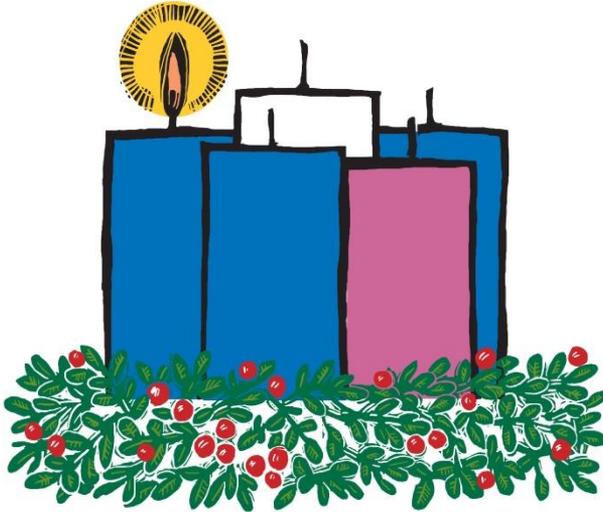


# The American Lutheran Church of Windom

Living God's grace, we cultivate community to love and serve.



— FIRST SUNDAY OF —  
**ADVENT**

**November 29, 2020 9:00 AM**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

906 Prospect Ave, PO Box 188  
Windom MN 56101; Phone: 507-831-1794  
E-Mail: [winalc@windomnet.com](mailto:winalc@windomnet.com)  
Website: [www.alcofwindom.com](http://www.alcofwindom.com)

**Sundays 9:00 am Worship & 10:30 am Virtual BAM-S**  
**Wednesdays 5:30 pm WOW & 6:30 pm Virtual BAM-W**

**Pastors Sarah Tadé and Adam Roberts**  
*Ministers: Everyone*

## WELCOME!

### **WE ARE HAPPY YOU ARE WORSHIPPING WITH US TODAY**

*If you are new to us or visiting from another church, please email our ALC office if you would like more information on our Church or would like to know how to join. We'd love to be in touch with you.*

*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.*

*The American Lutheran Church of Windom has moved all worship services and activities online until further notice. Please check out our ALC website, [www.alcofwindom.com](http://www.alcofwindom.com), YouTube Channel, and our Facebook page to view online services, events, and stay up-to-date on the latest information.*

ASSISTING MINISTER

Jean Johnson

GATHERING MUSIC

MicheLe Larson, Organist

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING:

P: In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen**

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE

**THE PROMISE CANDLE**: ADVENT 1

P: Lord God, we give thanks for your covenant.

**C: We are thankful that you promise to come again!**

P: We remember your faithfulness to Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam, and Hannah and Eli

**C: and how you freed the Hebrews in Egypt.**

P: Be faithful to us, as we wait for your coming.

**C: We live into your promises, Loving God!**

**Light the Promise Candle**

(Congregation can sing as the light is brought forward and lit)

*Family/Individual: Wendy and Jaydan Petersen*

As we light the Advent candle  
with the light of hope burning bright,  
faithfully we wait for his coming;  
faithfully it shines through the night.

In our humble hearts a fire burns as well;  
hear the prayer these flames would tell.

O come, O come, Emmanuel, (ELW p. 257)  
and ransom captive Israel.

## PRAYER

God, we are thankful that every year You fulfill your promises. You are with us as we pray and as we gather in your name. You show your love in baptism and communion, and you reveal your presence through Advent and Christmas. Help us to live into your promises, as we wait for Jesus. Amen.

## OPENING HYMN “*Blessed be the God of Israel*” ELW #250

- 1 Blessed be the God of Israel who comes to set us free and raises up new hope for us: a Branch from David’s tree. So have the prophets long declared that with a mighty arm God would turn back our enemies and all who wish us harm.
- 2 With promised mercy will God still the covenant recall, the oath once sworn to Abraham, from foes to save us all; that we might worship without fear and offer lives of praise, in holiness and righteousness to serve God all our days.
- 3 My child, as prophet of the Lord you will prepare the way, to tell God’s people they are saved from sin’s eternal sway. Then shall God’s mercy from on high shine forth and never cease to drive away the gloom of death and lead us into peace.

*“Blessed be the God of Israel”* Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944, based on Luke 1:68-79 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense #A-718031.

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: We confess our sins before God and one another.

*Pause for silence and reflection.*

P: Renewing God,

**C: You have come into our world to live among us, yet we often lose sight of this and seek to manufacture our own truth. We are afraid to share your word lest others judge or mock us. We ignore your wisdom because it isn’t convenient. We allow ourselves to be defeated by despair. Forgive our negligence and breathe new life into our heavy hearts.**

P: God knows our every weakness and still loves us and upholds our life. May your sins be forgiven, your past forgotten, and your hope restored in the name of our incarnate savior, Jesus Christ.

**All: Amen.**

## KYRIE

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

## C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE      **“He Came Down”**      (v 1)      ELW #253

He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love, he came down that we many have love; hallelujah forevermore.

*“He Came Down”* Text: Cameroon traditional Arr. © 1986 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted under OneLicense #A-718031.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Protective God, You guarded over your faithful servant Daniel when his life was threatened, because he refused to dishonor you. Show us the power that the smallest acts of faith may have to influence the world for good, by the help of your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING      Daniel 6:6-27      Pew Bible p. 723

Reader: Nick Trotter

So the presidents and satraps conspired and came to the king and said to him, “O King Darius, live forever! <sup>7</sup>All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors are agreed that the king should establish an ordinance and enforce an interdict, that whoever prays to anyone, divine or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions. <sup>8</sup>Now, O king, establish the interdict and sign the document, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, which cannot be revoked.” <sup>9</sup>Therefore King Darius signed the document and interdict. <sup>10</sup>Although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house, which had windows in its upper room open toward Jerusalem, and to get down on his knees three times a day to pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously.

<sup>11</sup>The conspirators came and found Daniel praying and seeking mercy before his God. <sup>12</sup>Then they approached the king and said concerning the interdict, “O king! Did you not sign an interdict, that anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human, within thirty days except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions?” The king answered, “The thing stands fast, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked.” <sup>13</sup>Then they responded to the king, “Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the interdict you have signed, but he is saying his prayers three times a day.” <sup>14</sup>When the king heard the charge, he was very

much distressed. He was determined to save Daniel, and until the sun went down he made every effort to rescue him. <sup>15</sup>Then the conspirators came to the king and said to him, “Know, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that no interdict or ordinance that the king establishes can be changed.” <sup>16</sup>Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!” <sup>17</sup>A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel.

<sup>18</sup>Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him. <sup>19</sup>Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. <sup>20</sup>When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?” <sup>21</sup>Daniel then said to the king, “O king, live forever! <sup>22</sup>My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.” <sup>23</sup>Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. <sup>24</sup>The king gave a command, and those who had accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.

<sup>25</sup>Then King Darius wrote to all peoples and nations of every language throughout the whole world: “May you have abundant prosperity! <sup>26</sup>I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people should tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: For he is the living God, enduring forever. His kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion has no end. <sup>27</sup>He delivers and rescues, he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth; for he has saved Daniel from the power of the lions.”

### **The Word of the Lord / Thanks be to God.**

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CHILDREN’S SERMON

Melanie Shamp, *Christian Ed Coord.*

MESSAGE

Pastor Sarah

SONG OF THE DAY

**“Lead Me, Guide Me”**

ELW #768

**Refrain:** Lead me, guide me, along the way; For if you lead me, I cannot stray. Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

I am weak and I need thy strength and pow’r to help me over my weakest hour. Help me through the darkness thy face to see.

Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain:*

Help me tread in the paths of righteousness, be my aid when Satan and sin oppress. I am putting all my trust in thee.

Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain:*

I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am blind without thy light to see. Lord, just always let me thy servant be.

Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *Refrain:*

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BAPTISM

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

*“Please share a greeting with those around you with a wave of your hand.”*

OFFERING

*We give, because God gives to us! Our ministries share God’s love. Offerings may be dropped off in the offering box located in the entryway of the church parking lot doors or mailed to PO Box 188, Windom. You may also visit our website [www.alcofwindom.com](http://www.alcofwindom.com) and check out electronic/on-line giving by clicking on our GIVE TAB found in the top menu bar. Thank you in advance for your contributions!*

OFFERING PRAYER

**You give us everything, O God, and ask for little in return. May these gifts which we place on your altar be pleasing to you, and may our lives reflect the bounty of grace which we have freely received from you, in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN “*Spread Oh Spread Almighty Word*” ELW #663

- 1 Spread, oh, spread, almighty Word, spread the reign of God the Lord. Send forth our Creator's call, heaven's gifts extend to all.
- 2 Tell of our Redeemer's grace, who, to save our human race and to pay rebellion's price, gave himself as sacrifice.
- 3 Tell of God the Spirit giv'n now to guide us on to heav'n, strong and holy, just and true, working both to will and do.
- 4 Lord of harvest, great and kind, rouse to action heart and mind; let the gath'ring nations all see your light and heed your call.

*Spread Oh Spread Almighty Word* Text: Jonathan F. Bahnmaier, 1774-1841; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt. Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-718031

DISMISSAL

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

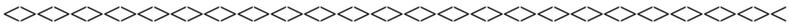
POSTLUDE

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**WELCOME** to worship at American Lutheran Church! Today is the beginning of a new year in the church. We celebrate the first Sunday of Advent. In the scripture reading, When jealous advisors tricked the king into outlawing worship of God, Daniel remained loyal to God. After surviving the sentence of execution by lion, Daniel’s courage turned an entire kingdom toward God.

**JOIN US NEXT WEEK** for Joel: God’s Promised Spirit,  
Joel 2:12-13, 28-29

**RADIO SPONSORSHIP** for today’s worship service is in honor of Lorraine Jacobson’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on November 30<sup>th</sup> given by family. Greetings may be sent to 350 6th Ave. S. apt. 106 Windom, MN 56101.



Attendance: None, Online format.  
Offering \$4,567; Borrowed \$25,000



**TODAY IS THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT!**

**BROUGHT TO CHRIST** through Holy Baptism today Sunday, November 29th is James Lee Erickson, son of Deb Koch and David Erickson. James’s sponsors are Andy Erickson and Aaron Koch. May God bless James and his family!



**THE AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WINDOM WILL BE MOVING ALL WORSHIP SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES ONLINE**

**UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.** Please stay tuned to our Facebook page, website, YouTube channel, KDOM, and local cable channel 3 to view these online services, events, and stay up-to-date on the latest information. Sorry for any inconvenience!

**NEXT WEEK'S NOISY OFFERING** is designated to the Helping Hands fund. You may drop off your spare change in the can located in the entryway of the parking lot doors. Thank you for your contribution!

Help celebrate **LORRAINE JACOBSON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY** on November 30th by sending her a greeting to 350th 6th Ave. S. apt. 106 Windom, MN 56101

**HELP WANTED:** The American Lutheran Church of Windom is seeking a part-time custodian to care for and maintain the church building. This position will not exceed 20 hours per week and may include some evenings and weekend hours. An application form is available in the church office or visit: [www.alcofwindom.com](http://www.alcofwindom.com). Applications are still being accepted.

**THE CHURCH IN SOCIETY BOARD WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL WHO DONATED TO MAKE OUR THANKSGIVING MEAL PROJECT A SUCCESS.** Your generosity was greatly appreciated! Traditionally the Church in Society collects food and cash for the local Food Shelf at our Thanksgiving Eve Service. Because we did not have this service in person, we had baskets for donations at the church. We hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and thank you again to all who contributed!

**STEWARDSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT:** Volunteer Opportunity forms and pledge cards may still be brought or mailed in. A box is located in the entry way of the parking lot door or you mail them to the church at PO Box 188, Windom. Thank you!

**FEELING ALONE?** You are not the only one!! Quarantine is not fun and isolation doesn't help anybody's spirits. It is just the time we are in. Call a friend, reach out to others, and pray for God is near. Your church staff is also here for you. Don't hesitate to call or reach out!

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:** Kids please keep an eye out on Snapchat for Zoom Check in meetings! Also, Jr. League will be over Zoom on December 6th at 6:30 PM. We'll be playing Christmas Kahoot!

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