



NORTHDAL
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 #309

The Advent of Our King



1 The ad - vent of our King our prayers must now em - ploy,
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son, in flesh con - tent to be,



and we must hymns of wel - come sing in strains of ho - ly joy.
him - self a ser - vant's form puts on to set his ser - vants free.

Advent Gathering

M: We light one Advent Candle, remembering Jesus, who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

C: **We remember Jesus, who will come at the end of time. None of us know what day that will be.**

M: We hear his call to watch.

C: **We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.**

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

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

The lighting of the 1st Advent candle



3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise to meet your low - ly King,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, he soon will come a - gain



nor let a faith - less heart de - spise the peace he comes to bring.
and his true mem - bers all u - nite with him in heav'n to reign.

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.



5 Be - fore the dawn - ing day let sin's dark deeds be gone,
 6 All glo - ry to the Son, who comes to set us free,
 the old self all be put a - way, the new self now put on.
 with Fa - ther, Spir - it, ev - er one thro' all e - ter - ni - ty.

Prayer of the Day

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.

Amen.

First Reading **Jeremiah 33:14-16**

Even though the nation of Israel was facing a time of devastation and captivity, all Israel was to wait and keep watch for the day of the Lord's deliverance. Jeremiah proclaims a message of glorious hope, one that would ultimately be fulfilled in the coming of a Savior.

¹⁴“The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. ¹⁵“In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The Lord Our Righteous Savior.”

Hymn CW #313

Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes

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 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

As we wait and watch for the coming of the Lord, we are to continue in our Christian living; worshipping God, growing in faith, serving others, and sharing the Word of salvation with all people.

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you again and supply what is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus clear the way for us to come to you. ¹²May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. ¹³May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.

Hymn CW #347

Angels from the Realms of Glory

²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹He told them this parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. ³¹Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

³²“Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

³⁴“Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man.”

“It’s Time To Watch”

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.

Tune: Kurt J. Eggert

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Confession of the 2nd Article and its Meaning

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 sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

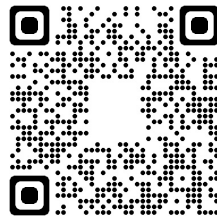
What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

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 #315 vs 1-4

Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

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 #315 vs 5-6

Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

**Crush for me the serpent's head that, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to you in faith, safely kept through life and death,**

**And, when you shall come again as a glorious king to reign,
I with joy may see your face, freely ransomed by your grace.**

Announcements:

New!!! Sunday Morning Bible Study

Night Driving: Notes From A Prodigal. Chad Bird was a “rising star” in his church body’s eyes. Intelligent and talented, he had his dream job of teaching Old Testament and Hebrew at his seminary. But sin was right there with him and temptation led him to fall. He had an affair. He contemplated suicide. Our next Bible study is based of his book, *Night Driving*, where Chad shares how he rediscovered God’s forgiveness in Jesus Christ. (You do NOT need to read the book for this class)

Women's Bible Study

How is your prayer life? How do you pray? Is there a right or wrong way to pray? How often should I pray? What a tremendous blessing and privilege Christians have to talk to the Almighty God! Join us on Thursday nights at 6:00 PM in the Northdale Christian Academy Library. We are using the People's Bible book entitled: [Prayer: An Audience with the King by Joel V. Petermann](#). Feel free to bring your supper along if you are coming straight from work! Please see Aimee Hardman for more information or any questions. We hope you can join us.

Advent Wednesday Night Worship

Come settle your hearts and minds for the Christmas season, with a special service on Wednesday, December 11th @ 6:30pm. We will be having a “cookie share” after the service, so bring your favorite Christmas cookies to pass around.

Christmas Church Decorating!

Join us after late service today to help decorate our sanctuary for the Christmas season. It is always a special time to gather to beautify the sanctuary of our God. There is something for everyone, let us all join and work together!

Advent by Candlelight at Peace Lutheran Church - December 7th, 6:30pm

Ladies, you won't want to miss this year's Advent by Candlelight to help us prepare our hearts for the Advent Season. Please join us for an evening of visiting, beautiful music, and delicious dessert. All women are invited and are encouraged to invite their family, friends, and neighbors. No age limit: if you think your littler one can sit through a service of preparation, they are welcome to come. There is no charge for this event. RSVP by November 30th to help with planning purposes. Contact Cindy Cochran at lccochran06@gmail.com or 727-236-7022 for more details.

White Elephant Christmas Party

White elephant potluck is December 8th after second service. Bring a wrapped and labeled gift and a dish to share.

Northdale Christmas Season Schedule

Sunday, Dec. 8th	Congregation White Elephant Christmas	11:30am
Wednesday, Dec. 11th	Advent Worship/Cookie Share	6:30pm
Thursday, Dec. 19th	Academy Grades 3-8, Christmas Program	6:30pm
Friday, Dec. 20th	Academy Grades PreK-2, Christmas Program	11:00am
Tuesday, Dec. 24th	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship	7:00pm

Sunday School Helper

If you have a knack and talent for helping children this is for you! We are looking for someone to work with pastor, to help with the organizing and scheduling of our Sunday School year. It is not hard work, but work that needs to oversee and keep things running smoothly for the Christian education of our children. Please speak with pastor.

Pioneers

Our next Pioneer meeting will be Thursday, December 5th from 6-7:30pm.

Pastor Timothy Flunker

At our last Voters' Meeting our congregation called Pastor Timothy Flunker to serve as our Spanish speaking pastor. May the Lord bless him as he deliberates this call.

Every Member Visits - Sign-up Today!

These visits will be updating you on all the blessings of our church, current ministries, future plans, and your thoughts on things. This presentation includes a slideshow and will take about 45 minutes to 1 hour. There is a sign-up sheet with times and dates so you can arrange your visit.

Outdoor Movie Night!

Northdale Christian Academy is hosting an outdoor movie night on Friday, December 6. We will be watching the 2017 animated Christmas movie, "The Star." Bring your own chairs and blankets, there will be concessions available for purchase starting at 6:00 PM and the movie will start by 6:30. Proceeds from the concessions will go toward our new playground.

"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: **Those Shut-in:** Paul Ulbricht at Concordia Village, Jean Schofer at Arden Courts, Bob Jarvis at Concordia Village, Grace Ballieu at Accordia Woods Assisted Living. **Continued Prayers:** Busch Family as Melissa Busch's father, Robert Hatch, was called home to eternal glory, Karen Jacobs who had been hospitalized and under treatments for a brain bleed, Our Nation as we ask the Lord to bless our newly elected president and leaders to carry out their duties and serve faithfully, Christine Lawrence as she travels back from Texas from the memorial service of her husband Fred Lawrence, Erika Badiali and Eddie Forte as they celebrate engagement to be married in December, Pastor Timothy Flunker as he deliberates his call to serve as our Spanish speaking pastor, Amanda Tortorice as she suffered a severe broken leg and is homebound, John Kim Jr. as his home was flooded from hurricane Helene, Noemy Zumbado who is on hospice care from stage 4 cancer, Sharon Shores who has been diagnosed with lymphatic cancer, Hurricanes Helene and Milton for all our members, churches, and community still enduring hardship and loss, Nations at War for the Lord end the hostility, bring peace, and to protect the innocent, **Prayers for the Kingdom:** Grace Lutheran Church, Spring Hill FL as they celebrate their 50th anniversary of ministry in God's grace, World Missions, that the Lord would bless the families and work of our foreign missionaries, as they seek to bring Christ to the ends of the earth. Home Missions, that the Lord would continue to provide his church with pastors and teachers needed to serve in full-time ministry.

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 - Dane Mattes

Ushers: 8:30 - Picone/Raines

10:30 - Berg

Streaming: Berg

Counters: Newton

Serving Next Week

Music: 8:30/10:30 - Elizabeth Guse

Ushers: 8:30 - Roemhildt/Schofer

10:30 - Schebel

Streaming: Storm

Counters: Busch

2024-2025 Year to Date Offerings Through October 2024

General Offering Received: \$ 77,183.44

General Offering Budgeted: \$ 99,333.32

Ahead or (Short) Year to Date: (\$22,149.48)

Average Weekly Offerings Received (17 weeks): \$ 4,540.20

Average Weekly Offerings Budgeted (52 weeks): \$ 5,770