

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
204 S. Chase Street, Houston, MN
507-896-3102

First Sunday of Advent Worship
with Holy Communion/FB
November 30, 2025



Monday: 1:00 Ruth Circle with Potluck
Tuesday:
Wednesday:
Thursday:
Friday: Pastor's Day Off
Saturday: 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Grace Anderson (10:00 Visitation)
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship w/Holy Comm./Noisy Offering/Installation of
WELCA Officers/FB
10:30 a.m. **WELCA Cookie Walk**/Coffee hr./Sunday School, Club 56
& Confirmation

Cross of Christ Mission Statement: As a fellowship of believers, it is our mission to joyfully proclaim the gospel of Christ in word and deed; inviting people to worship together, nurturing them in the Christian faith, loving one another and serving a world in need.

Prelude

Ringling of the Church Bell

Announcements

Gathering Song: ELW #257 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vs 1-3

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

(Refrain)

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.**

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay;
teach us your will and guide our way. **R**

3 O come, O come, O Lord of might,
as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. **R**

Lighting of the Advent Candles

“Sing a Song of Advent” (to the tune of “*Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*”)

Advent is a time to wait,
Not quite time to celebrate,
Light the candles one by one,
Till the Advent time is done,
Christmas Day will soon be here,
Time for joy, and time for cheer!

Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

¹ The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

² In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

³ Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."
For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

⁴ He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.

⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!
R: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 122

¹ I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."

² **Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

³ Jerusalem is built as a city
that is at unity with itself;

⁴ **to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord.**

⁵ For there are the thrones of judgment,
the thrones of the house of David.

⁶ **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:**
"May they prosper who love you.

⁷ Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.

⁸ **For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.**

⁹ Because of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good."

Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

P: The holy Gospel according to Matthew. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**
[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶“About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” **P:** The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Dana Jackson

Hymn of the Day ELW #438 “My Lord, What a Morning”

(Refrain)

**My Lord, what a morning;
my Lord, what a morning;
oh, my Lord, what a morning,
when the stars begin to fall.**

2 You will hear the sinner cry,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. **R**

1 You will hear the trumpet sound,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. **R**

3 You will hear the Christian shout,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. **R**

Apostle's Creed

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

Prayers of Intercession:

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

Offering Collection

Offertory Hymn# 186 "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Words of Institution

The 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,
for ever and ever. Amen**

Invitation to Communion

Congregation Response: All are welcome.

The Distribution (*Please sign the pew pad.*)

Communion Hymns: 638, 742, 733, 790

Sending Song: ELW #264 “Prepare the Royal Highway” vs 1-3

1 Prepare the royal highway;
the King of kings is near!
Let ev'ry hill and valley
a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory,
foretold in sacred story:

(Refrain)

**Hosanna to the Lord,
for he fulfills God's word!**

2 God's people, see him coming:
your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him!
Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you!
No more shall doubt assail you! **R**

3 Then fling the gates wide open
to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev'ry nation
its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him;
their voices join your singing: **R**

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

Postlude

Thank You for helping with the service today:

Organist: Gayle Smith

Choir Director: Jake Olson

Acolytes: Tatum Bartsch, Macsen

Hegland-Tarr

Reader: Jenelle Lemke

Communion: Judy Munson, Jean

Halvorson, Steve Halvorson

Usher: Della Hegland-Tarr, Adelyn

Hegland-Tarr, Duane Hegland

Advent Helpers:

Bell Ringer: Andie Olson

Cross Bearer: Macsen Hegland-Tarr

Advent Verse Reader: Delle Hegland -Tarr

Window Candles: Memory Schultz and Sylvie Hegland-Tarr

Prayer Reader: Riley Cross

Announcements

Happening today Education Hour Open House

The Education and Youth/Family Cabinets invite you to join them upstairs after the church service to see our new learning spaces.

Be sure to register for the Advent Puzzle to be given away as you tour.

****The drawing will be held at 11:10 a.m.****



Sunday December 7th WELCA Cookie Walk after church.

Everyone is invited to bring cookies and buy lots! Thanks!

Sunday December 7th Noisy Offering Collection during worship.

Sudsy Sunday December 21st Caring Collection we will be collecting Shampoo, Laundry soap, dish soap.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

'Tis the time of year to ring those bells and bring comfort and joy to others in Houston County this season! Here is the link to sign up for a shift:

Salvation Army Bell Ringing 2025

Contact Lisa Skifton at 507-429-3820 or lisa.skifton@gmail.com with any questions.

