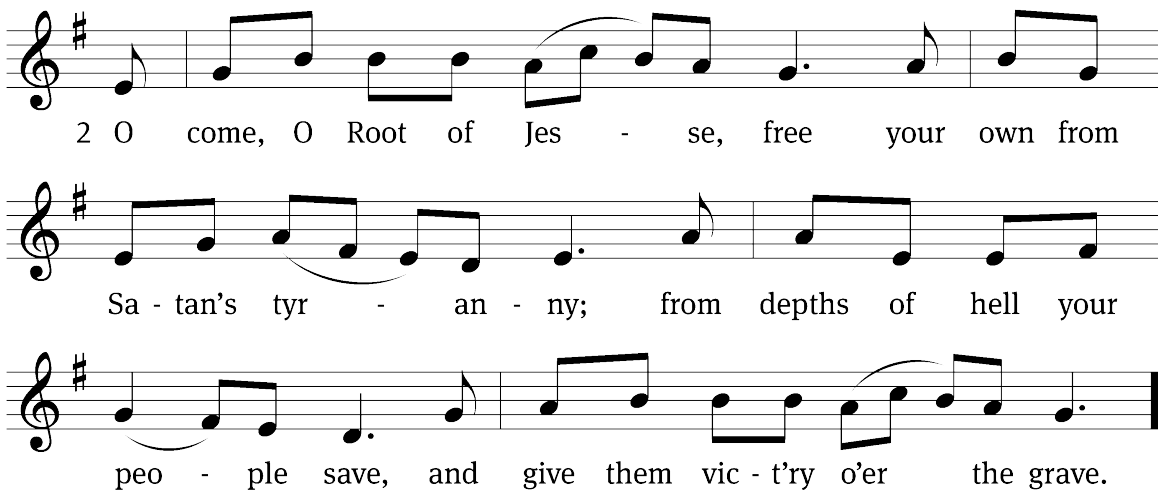
M: We hear his call to repent.

C: **We light two Advent Candles as a sign of our repentance and desire for renewal.**

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

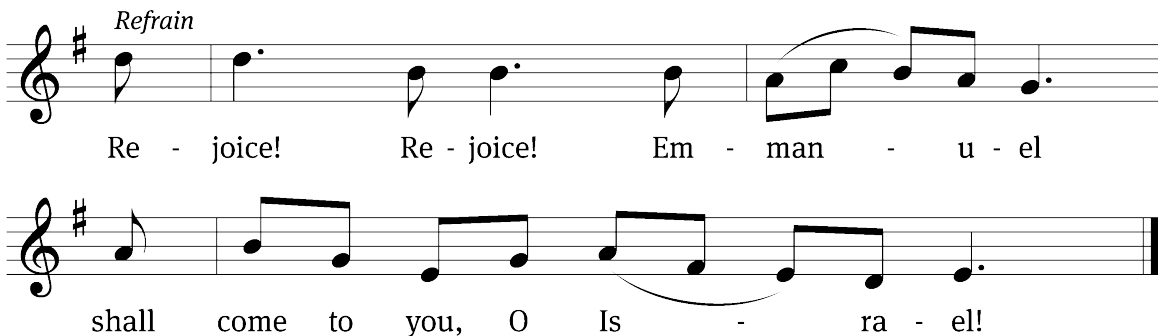
C: **Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**

The lighting of the 2nd Advent candle



2 O come, O Root of Jes - se, free your own from
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your
peo - ple save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

Advent Confession and Absolution

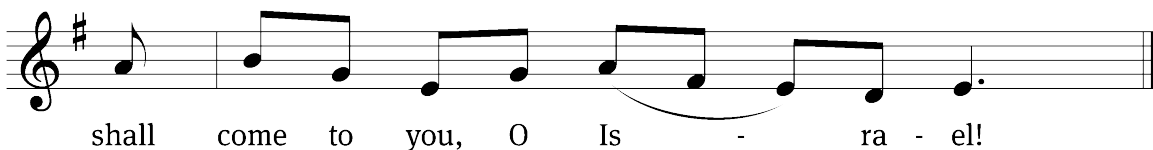
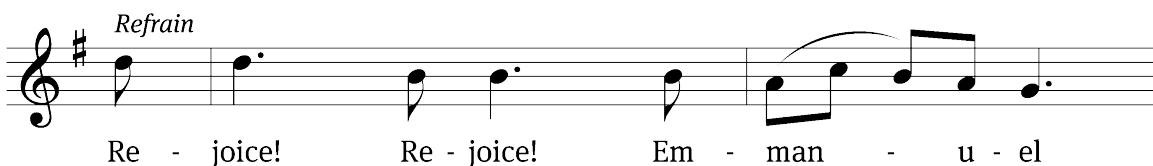
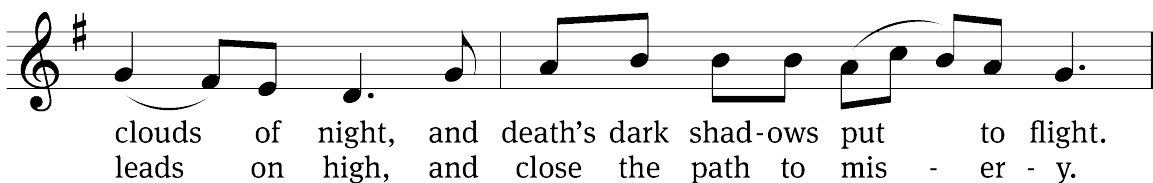
M: Dear people of God, in the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to once again hear the glorious message of the angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy child, Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly celebration of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us set our hearts and minds on our repentance before God, and confess our sins for which the Christ Child was born to be our Savior.

C: Dear Lord Jesus, it was because of your great mercy and love for us, that you were born this Christmas season.
It is our innate sinfulness that demanded your perfect birth.
It is our daily failures that demanded your perfect life.
It is our deserved damnation that demanded your perfect death.
In the humbleness of your birth, you became our sacrifice for sin. May we gaze upon the manger this Christmas season to see the face of our only Savior and Savior of all.

M: On that first Christmas Eve the angels proclaimed, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." Indeed this day, the Lord's favor rests upon you. For the Christ Child born to die, has now become our risen and ever-living Lord through his resurrection from the dead. Death is defeated and you are forgiven. In the name of the Father, and of the Son (+), and of the Holy Spirit.



Prayer

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Word of God

First Reading Isaiah 40:1–11

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. ⁵And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?" "All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. ⁷The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the Lord blows on them. Surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever."

⁹You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. ¹¹He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Hymn CW #322

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Children's Devotion

At this time, we invite all our young people to come forward to hear a special message prepared just for them.

Second Reading 2 Peter 3:8–14

⁸But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

¹¹Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹²as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

¹⁴So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

Hymn CW #316

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

¹The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, ²as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way”—
³“a voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’ ”

⁴And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶John wore clothing made of camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Prepared for Christmas

Magnificat

After the angel Gabriel announced to Mary she would give birth to who would be the Savior of the world, Mary burst forth in a song of praise. “Magnificat” means to “Magnify” or “Give greatest praise.” In response to the Word of God this Advent season, we also sing Mary’s song of greatest praise.



My soul pro - claims the great - ness of the Lord; my spir - it re -

joic - es in God my Sav - ior, for he has looked with fa - vor

on his low - ly ser - vant. From this day all gen - er - a - tions

will call me bless - ed. The Al - might - y has done great

things for me, and ho - ly is his name. He has mer - cy on

those who fear him in ev - 'ry gen - er - a - tion.

He has shown the strength of his arm; he has scat-tered the
proud in their con - ceit. He has cast down the might - y
from their thrones and has lift - ed up the low - ly.
He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich
he has sent a - way emp - ty. He has come to the
help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el, for he has re - mem - bered his
prom - ise of mer - cy, the prom - ise made to our fa - thers,
to A - bra - ham, and to his chil - dren for - ev - er. A - men.

Offering

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 the many ways he has blessed us. 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>.

Sacrament Of The Lord's Supper

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. It is in the joy of knowing the forgiveness we have in Christ, that we prepare to receive in this holy sacrament, receiving Christ's very body and blood in this bread and wine for the assurance of our forgiveness and for the strengthening of our faith. May we come forward with hearts filled with the comfort of your promises, guided by these words from the psalms....

M: Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being praise his holy name.

C: Praise the Lord, O my soul; and forget not all his benefits.

M: Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,

C: Who redeems your life from the pit, and crowns you with love and compassion.

M: As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on all those who fear him;

C: From everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children.

M: The Lord has established his throne in heaven,

C: And his kingdom rules over all. Praise the Lord, O my soul.

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.

Hymn CW #302 vs 1-2

Prepare the Royal Highway

Prayer of the Church

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.

Final Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

Amen.

Hymn CW #302 vs 3-4

Prepare the Royal Highway

Announcements:

Bucs vs Packers!

Join us on Sunday, December 17th for a *Bucs Packers* party at church. Bring your own drinks, a tailgate dish to pass, and maybe your own comfortable chair. We will have the big TV setup and and Ready to go for game time. *Team clothing and decorations are optional.*

Christmas Worship Schedule

Wednesday, December 6th	Advent Worship	6:30pm
Sunday, December 24th	Christmas Eve Morning	8:30am & 10:30am
Sunday, December 24th	Christmas Eve Candlelight	7:00pm
Sunday, December 31st	New Year's Worship	8:30am & 10:30am

Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to donate a poinsettia plant in honor/memorial of someone, envelope are on the entryway table. You will be able to take your poinsettia home after service on Christmas Eve.

Choir Night

Our next Choir Night will be on Monday, December 4th @ 6:00pm. Join us as we prepare our anthems for Christmas Eve.

Pioneers

Our next Pioneer meeting will be on Thursday, December 7th @ 6:00pm. Pioneers is open to all 3rd-8th grade students for a time of faith, fellowship, and fun.

Congregational White Elephant

Our Congregational “White Elephant” Christmas Party will be on December 10th starting at 11:30am. Please bring a main dish and a side along to share for the potluck meal. Bring in wrapped gifts with a clue on the label (example: over 21, sports fan, kids 12 and under, etc). These gifts will be auctioned off to the highest bidder in a seasonal, FUNdraiser for the *Women of Northdale* sacristy organizational project (IKEA storage units to house banners, paraments, flowers, candles, Pastors robe, communion ware, etc.)

Bible Brunch

Our next Bible Brunch will be on December 13th @ 11:00am. Please bring a small dish to pass as we join for luncheon around God’s word.

"Prayers For".....

“I urge then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for all people.” (1 Timothy 2:1) As a body of Christ, we can show our love by praying for one another. Please submit all your prayer requests to the church office - office@northdalelutheran.org

Congregational Prayers For....

Contact Information

Pastor Matthew Guse: 920-517-9000 Pastor@NorthdaleLutheran.org
Principal Dane Mattes: 920-588-7599 Dane.Mattes@NorthdaleLutheran.org
EC Director Joanne Mattes: 920-588-7596 Joanne.Mattes@NorthdaleLutheran.org

Serving Today

Music: 8:30/10:30 - Daniel Roemhildt
Ushers: 8:30 - Koren
10:30 - Mosakowski

Serving Next Week

Music: 8:30/10:30 - Dane Mattes
Ushers: 8:30 - Roemhildt/Schofer
10:30 - Smayling/Schebel