Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

204 S. Chase Street, Houston, MN
507-896-3102

First Sunday of Advent Worship
Sunday with Holy Communion/FB
November 29, 2026



Monday:
Tuesday:
Wednesday:
Thursday:
Friday: Pastor's Day Off

Saturday:
Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship w/Holy Communion/Noisy Offering Collection/Installation of WELCA Officers/FB
10:30 a.m. Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsal/Confirmation/Coffee Hr.
WELCA Cookie Walk - Coffee is provided. Please support WELCA by purchasing your coffee hour treats from them today.

Prelude

Ringing of the Church Bell

Announcements

Advent Reading and Lighting of Advent Candles
The days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will fulfill my promise to my people.

Justice and righteousness will fill the land
and all will live in peace and safety.
We light this candle as a symbol
of the hope we have in the promise of the Lord's coming.

For the Lord will fulfill his promise
to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.
A righteous Branch will spring up for David;
and he shall bring justice and righteousness
in the land.
Come, Lord Jesus, come!

"Sing a Song of Advent" (to the tune of "*Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*" x2)
Advent is a time to wait,
not quite time to celebrate.
Light the candles one by one,
til the Advent time is done.
Christmas Day will soon be here,
Time for joy and time for cheer!

Gathering Song: ELW #870 "We Praise You, O God" vs 1&3

1 We praise you, O God, our redeemer,
creator; in grateful devotion
our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and
adore you; we bless your holy name;
glad praises we sing.

3 With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs
of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong
arm will guide us. To you, our great
redeemer, forever be praise!

Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
4 I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, 5 for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—7 so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. 8 He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
R: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
2 **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,**
stir up your strength and come to help us.
3 Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
4 **O Lord God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**
5 You have fed them with the bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
6 **You have made us the derision of our neighbors,**
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
7 Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
17 **Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,**
the one you have made so strong for yourself.
18 And so will we never turn away from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name.
19 **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;**
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

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

Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

P: The holy Gospel according to Mark. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**
[Jesus said:] 24 "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, 25 and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

[26] “Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and
glory. [27] Then he will send out the angels and gather the elect from the four winds, from
the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
[28] “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts
forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. [29] So also, when you see these things
taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. [30] Truly I tell you, this generation
will not pass away until all these things have taken place. [31] Heaven and earth will pass
away, but my words will not pass away.
[32] “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son,
but only the Father. [33] Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will
come. [34] It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in
charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the
watch. [35] Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will
come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, [36] or else he may find you
asleep when he comes suddenly. [37] And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”
P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you O Christ.**

Sermon **Pastor Dana Jackson**

Hymn of the Day ELW #595 “Jesus Loves Me!”

1 Jesus loves me! this I know,
for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong,
they are weak, but he is strong.

(Refrain)
Yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
the Bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me! he who died
heaven's gates to open wide;
he will wash away my sin,
let his little child come in. **R**

3 Jesus loves me! he will stay
close beside me all the way;
when at last I come to die,
he will take me home on high. **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:

P: Lord in your mercy. **C: Hear our prayer.**

Offering Collection

Offertory "Let the Vineyards be Fruitful"

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

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

First Communion Tason Bartsch, Isaac Frauenkron, Andie Olson & Riley Wood.

Invitation to Communion
Congregation Response: **All are welcome.**

The Distribution ***(Please sign the pew pad.)***
Communion Hymns: 595, 781, 856

Sending Song: ELW #264 "Prepare the Royal Highway" vs 1&4

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!

4 His is no earthly kingdom;
it comes from heav'n above.
His rule is peace and freedom
and justice, truth, and love.
So let your praise be sounding
for kindness so abounding: **R**

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

Postlude

Thank You for helping with the service today:

Organist: Shelley Jerviss
Choir Director: Jake Olson, Jo Ann Miller
Reader: Ron Evenson
Acolytes: Robbie Carlson, Macy Jarchow
Communion: Rae Evenson, Judy Munson, Ron Evenson
Usher: Taya Evenson, Keahna Seekamp, Duane Hegland

Announcements

Sunday December 6th WELCA Cookie Walk following worship, Noisy Offering Collection. K-6 Christmas Program Rehearsal 10:30 a.m.-11:30 am.

Tuesday December 8th the WELCA board will meet at 2:00 p.m. to develop the WELCA budget and allocations for 2027. The meeting will be held in the church library.

Friday December 11th WELCA will be having their annual Christmas program at 2:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. ALL Cross of Christ women are invited to come to fellowship with other women. There will be a fun holiday program and delicious holiday lunch after.

Sunday December 13th Sunday School Christmas Program during the Church service.

Sunday December 20th Caring Collection we will be collecting spaghetti sauce, noodles, mac & cheese.

Thursday December 24th Cross of Christ 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship Services with Holy Communion. Christmas Flowers purchased In Memory or Honor of loved one for decorations are available to be taken home after the 5:00 p.m. service.

Salvation Army bell ringing at Root River Market! Get in the holiday spirit by helping those in need. All donations stay in Houston County.
Sign up on Sign Up Genius:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094DADA628A4FACE9-67216076-salvation#/
or contact Lisa Skifton at 507-429-3820 or lisa.skifton@gmail.com to sign up for a shift.

SCAN ME

qr code for salvation army bell ringing signup genius page.