

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Anthony Giordano, Pastor www.veronalutheran.com

Second Sunday of Advent December 8, 2024 10:30a.m.

COMMUNION SERVICE

If you are visiting Calvary, we hope you feel welcome. Please read our Holy Communion statement on page 9 of this bulletin. And please take a moment to fill out one of our Visitor Cards located in the slot of the pew in front of you. We will keep you updated on all the fun activities we have planned! After the service, be sure to introduce yourself to Pastor Anthony.

PRELUDE: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* Ancient Plain Song

WELCOME

Please rise

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

(Two purple candles are lit on the Advent wreath.)

Lighting of the Candle “Peace”

The second candle reminds us of God’s preparation for the coming of the Christ-Child. God kept His promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to “get ready.” Help us to be ready to welcome You, O God!

SONG: *Light the Candle* Griepentrog

HYMN: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (vs.1-3) 357

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end.

C: Amen.

P: Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C: Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy, we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.

P: These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are † forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

C: Amen

SONG OF PRAISE: *Here I Am to Worship*

Words & Music: Tim Hughes © 2000 Thankyou Music

PRAYER OF THE DAY

R: Let us pray:

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING:

Malachi 3:1–4

R: “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the Lord.

Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING:

Philippians 1:3–11

R: I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise

C:  *Alleluia*  *Alleluia*  *Alleluia*

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GOSPEL READING:

Luke 3:1–6

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 3rd chapter.

C:  *Glory be to Thee, O Lord.*

P: In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the

**the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERTORY:

Create in Me

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

P: As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

A brief silence

P: Refining God, move through your church. Root out practices that harm your people, and kindle a fire for sharing the gospel among bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Ruling God, teach the nations your ways. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace and care for refugees, immigrants, and all caught in the center of conflict *especially in* Ukraine and the Middle East. Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Rescuing God, restore your people who are in any need. Heal all who are suffering (*especially*). Provide comfort and strength, and nurture sustained wholeness for the future. Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Reforming God, fill this congregation with your presence. Enrich our seasonal preparations, and bless the efforts by worship committees, music ensembles, staff, clergy, and lay leaders as they work in the weeks ahead. Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: Reassuring God, we remember those who have died and rest in you. Guide us in deep gratitude for their life, and allow us to learn from their faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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P: The Lord be with you

C: ♪ And with thy spirit

P: Lift up your hearts

C: ♪ We lift them up unto the Lord

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God

C: ♪ It is meet and right so to do

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS ♪

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**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that
cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take,

eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do, in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

LORD’S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C:  Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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C: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

SONG: *El Shaddai*

Words & Music: Michael Card & John W. Thompson © 1982 Mole End Music

PRAYER

**C: Generous God,
we thank you for the gift of life,
for the bread of salvation.
We thank you for coming among us,
for leading us into peace.
We thank you for showering us with mercy,**

for sending us into the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us
as we feed the hungry in your name. Amen.

THANK THE LORD 🎵

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C: Thank the Lord and sing His praise;
tell everyone what He has done.
Let everyone who seeks the Lord
rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises
and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia, alleluia.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His
face to shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord
look upon you with His favor and grant you peace. In the
name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG: *Mighty to Save*

Words & Music: Reuben Morgan & Ben Fielding © 2006 Hillsong Publishing

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

P: Jesus said, "I have come that you may have LIFE and
have it abundantly." Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



*Altar flowers are given today by Bob and Cindy Eucker
in celebration of Cindy's birthday.*

Holy Communion

We believe that the true body and blood of Jesus Christ are present in the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper. Holy Communion is offered at all of our services and is for all baptized Christians who share our belief that Christ, himself, is truly present. The individual cups are filled with wine (red) or grape juice (amber color). If you do not want to receive Communion, you may remain in your seat or come up to the altar and cross your arms on your chest. Pastor will give you a blessing.



Poinsettia order forms are available in the Narthex, please complete and return to the church office next Sunday, December 15.

Holy Spirit Food Pantry is in need of: ***toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, cleaning products, pasta sauce, coffee, tea, cookies, crackers, canned beans, cereal, oatmeal, dog and cat food.*** *Need list is in order of importance.* **NO LARGE RESTAURANT SIZED ITEMS** please.



The Flower Calendar is posted on the bulletin board! Flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God, in honor or memory of your loved ones. Special occasion such as an anniversary, a baptism, a birthday, a graduation or in thanksgiving for family and friends, can also be celebrated by placing flowers at the altar. Flowers are \$60.00 (\$30.00 each, if shared).

REMINDER TO BUY GIFT CARDS (SCRIP) TODAY



Remember Naomi in your prayers, she is our sponsored child from Watoto Child Care Ministries in Uganda. If you are able, and with God's leading, please give a few dollars in her contribution box on the wall in the Narthex. Your donations will make a difference in her life.

CALENDAR:

Wednesday: 7:30 pm Midweek Advent Service
Thursday: 6:30 pm Praise Team Practice
Saturday: 10:00 am Breakfast With Santa
Sunday: 8:45 am Sunday School
10:10-10:30 am Prayer Meeting in Kavasch Hall
10:30 am Communion Service
6-8 pm Live Nativity

IMPORTANT DATES IN DECEMBER

Live Nativity: **TODAY** 6-8pm

Midweek Advent Service: Wed. 11th 7:30pm
(soup supper 6:15)

Breakfast with Santa: Sat. 14th 10am

Midweek Gathering at Parsonage: Wed. 18th 6pm

Blue Christmas: Sat. 21st 7pm

Christmas Eve at St John's: Tues. 24th 1pm

Christmas Eve: Tues. 24th 7pm

Christmas Day: Wed. 25th 10am

THOSE WHO SERVE US:

Altar Guild: Joyce Sapara-Grant
Communion Assistant: John Ricca
Contemporary Music Director/Organist: Ruth Bolger
Live Stream/Projectionist: Chris Bolger, Vincent Cooper
Reader: Bill Keltner
The Praise Team
Usher: Gordon Wickham



PRAY FOR:

Virginia Messina

Ellen Ciompi

Irmgard Taenzer

Fran Kriebel

Doris Beall

Nathan Kuder

John Wickham

Lois Tiedemann

Karl and Luise Wetter

Fred Lausten

Lucille Wernes

Al Arroyo

LaVerne Sieglen

Edith Meyer

Pastor Anthony Iovine

Kenneth Meyer Jr. and his mission work in Vienna.



Connect.



Grow.



Serve.

CALVARY'S MISSION

As God's Children, our mission is to
Know His Word, Share His Word and Live His Word

Visit our website at www.veronalutheran.com for updates and online giving.
Click on the **members** tab to set up online giving, it's easy and convenient.