

# First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 2018



## Area Churches Together ACT Parish

### DeGraff/Murdock Area

Bethesda Lutheran  
Buffalo Lake Lutheran

### Pennock Area

Mamrelund Lutheran  
St. John's Lutheran

### Sunburg Area

Hope Lutheran  
Monson Lake Lutheran

# Order of Service

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## Lighting the Advent Wreath

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.

**You call all nations to walk in your light**

and to seek your ways of justice and peace,

**for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near.**

Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath.

**Rouse us from sleep,**

that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes

**and welcome him into our hearts and homes,**

for he is our light and our salvation.

**Blessed be God forever.**

**Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn

LBW 25

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

## Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

**Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## First Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

<sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. <sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup>And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# Gospel

Luke 21:25-36

[Jesus said:] <sup>25</sup>“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup>“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

# Sermon

## Hymn of the Day

LBW 26

Prepare the Royal Highway

## Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.\* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 Intercession

## Offering

## Offertory

**Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

## Words of Institution

*In the night in which he was betrayed...*

## 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.**

## Holy Communion

## Benediction

## Announcements

## Sending Hymn

LBW 34    Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel

## Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## **Pastoral Staff Contact Information**

**Pastor Daniel Croonquist**      **Pastor Michelle Kleene**  
**Email: [croondw7@gmail.com](mailto:croondw7@gmail.com)**      **Email: [mkleene89@gmail.com](mailto:mkleene89@gmail.com)**  
**Cell Phone: 220-3055**      **Cell Phone: 226-3535**

If you would like a pastoral visit please contact Pastor Dan or Pastor Michelle

### **Monday, December 24** - *Christmas Eve Services*

2:30pm & 4pm - Old Mamre, 4pm - Hope  
5:30pm - Monson Lake & Bethesda

### **Tuesday, December 25**

9am – Buffalo Lake Christmas Day Service

## **Remember in Prayer**

Mary Rood, Lisa Carlson, Elaine Sjelstad, Al Lesteberg, Roland Froehlich, Kelly Rodenberg, Kris Baker,  
The Family of Blanche Slaughter & The Family of Sandy Gjerde

### **Today, Sunday, December 2**

2pm - Norway Lake Lutheran Historical Association invites you to “*Celebrate the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent at the Log Church of Norway Lake!*” Located at 9601 195<sup>th</sup> Ave. NW, Pennock (13 miles west of New London, via County rd. 40) NLLHA Readers Theater present “The Christmas Story”, Children’s Storytime, Carols in both Norsk & English and Traditional refreshments will be served.  
**No heat so dress appropriately!**

### **Tuesday, December 4**

9:30am – Coffee & Conversation at Bethesda  
1pm - Coffee & Conversation at Hope

### **Wednesday, December 5**

5:30pm – Bethesda’s WELCA planning meeting and potluck  
6:30-8pm - We are having a Confirmation Lefsa making event for all 7th-9th graders at Mamrelund in Pennock!

### **Thursday, December 6**

9:30am – Esther Circle Bethesda  
6pm – Marine Corps Reserve “Toys For Tots” at Vinje Lutheran Church, Willmar. With Social Hour starting at 6pm with cookies, coffee & music at and at 7pm will be the “Variety Show”. Cost is \$15 for adults, or a toy(s) of equal or greater value. Free for children & students under 17.

### **Saturday, December 8**

‘**Coming Home for Christmas**’ dinner theatre. The tickets are gone. For those who have reserved ticket their seats for the Saturday, **December 8th** matinee at 12:30, please make checks payable to ACT Parish and mail to: ACT Parish, P.O. Box 88, Murdock, 56271; or cash can be given to Jan Bjornkjeld. **Deadline for payment WAS Friday, November 23rd.**



### **Sunday, December 9**

8:30am – Bethesda’s Sunday School  
9:30am – Bethesda Worship & Sunday School Christmas program

### **Tuesday, December 11**

9:30am – Coffee & Conversation at Bethesda  
1pm - Coffee & Conversation at Hope

**Thursday, December 13**

9:30am – Pastor’s Lakeland Conference meeting at Green Lake Bible Camp, Spicer

**Saturday, December 15**

10am-2pm - St. John’s Bake Sale at Willmar’s Kandi Mall

**Sunday, December 16**

5:30pm – St. John’s Soup & Sandwich and at 6:30pm will be their “Christmas Story Thru Song”

**Tuesday, December 18**

9:30am – Coffee & Conversation at Bethesda

1pm - Coffee & Conversation at Hope

**Thursday, December 20**

5-7pm - W.O.W. “Women of Worship” (formerly MOPS) at Bethesda

**Monday, December 24** – *Christmas Eve*

5:30pm – Bethesda’s Christmas Eve Worship

**Tuesday, December 25** – *Christmas Day*

9am – Buffalo Lake Christmas Day Worship