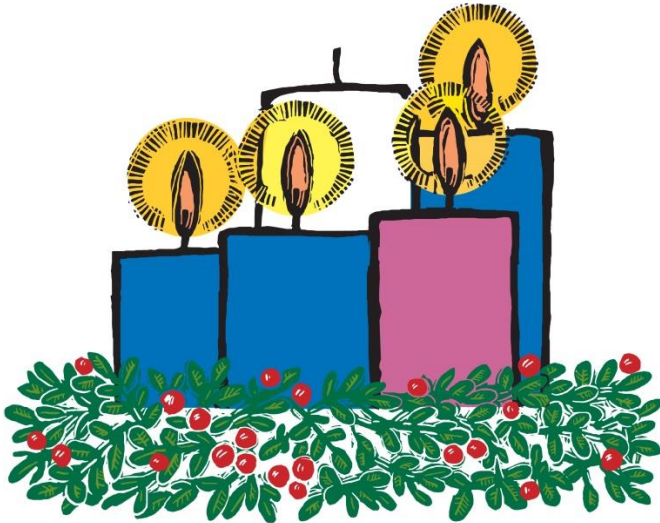


The American Lutheran Church of Windom



— FOURTH SUNDAY OF —
ADVENT

December 23, 2018 9:00 AM

Fourth Sunday of Advent

906 Prospect Ave, PO Box 188

Windom MN 56101; Phone: 507-831-1794

E-Mail: winalc@windomnet.com

Website: www.alcofwindom.com

Saturdays 5:30 pm Chapel Worship

Sundays 9:00 am Worship & 10:15 am BAM-S

Wednesdays 5:45 pm WOW & 6:30 pm BAM-W

Pastors Sarah Tadé and Adam Roberts

Ministers: Everyone

WELCOME! WE ARE HAPPY YOU ARE HERE TODAY!

If you are new to us or visiting from another church, please fill out a postcard for us. We'd love to be in touch with you.

A table with PRAYER CANDLES is located near the front of the church on each side. You are invited to light a candle and say a prayer while you are here.

WORSHIP BAGS with a variety of quiet toys for small children are available at the back of the church.

LITTLE READERS BOOK NOOK in the Narthex, has books from our church library for kids to borrow for service or to take home.

COFFEE HOUR immediately follows our services every Sunday morning in our Skylight Court. ALL are welcome to join us for coffee and fellowship.

Be Aware: Audio and video recording may be in progress during church services /events. Audio, video, and/or photos of the services/events may be posted or aired online for public viewing.

GATHERING MUSIC

Karen Wojahn, Organist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK Lindsey Cartwright, Congregational Treasurer

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Todd & Kim Armstrong, Noah and Isaac

ADVENT SONG *“Light Four Candles to Watch for Messiah”*

(vs. 4) ELW #240

ADVENT PRAYER

We praise you, O God, for this wreath that helps us prepare for Christ’s coming. As we light the candles on this wreath, open our eyes to see your presence in the lowly ones of this earth. Give us your grace, that we may sing of your coming among us in the Word made flesh. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Hark the Glad Sound”

ELW #239

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

L: With humility we confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

L: God of promise and hope,

C: So often we fall short, failing to be all that you have created us to be. We pester you with questions, “Why?” and “Where are you?” We lack faith in your promises of deliverance and hope. Forgive us for all that we have done to harm you, others, and ourselves. Walk with us in the time of Advent, so that through our journey we may be made clean.

L: Our holy Lord God knows we are weak, frail creatures. Yet God loves us and refuses to give up on us. Because of God’s persistence we are made new again and again. Receive today the entire forgiveness of all your sins. Walk with God on your human journey, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Will Wilson

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God, your servant Joseph remained obedient despite challenges and uncertainty. Give us his steady trust in the unfolding of your plan for us, that we might be found your faithful servants, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Emmanuel. Amen.

READING Matthew 1:18-25 Pew Bible p. 783
The Word of the Lord/ **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Sarah

SONG OF THE DAY

“Love has Come”

ELW #292

APOSTLES’ CREED

ELW page 105

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING *We give, because God gives to us!
Our ministries share God's love.*

RESPONSE ***“He Came Down”*** (vs. 4) ELW #253

PRAYER

We offer you the fruits of our lives, O Lord: the time, skills, and gifts which you have bestowed upon us. Use them for the care and nurture of all your children and make us faithful stewards of your kingdom. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Great Thanksgiving	ELW p. 144
Holy, holy, holy	ELW p. 144
Words of Institution	
Lord's Prayer	ELW p. 145
Song during Distribution	ELW #300

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN ***“Blessed Be the God of Israel”*** ELW #250

DISMISSAL Go in Peace, Serve the Lord.
We will! Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

+++++

WELCOME to worship at American Lutheran! In our reading today, we read about the birth of Jesus from Joseph's perspective. He thought he had his whole life planned until Mary's big announcement. At a time when Joseph likely felt completely isolated and alone, God sent an angel, and promised God's continued presence in the form of a child. And like Joseph, we can draw strength from God's continued presence with us.

Holy Communion is served to all who believe in the presence of Christ in the bread and wine given to us for the forgiveness of sins. Grape juice and gluten-free wafers are available. Children may come forward for a blessing.

JOIN US NEXT WEEK for the Genealogy of Jesus: Matthew 1:1-17

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Scripture reader: Judith Johnson

Greeters: Larry & Donna Gravley

Communion Assistants: Donna Gravley,
Jay & Lori Mickelson

Instrumentalists: Eugene Hanchett, Moni Harper,
Page Kern, Dana Wallace

Media Ministry Team: Lindsey Cartwright, Tom Wickie,
Michael Wojahn, Mark Brodin

Acolytes: Nicholas Bottelberghe & Zachary Squires

RADIO SPONSORSHIP GIFTS given for today's worship service are:

In honor of Jan and Ed Yonker's 64+ years Wedding Anniversary on December 26th.

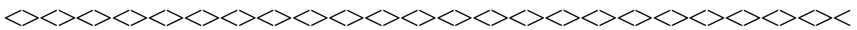
In honor of Betty and Gary Olson's 50th Wedding Anniversary on December 28, given by the Olson family.



Attendance last Wednesday Living Nativity; Saturday 40;
Sunday 166,

Offering Envelope \$10,356

Needed to end 2018 in the black \$50,000



REMINDER: No BAM-S today, Sunday, December 23rd. No Supper, WOW, BAM-W or Confirmation Wed. December 26th.

The **BAM CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** will be shown on local access TV, December 24th and 25th at 9AM and the

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT will follow at 10AM and 3PM on December 24th and 25th. In addition, our regular Sunday service will air at the usual Thursday times.

Christmas Eve at American Lutheran (Mon. Dec. 24)

3:00 PM Candlelight Worship Service

5:00 PM Candlelight Worship Service

10:00 PM Candlelight Worship Service w/Holy Communion

** Our 3:00PM Worship Service will be rebroadcast on

KDOM Radio (103.1 FM) at 7:00 PM. **

SHARE CHRISTMAS GREETINGS with your ALC family! Post photos and/or holiday letters on the bulletin board by Pastor Adam's office.



Tickets for the **LUTEFISK SUPPER** Saturday, January 12th, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM are on sale before and after church in the Skylight court.

They are also available in the Church office during regular office hours. Menu items include: Lutefisk, Meatballs, Lefse, and more. Reservations are encouraged by January 4th.

HEADS-UP: Sewing Days start on January 8 at 9:00 am. Come to the Fellowship Hall to make quilts, baby care kits, fabric kits, personal care kits, and school kits for missions. Come for part of the day or bring a sack lunch and spend the day (until about 2:00 p.m.). No experience necessary! Questions? Contact Carolyn Janssen, 831-3082.

MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM is looking for volunteer meal delivery drivers for the month of January. Meals on Wheels delivers over 40 meals to members of our community five days a week. Our clients look forward to the hot, nutritious meals & a friendly face to deliver the meal. Meals leave our site at the Community Center at 11:00am. The delivery route takes approximately an hour to deliver. Please call Kelly Kleven, site manager, at 831-6161 if you are able to deliver meals during the month of January.

ALTAR GUILD is looking for new members – male and female! Altar Guild prepares communion for worship, dusts the chancel area (around the altar), and changes the paraments. Please consider this important ministry of American Lutheran. Questions? Please contact Kathy Hiley, 831-4109 or momhiley@gmail.com or Judy Holt, 831-2128 or jjholt51@gmail.com

Did you know that you can see sermons on the **ALC WEBSITE**? Don't miss out. Go to <http://www.alcofwindom.com/> and click on the Media tab to hear a sermon that you might have missed.

Reminder: There will be NO BAM on the following dates:
Today-Sunday, December 23rd
Wednesday, December 26th
Sunday, December 30th
Wednesday, January 2nd



**2019 Mission Trip:
NEW MISSION MEETING!!**
There has been a huge response from the youth of this church, wanting to be a part of the 2019 Mission Trip. In response, there will be a FINAL DUE

DATE/INFORMATION MEETING on Wednesday, January 9th at 8:00pm.

We will be discussing Mission Trip Location options, Date Availability and then we will collectively decide where we are going to go and serve. Trip Deposits (\$200) and Permission Slips will need to be turned in that day.

All final discussion and decisions will be held that day.

F3 Event (Faith, Friends and Fellowship = F3)

Friday, December 21st after the Boys' Basketball Game.

What? What is an F3 Event? Faith, Friends and Fellowship...F3. It's just a time to hangout with other kids in a friendly and safe environment. Who knows? We might even have ice cream sundaes.

Jr League will not be meeting anymore this year. See you in January 2019.

Sr League meets every Wednesday at 8pm. Hope to See You There! Everyone is Welcome!

THIS WEEK AT AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 23

No BAM-S

9:00 AM Worship w/Holy Communion

10:00 AM Coffee Hour

Monday, December 24

3:00 PM Candlelight Worship

5:00 PM Candlelight Worship

10:00 PM Candlelight Worship w/Holy Communion

Tuesday, December 25

Merry Christmas!!!

Building/Office Closed

Wednesday, December 26

No Supper, WOW (Worship on

Wednesday), BAM-W, or

Confirmation



Thursday, December 27

9:00 AM Bulletin Deadline

10:00 AM & 6:30 PM Cable TV

10:30 AM Communion at Mikkelsen Manor

Friday, December 28

Saturday, December 29

5:30 PM Chapel Service

Sunday, December 30

No BAM-S

9:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Coffee Hour

4:30 PM Soup & Bread- White Elephant Christmas Party