

Resurrection Lutheran Church

1735 East Main Street – Mankato, MN 56001

+ *New Life in the Living Word* +



The First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 30, 2025 | 9:30am

The First Sunday of Advent draws us into the promise for peace given to Jerusalem and her citizens as a sign of the coming Messiah who will rescue and redeem Israel.

Paul reminded believers that they were closer now, in Christ, than ever before to the promise of salvation. Until Jesus returns, we are challenged to be ready, for no one knows the time or the day when he will come again in glory.

Welcome *and* Announcements

Please sign the welcome pad at the end of your pew

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

R: Today is the first Sunday of Advent and on this day we light the first candle in our Advent wreath: the Candle of Hope. Our hope is in the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

C: And our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. We put our hope in Jesus, who is restoring, reconciling and making all things new.

The candle of hope is lit

R: Let us pray. Gracious father, kindle in our hearts such a desire for you and your saving works that the flame may never be put out. Guide and direct us as we both anticipate the birth of your Son and look forward to his second coming. We long for the day, with hope-filled expectation, when you will make all the world's wrongs to become right, and we thank you for giving us the hope of glory. Amen.

Oh, Come, Oh, Come Emmanuel

Reclaim No. 103

Confession and Forgiveness of Sin | *Based on Colossians 1:13-14*

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

C: Amen.

P: The Lord has delivered us from the domain of darkness,

C: and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

a time of reflection and self-examination is kept

P: Almighty God and Father,

C: we confess, as your people, our sinful human nature and the thoughts, words, and actions that are evil in your sight. We need your rescue. We need your righteousness. We need a redeemer. Mercifully draw near to us, O Lord. For the sake of Jesus Christ and his cross, rescue us from our troubles and cover our sin with true righteousness. Redeem our lives, that our days and deeds would be directed in your peace. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for you, and for his sake forgives you all your sins. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, and by his authority alone, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God!

Hymn of Praise

A song of thanksgiving for the forgiveness we have in Jesus Christ

Glory be to God in heaven, Peace on earth, good will and grace;

We rejoice and sing thanksgiving, Hearts uplifted, songs of praise!

Lord, we bless You, Lord, we thank You, God Almighty, strong and true;

Lamb of God, our sin You carry, Grant us peace, our hearts renew.

You alone, O Christ, are holy, You alone the Lord Most High,
With the Spirit ever reigning, In the Father's glory nigh.
Now we sing our adoration, Praise resounds from shore to shore;
Glory, honor, power, blessing Be to God forevermore!

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray:

C: Gracious God, you are the Alpha and Omega, our beginning and end. May your Spirit kindle in us a spirit of readiness, that we might at all times and in all places be prepared for the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Sermon

First Reading | Isaiah 2:1-5

Pew Bible Pg. 657

In the last days, the Messiah will come and bring peace to warring nations. Swords will be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks as weapons are replaced with instruments of peace and productivity. War will be no more, and Israel will be a great blessing to all nations.

Responsive Reading | Psalm 122

In this pilgrimage psalm, the psalmist sings of peace within the walls of Jerusalem and for all those who love the Lord. There is joy in the house of the Lord, among God's faithful people.

R: I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

C: **Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!**

R: Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together,

C: **to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.**

R: There thrones for judgment were set, the thrones of the house of David.

C: **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! "May they be secure who love you!**

R: Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!"

C: **For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, "Peace be within you!"**

R: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

Second Reading | Romans 13:8-14

Pew Bible Pg. 1098

St. Paul instructed the Christians in Rome to practice loving each other. True love is characterized by doing no wrong to one's neighbor. He goes on to remind them that they are closer now to salvation than they have been at any time previous; therefore, they are called to walk in the light of Christ.

R: Word of God; Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Acclamation

Thy word is a lamb upon my feet and a light unto my path. *(Repeat)*

Gospel Reading | Matthew 24:36-44

Pew Bible Pg. 960

P: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the 24th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

the Gospel text is read

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Page 6

Offering Presentation

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive
And gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first fruits give.

The Apostles' Creed

P: 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.

P: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in this peace and in community with one another, let us confess our faith:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Installation of 2025-2026 Church Council

Prayers of the People

Each petition ends with the words “Lord, in your mercy.” Respond by saying, “Hear our prayer.”

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

Benediction

Hark, the Glad Sound

Reclaim No. 92

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, loving and serving in the name of our crucified and risen Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Those Serving Today

Pastor: Rev. Aaron L. Deutsch

Keyboardist: Nikki Basel

Reader: Karen McGregor

Ushers: Daryl and Rita Schoemaker

Greeters: Bob and Meridel Kellogg

Tech Team: Doug Krahmer, Mike Youngerberg, Vicki Youngerberg and Nancy Heinze

This Week at Resurrection Lutheran

Sunday	November 30	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Fellowship/Sunday School
Monday	December 1	10:00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday	December 3	Noon	Lectionary Bible Study
		1:00pm	Women’s Bible Study
		2:00pm	Worship Committee
		5:30pm	Choir Rehearsal
		6:15pm	Midweek Advent Soup and Worship
Thursday	December 4	9:00am	Men’s Bible Study
Sunday	December 7	9:30am	Worship
		10:30am	Congregational Meeting

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Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

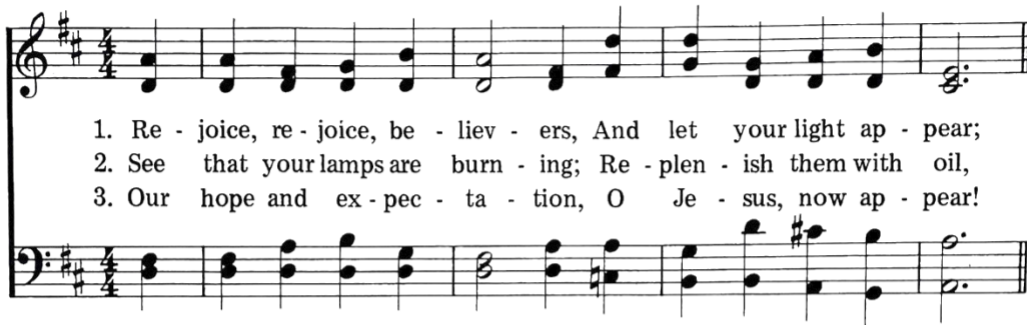
Matt. 25:1-13

Laurentius Laurenti, 1700

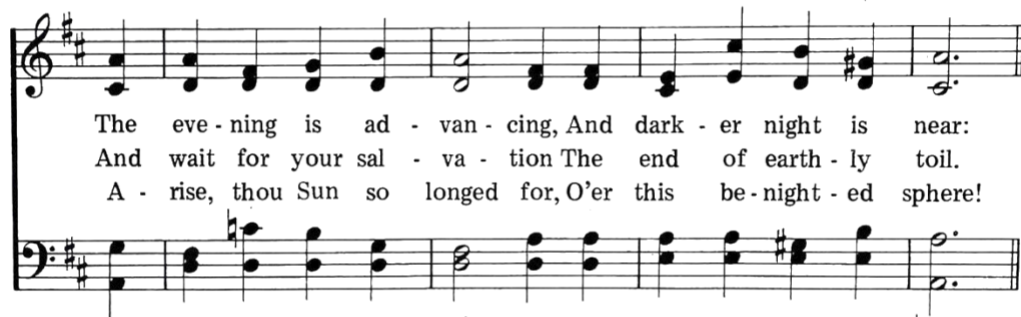
Tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1854

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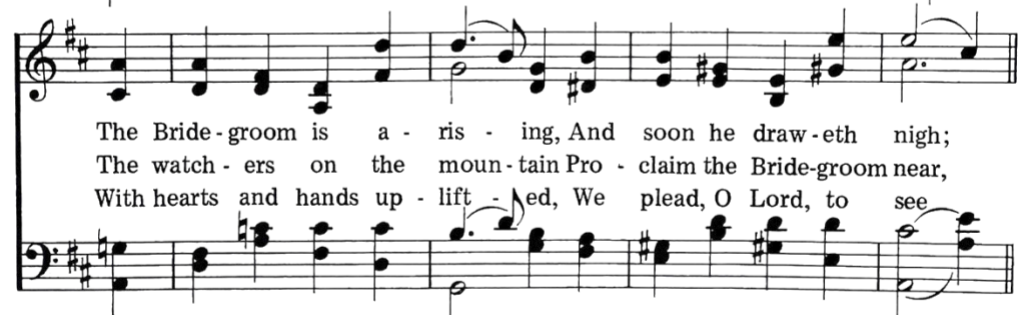
Henry Smart, 1836



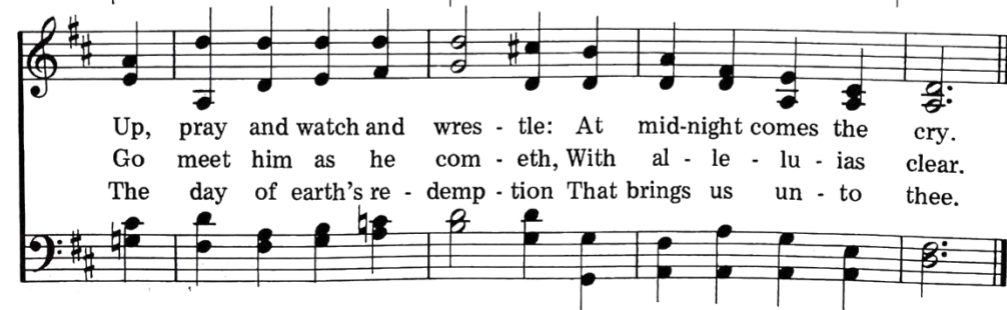
1. Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your light ap - pear;
2. See that your lamps are burn - ing; Re - plen - ish them with oil,
3. Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear!



The eve - ning is ad - van - cing, And dark - er night is near:
And wait for your sal - va - tion The end of earth - ly toil.
A - rise, thou Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere!



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, And soon he draw - eth nigh;
The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride - groom near,
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle: At mid - night comes the cry.
Go meet him as he com - eth, With al - le - lu - ias clear.
The day of earth's re - demp - tion That brings us un - to thee.

Announcements

Welcome to Worship! Resurrection Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered and cross-focused member congregation of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ and the Augustana District, LCMC. To learn more about our association of churches, please visit www.lcmc.net.

The **Minnesota Riverbend Brass Choir** will present *Advent/Christmas in Brass* at various local churches in the coming weeks: Holy Rosary Catholic Church in North Mankato tonight at 7pm; Bethany Lutheran College Chapel on Wednesday, December 10th at 7pm; Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in North Mankato on Wednesday, December 17th at 6pm; Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Mankato on Sunday, December 21st at 7pm.

Time is running out to sign up for our annual **Christmas Banquet** to be held Friday, December 12, 2025. Social hour will begin at 5:30pm with a banquet meal being served at 6:00pm. Schuur Tasty Catering of Mankato will cater. Sign-up in the narthex and indicate how many seats you would like reserved. A free-will donation will be taken the night of the event.

A **congregational meeting** will be held after worship next Sunday, December 7th to discuss several facility projects that need our attention, including pressing repairs to the flat roof portions of the building. There will be no Sunday School next week.

Join us Wednesdays December 3, 10 and 17 for our **midweek Advent worship services**. A soup supper will be served in the fellowship hall at 6:15pm, followed by a brief worship service at 7:00pm. Pastor Aaron will be preaching a sermon series entitled “*Every Heart Prepare*” featuring common holiday decorations we put up to prepare for Christ’s arrival and how they tie to the Christmas story: evergreens, lights, and the nativity scene. Chefs and bakers are needed to provide soup, bread and dessert for our meals. A sign-up sheet can be found in the narthex.

Would you like to sponsor a **poinsettia** this Christmas season in honor or memory of a loved one? These flowers will help adorn the Sanctuary at Resurrection Lutheran. Donation forms were included in the December newsletter, and additional copies are on the Welcome Center.

Birthdays this week: Thomas Bye (Today)

A note for worship: this morning you’ll notice that the Old Testament, New Testament, and Gospel readings are not printed in the bulletin; a change from our usual practice. *Why this change?* The worship committee has placed new large-print pew Bibles in the Sanctuary, located in the rack beneath the pew in front of you. Because we are people grounded in the life-giving Word of God, it’s our goal to promote biblical literacy by opening and engaging that Word together. Each Bible includes a bookmark to help you keep your place. **All Scripture readings will continue to appear on the television screen,** and the Psalm will remain printed in the bulletin. We invite you to make use of the pew Bibles (or bring your own from home) and page through God’s love story with us each time we gather.

The Peace of Jerusalem

Find the 37 **bold** words from Psalm 122:1–9 (ESV)

G G M E L A S U R E J D W S K
Y N L P G G T B T B L I D A N
U T I A R T Z N R C W V E I L
T K I D D A E G O O D A C D E
S E A C N M Y M R S T D R G A
T E E F G A P D E E E H E O R
H S B D B A T C H T K T E D S
O O U I N H A S T V O A D R I
U J F I R E J H E T J W S Q S
S Q O O P T O O G D G K E G I
E N N T L I U B O A N L W R R
S E C U R I T Y T A O U E U S
S E C U R E T E H R E V O L T
W A L L S C S T D J I Y I B E
Y L M R I F P S V G N A M E F

I was **glad** when they **said** to me, “Let us go to the **house** of the **LORD!**” Our **feet** have been **standing** within your **gates**, O Jerusalem! **Jerusalem**—**built** as a **city** that is **bound firmly together**, to which the **tribes** go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was **decreed** for **Israel**, to **give thanks** to the **name** of the LORD. There **thrones** for **judgment** were **set**, the thrones of the house of **David**. **Pray** for the **peace** of Jerusalem! “May they be **secure** who **love** you! Peace be within your **walls** and **security** within your **towers!**” For my **brothers** and **companions’ sake** I will say, “Peace be within you!” For the sake of the house of the LORD our **God**, I will **seek your good**.