



## 1st Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, December 29

**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.
- ♿ ❖ Handicapped accessible restroom facilities are located through the nursery hallway and back in the preschool area.
- ❖ To help keep the sanctuary as a quiet place of worship and meditation and for your convenience, a Nursing Mother's Room is available in the back of the sanctuary. This is a private place for nursing mother's and infant children if needed during worship. Please ask an usher if you have need of assistance.
- ❖ There are "Busy Bags" available for young children. They are hanging on the wall next to the organ. Parents - Please keep the busy bags clean and in order before hanging them back up.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Opening Hymn, CW #353

Joy to the World

*Please Stand*

### Invocation

M: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: **Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: **Almighty and merciful Father,**

**We have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

M: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

*Please Be Seated*

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming, deliver us from the corruption of our sin, and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**First Reading      Isaiah 50:4-9**

*The Prophet Isaiah proclaims the strength of those whose faith is in the Lord. Despite the often hardships of this world, the Lord is our unfailing help and never will we be put to shame.*

<sup>4</sup>The Sovereign Lord has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed. <sup>5</sup>The Sovereign Lord has opened my ears; I have not been rebellious, I have not turned away.

<sup>6</sup>I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. <sup>7</sup>Because the Sovereign Lord helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame.

<sup>8</sup>He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other? Who is my accuser? Let him confront me!

<sup>9</sup>It is the Sovereign Lord who helps me. Who will condemn me? They will all wear out like a garment; the moths will eat them up.

**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: Hebrews 2:10-18**

*The Christ Child born to die, has become our salvation. By sharing in our humanity (flesh and blood), he was able to atone for sin, defeat death, and win our eternal salvation.*

<sup>10</sup>In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. <sup>11</sup>Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup>He says,

“I will declare your name to my brothers and sisters;  
in the assembly I will sing your praises.” <sup>13</sup>And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again he says, “Here am I, and the children God has given me.”

<sup>14</sup>Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— <sup>15</sup>and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. <sup>16</sup>For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. <sup>17</sup>For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

**Sermon      Luke 2:22-35**

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), <sup>24</sup>and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”

<sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. <sup>26</sup>It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. <sup>27</sup>Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, <sup>28</sup>Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

<sup>29</sup>“Sovereign Lord, as you have promised,

    you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

<sup>30</sup>For my eyes have seen your salvation,

<sup>31</sup>which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

<sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles,

    and the glory of your people Israel.”

<sup>33</sup>The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup>Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, <sup>35</sup>so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

## **“The Gift of Promise”**

- 1) Given to Simeon
- 2) Given to the World

## **Apostles' Creed**

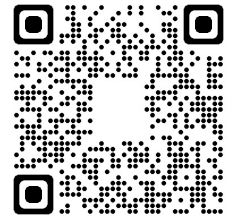
**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**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.**

## **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>.*



*Please Stand*

## **Prayer of the Church**

### **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

**Amen.**

**Hymn, CW #341**

**Away in a Manger**

# **Announcements:**

## **New Year - Stronger Faith!**

As we prepare to begin a New Year in the Lord's grace, let us recommit ourselves to the Lord's Word by making a commitment to attend Adult Bible Study and by bringing our children to Sunday School. Let us make use of the Christian Education opportunities to come to a deeper understanding of our faith and for a closer relationship with our Savior. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School resumes next week @ 9:30am.

## **Pioneers**

There is no Monthly meeting for Pioneers this month, instead we have our camping trip January 10-12th @ Camp Owen J. Brorein. We will be back to our regular scheduled meeting on Thursday, February 6th.

## **2025 Offering Envelopes**

You can pick up your 2025 offering envelopes from the table in the overflow room. If you do not have offering envelopes but would like them, you can follow the instructions printed on the table.

## **Church Cookout - Sunday, January 5th**

Stick around after late service on Sunday, January 5th for a time of fellowship, free lunch, and friends! Just a heads up..... to mark on your calendar now.

## **Call Meeting/Voters' Meeting/Congregational Forum**

Our Biannual Voters' Meeting and Congregation Forum will be held Sunday, January 26th at 11:30am. We will be updating on congregational life, current ministry, and give a financial overview. Our Voters will also be holding a Call Meeting to call for our Mission Enhancement position of a full-time Spanish speaking pastor.

## **January is Preferred Enrollment Month**

Current NCA families, their siblings, and members of Northdale Lutheran Church will have 2025-2026 re-enrollment priority through the month of January. Any new students to NCA must first complete the online application through our website before they can be enrolled. Re-enrollment is the process for current NCA students already enrolled and will be completed through TADS in January. Starting February 1, new family applications to NCA will be considered based on availability. Check out our website for the 2025-2026 enrollment fee and tuition schedule: [NorthdaleChristianAcademy.org](http://NorthdaleChristianAcademy.org). NCA offers Christ-centered education beginning at age 3 through 8th grade.

## Some Committees & Meetings!

**Member Care Committee** Monday, January 6 @ 6:30pm

**NCA Open Online Forum** Wednesday, January 8 @ 6:30pm

**Party Planning Committee** Wednesday, January 15 @ 6:00pm

## Communicating Christ - A Bible Information Course

Want a refresher on our Christian doctrines of faith? Want to know more about what Northdale Lutheran Church teaches and believes? Join us on Tuesday nights at **7:00pm - Starting Tuesday, January 28th**. Everything is provided, even the treats! Babysitting is provided! Speak with pastor for more information!

## Principal Mattes Receives Call

Principal Mattes has received a Divine Call to serve St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School in Norfolk, NE. Your prayers, thoughts, and comments are welcome to him as he deliberates this call.

## "Prayers For".....

**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: Mattes Family** as principal Mattes received a Divine Call to serve in Norfolk, NE, **Lynda and Tom Faucette** as Lynda's brother, Gary McCleary, passed away and was called home to eternal rest, **Karen Jacobs** who had been hospitalized and under treatments for a brain bleed, **Amanda Tortorice** as she suffered a severe broken leg and is homebound, **John Kim Jr.** as his home was flooded from hurricane Helene, **Sharon Shores** who has been diagnosed with lymphatic cancer, **Nations at War** for the Lord end the hostility, bring peace, and to protect the innocent, **Prayers for the Kingdom: 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.**

## **Serving Today**

Music: 8:30/10:30 -

Ushers: 8:30 - Busch

10:30 - Allan/Faucette

Streaming: Storm

Counters: Schinske/Klecka

## **Serving Next Week**

Music: 8:30/10:30 -

Ushers: 8:30 - Picone/Raines

10:30 - Berg

Streaming: Berg

Counters: Newton