



# **SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE**

**LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Saturday Evening Worship

December 6, 2025

5:00 p.m.

**Second Sunday of Advent**

## **Preservice Music**

## **Welcome**

(please rise in body or spirit)

## **Advent Candle Lighting**

The coming of our Lord is near,  
Something new is around the corner.

**Love, joy, peace and hope,  
We await the promise of your coming.**

The coming of our Lord is near,  
Something new is appearing.

**A child, a Savior, God's much beloved son,  
We await the hope of your coming.**

The coming of our Lord is near,  
Something new is being birthed.

**A new heaven, a new world, a new community,  
We await the long expected One.**

The coming of our Lord is near,  
We wait in joyful expectation for what is emerging,

**Love comes down at Christmas,  
And we await your coming.**

*Candle Lighting*

The coming of our Lord is near  
and we await the promise of your coming.

**Light of the world draw close,  
Shine on us with your guiding presence,  
Shine in us with your truth and forgiveness,  
Shine through us with your mercy and love.**

**Hymn**    *Hark, the Glad Sound!*    ELW 239

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
whose home is heaven and earth,  
whose salvation is sure.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Long-expected God,  
**we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace  
and security only you can provide. We reach for  
swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the  
ways of war. We become impatient while waiting  
and weary of keeping awake. Free us from  
self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our  
neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing,  
and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may  
abound in the hope you have promised.**  
**Amen.**

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. † You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.  
**Amen.**

**Hymn**    *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*    ELW 254  
(tune ELW 631)

## **Prayer**

Let us pray together. **Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

(please be seated)

**The Word**                      Matthew 3:1-12

**Message**                      Pastor Mark Boster

(please rise in body or spirit)

**Hymn**    *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*    ELW 249

## **The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

## **Prayers of the Church**

### **Sharing the Peace of Christ**

(please be seated)

### **The Offering**

(please rise in body or spirit)

### **Prayer of Blessing**

**Let us pray together. God, allow us to be instruments  
of your mercy on behalf of others. Help us to be  
people of your righteousness and justice. Teach us  
how to defend the defenseless and provide for those  
in need. Join us to the purposes of your kingdom as we  
offer these gifts to be used in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### **The Table**

**Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**He is the Son of David from the root of Jesse. On him  
rests the Spirit of the Lord; the Spirit of wisdom,  
understanding, counsel, power, knowledge and the  
fear of the Lord.**

**He comes bringing righteousness and justice.**

**He comes to baptize us with the Holy Spirit  
and with fire.**

### **Words of Institution**

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again.

**Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

Come, Holy Spirit, and help us to prepare the way for your only Son to come and make his home among us. Come, Holy Spirit, and lead us in your ways of righteousness and justice. Come, Holy Spirit, and teach us how to live in obedience, repentance, and transformation.

## Lord's Prayer

### Invitation to Communion

Here is life. God is with us.

Come, receive what God has promised.

(please be seated)

### Communion Distribution

(please rise in body or spirit)

### Blessing

### Prayer

Let us pray together. **God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

### Benediction

**Song**     *Savior of the Nations, Come*     ELW 263

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Keep awake.  
**Thanks be to God.**