



Sunday, December 3, 2023
1st Sunday in Advent

How Does a Weary World Rejoice? We Acknowledge Our Weariness

8:00am Worship order is on page 2 | 10:15am Worship order is on page 4

**American Lutheran Church walks in the faith of Jesus
as we walk with others.**

All are welcome to be a part of God's Church. There is a place for you here at American Lutheran Church. Our mission is to "share the good news of what God has done for us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ!"

November/December Birthday Greetings this week . . .

- If your birthday is missing or wrong, please let Kelly in the office know or write it on the slips inserted in the Bulletin. Thanks!

- 3) Patricia Brandt, Ronnie Noerenberg
- 6) Charlotte Hartzler, Mark Prunty
- 8) Austin Thier, Todd Thier
- 9) Barb DeGroot, Lyle Voss

Today's Flower arrangement is given by:

*Orville Janssen
In Loving Memory of Clarine Janssen*

Open dates are Jan. 7, 14, 28 – Feb. 4, 11

If you would like to sponsor altar flowers for 2023-24, contact Kelly Henkels in the office or Dee Hale at (507) 372-2786. The cost of a bouquet of flowers is \$30.00. You can keep them or donate them. Please remember to pay for your flowers in the office.

Scripture Readings for next Sunday's worship services:

Hymns, prayers, and preaching will be drawn from the themes in these stories.

Theme: *"How Does A Weary World Rejoice: We Find Joy In Connection"*
Psalms 40: 1-11 and Luke 1: 24-45

8 AM | First Word Worship Order
FM Ministry for this service is 88.3

GATHERING

Prelude with *Advent & Christmas Carol Sing-Along*

Welcome

Announcements/Community News

Beginning Words

Prayer of Confession

Words of Forgiveness

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Gathering Hymn:

Here I Am to Worship

Prayer of the Day

WORD

Psalms 80

Restore Us

Gospel: Luke 1: 1-23

Message

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn:

Light Dawns on a Weary World

ELW 726

Advent Affirmation of Faith

The Prayers of the Church

Peace

Offering

Offering Prayer

MEAL

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Communion Instructions

Communion Song:

O Lamb of God

Music During Communion (*Instrumental*)

Communion Blessing

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn:

Doxology for a Weary World

Dismissal

Postlude:

8 AM | First Word Worship Leaders

Ministers: All people of the American Lutheran Church

Pastors: Anne Hokenstad and Jeremy Hallquist

Musicians: Cindy Anderson & Aubrey Anderson

Ushers: Shauna Carroll, Laura Hoffman, Russell Obermoller, Dave Nerem

Greeters: Mike & Lisa Peterson

Caring News | Prayer Ministry

Health Concerns: (Short and long-term sickness and illness)

- Ruth Rusche
- Maci Their
- Gerald Fuerstenberg
- Dorothy Koehn
- Cheryl Martinez
- Jeanene Townswick
- Dawn Bents

In Sympathy: (Grieving the death of family and losses in life).

- Family and Friends of Kay Madsen, Mother of Sheena Eidhammer.
- Family & Friends of MaryJo Duerksen, Aunt of Shirley Rempel

Praise the Lord: (Joys and Answered Prayers):

- The *Journey to Bethlehem* Event
- For all the faithful volunteers

For Support: (On-going life circumstances)

- Mitchell Wagner- Grandson of Keith and Kathy Harberts
- Marvella- Mother of Sherrie and Kevin Adolph
- Montana Scholten- Granddaughter of Sherrie and Kevin Adolph
- Ruth Weiland- Granddaughter of Dee Weiland
- Patrick Weiland- Son of Dee Weiland
- Buddy and Sylvia Richter- Parents of Laura Bourquin
- Mary Hamlin-Palmer- Aunt of Jeremy Hallquist
- Makenna Johnson- Relative of Kristen Appel
- Mary Ferguson- Mother of Leslie Burnham
- Sandy Noerenberg- Wife of Don Noerenberg, Sister- in -Law to Ron & Ruth Noerenberg

Our prayer list will be updated every two weeks. Please notify the office or pastors if you wish to have someone remain on the list.

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RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn:

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Communion Blessing

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn:

Doxology for a Weary World

Dismissal

Postlude:

10:15 AM | Journey Worship Leaders

Ministers: All people of American Lutheran Church

Pastors: Anne Hokenstad & Jeremy Hallquist

Musicians: Cindy Anderson & Aubrey Anderson

Ushers: Randy Thompson, Mark Prunty, Kay Prunty, Darren Ponto, Nicholas Raymo

Greeter: Mary Turner

This Sunday 12/3	Next Sunday 12/10
Fill: Dennis & Dee Hale	Pat Remme
Refill: Paul & Marlys Busse	Audrey Brake
Clean up: Bob & Shirly Wieme	Kieth & Marj Olson
Communion Servers: 8:00- Dennis & Dee Hale, Paul Landberg 10:15- Bruce & Karen Juber, Judi Hoevet	8:00- Bob & Sandy Demuth, Lori Ailts 10:15- Jay & Melissa Jensen, Mary Turner
Church Lock-up: Harlan Handevidt	
Coffee Servers: Karen Pfeifer & Pat Remme	



AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM -

Applications for the American Lutheran Church Scholarship Program are now being accepted. The application process has two phases: 1) An intent to apply must be submitted by January 31 of each year. The intent to apply is to fill out the scholarship application and submit it to the Scholarship committee.

2) The final scholarship application form with a transcript must be submitted by June 15. Application forms are available in the church office with a list of the regulations on the back side.

You may also access the application online by going to the church website, clicking on news and information, and then clicking on youth scholarship. To apply for this scholarship a student must be a member in good standing at American Lutheran Church and must be at the sophomore or higher level at any undergraduate or graduate college or university. You may only receive a scholarship for 3 years. A student cannot simultaneously receive a scholarship from both the ALC Scholarship Program and the Etta Janssen Scholarship Program.

Announcements | Dec 3-10, 2023

Milk Jugs- We are taking milk jugs again to stock up. Please make sure they are cleaned out. You can put the lids in the lid box when you drop them off. The lids need to be screw on lids. Please drop off your clean jugs in the office or bring them to “jug room” in the lower level.

A Weary World Rejoices Art Walk: In the hallway outside the conference room, the various images created by Sanctified Art for the Advent series are on display. For Adult Faith Formation this month, we will be practicing a method of meditation, reflection and prayer through a process of intentional seeing called *Visio Divina* or “divine seeing.” There are two ways to participate in this Adult Faith Formation experience. 1) use the *Visio Divina* Art Walk Guide and spending time in personal prayer and meditation. 2) on December 3 and 17, Pr. Anne will lead *Visio Divinia* and a group discussion. These images will be up until early January.

December 10: Celebrations and Connections

There are a few celebrations on this 2nd Sunday of Advent. As a congregation we are living the baptismal promises made with the young people taking their first Communion today. We also celebrate the 30th anniversary of Pr. Anne’s Ordination Vows, which are grounded in her baptismal promises. The day is rich with faith connections.

8:00am, First Word Worship

9:15am, Ordination Celebration, Fellowship Hall

9:15am, Faith Formation – All Ages

10:15am, Journey Worship

11:15am, Congregational Potluck—Fellowship Hall

Looking Ahead:

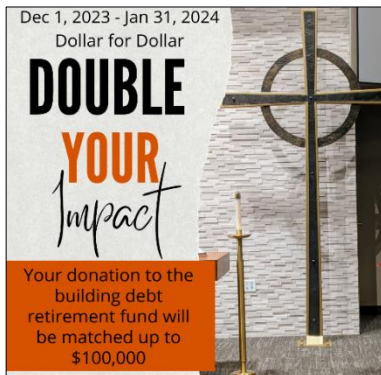
December 5, Women’s Christmas Salad Buffet

December 13, Community Christmas Caroling

December 17, Advent Hymn sing happens 10-minutes before worship.

December 20, Longest Night Service at 6:30pm

December 24, 9:00am only—Advent Hymn sing 10-minutes before worship



New Fundraiser to Reduce Our Building Debt: A group of visionaries from ALC have combined their financial assets to provide the seed money for this unique matching gift project to reduce our debt. Your gift, small and large, will be matched dollar for dollar up \$100, 000. This matching gift program runs from Dec 1, 2023, through January 31, 2024. Write “Building Match” on the memo line. If you have questions, please contact one of the pastors, Sandy, or Marv.

Advent & Christmas Season

Advent Hymn Sing: We sing the songs of our faith on Dec 3, 10, 17, and 24 for 10-minutess before each worship service. Pick an Advent or Christmas hymn to sing as we prepare for worship.

Advent Candle Lighters for Worship Services: Contact Pr. Jeremy if you would like to be one of the lighters of the Advent Candle at each worship service. Advent is celebrated on the following Sundays in December: 3, 10, 17, and 24.

Advent Calendars: This devotional resource is available. Get your copy at the Welcome Center in the new addition.

Advent Devotional: This devotional resource is available. Get your copy at the Welcome Center in the new addition.

Longest Night Worship Service: On Wednesday night, December 20 at 6:30pm, there will be a worship service of prayer and healing as we honor the tradition of the Longest Night. All are welcome to worship and to invite those whose hearts and lives are weary.

2023 Christmas Worship Schedule:

December 24, 9am, 4th Sunday of Advent Worship
December 24, 4pm, Family Focused Service
December 24, 6pm, Traditional Festival Worship Service
December 24, 10pm, Christmas Eve Vespers Service
December 25, No Christmas Day Worship Service
December 31, 9am Christmas Lessons & Carols (1 worship only)

Reminder of Annual Communion Registration – The synod requests a count of American Lutheran members who commune at least once during the year. To do this, please fill out the Communication Form slip included with your bulletin with your name, date and indicate that you have received communion. This is necessary to do only once a year and can be done at any time of the year. Thank you. The Worship & Music Committee

December 3-10 Calendar

<u>December 3</u> 8:00am First Word 9:00am Coffee & Kinship, Contemporary Coffee 9:15am Sunday School, Faith Formation 10:15am Journey Worship First Communion Classes	Advent 1 First Word Coffee & Kinship, Contemporary Coffee Sunday School, Faith Formation Journey Worship First Communion Classes	<u>December 7</u> 9:00am Martha Circle <u>December 8</u> <u>December 9</u> <u>December 10</u>	Martha Circle <i>Office Closed</i> Advent 2
<u>December 4</u> 9:30am Staff Meeting 5:30pm Brass Practice	Staff Meeting Brass Practice	8:00am First Word Worship 9:00am Coffee & Kinship <i>Pastor Anne's 30th</i> <i>Anniversary</i> <i>Contemporary Coffee</i>	First Word Worship Coffee & Kinship <i>Pastor Anne's 30th</i> <i>Anniversary</i> <i>Contemporary Coffee</i>
<u>December 5</u> 7:45am Men's Fellowship 9:30am Mary Circle 11:00am Worship Planning 6:00pm Salad Buffet 7:30pm Bell Choir- New Time	Men's Fellowship Mary Circle Worship Planning Salad Buffet Bell Choir- New Time	9:15am FF/SS 10:15am Journey Worship 11:15am -Potluck <u>Church Hours</u>	FF/SS Journey Worship -Potluck <u>Monday-Thursday</u> 8:00am-2:30pm <u>Friday</u> 8:00am-12pm
<u>December 6</u> 9:00am Quilt Tying 5:30pm Meal- Lasagna 6:30pm Worship 7:00pm Faith Formation 7:45pm Busker Band	Quilt Tying Meal- Lasagna Worship Faith Formation Busker Band	 <u>Office Hours</u>	 <u>Monday-Friday</u> 8:00am-12pm <u>Monday-Thursday</u> 12:30pm-2:30pm <u>Friday</u> Pastors' Sabbath Day