



Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA



We celebrate gathering together this fourth Sunday in Advent!

December 21, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

The People of Covenant are called to:

Gather, Grow and Go Serve

...With God's Love!

Welcome

Service of Light	Holden p. 2
Morning Hymn	Holden p. 2
Morning Thanksgiving	Holden p. 3
Psalm 141	Holden p. 3

Psalm Prayer

May our prayers come before you, O God, as incense, and may your presence surround and fill us, so that in union with all creation, we might sing your praise and your love in our lives. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

A reading from Isaiah the seventh chapter.

¹⁰ The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹ “Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹² But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test.” ¹³ Then Isaiah said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals that you weary my God also? ¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵ He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶ For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 1:1-7

A reading from Romans, the first chapter.

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ² which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³ the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴ and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵ through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶ including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷ To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ "Look, the virgin shall become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had given birth to a son, and he named him Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord,
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Wendy Moen

Annunciation and the Magnificat

Holden p. 7

Litany and Prayers

Holden p. 8

Exchange of Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Let us share a sign of peace safely with one another.

Announcements

Offering Prayer

Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. **Amen.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of Holy Communion

Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord!**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered into one by the power of the Holy Spirit we pray as our Lord taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

God feeds us with tender mercy.

Come to the table

Communion Hymns

Wait for the Lord

ELW 262

By Your Hand You Feed Your People

ELW 469

Fling Wide the Door

ELW 259

Post Communion Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

Prayer after Communion

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

Holden p. 9

Sending Hymn

Joy to the World

ELW 267

Dismissal

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.



Care to contribute to our Church and ministries?
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Announcements:

- ✝ **Bible Study** returns Wednesday, Jan 7 at 5:30pm in the Gateway room
- ✝ **Christmas Eve Worship Tues, Dec 24 at 4pm and 7pm- As always- Everyone is Invited**
- ✝ **Office closed Dec 24 and 25, Jan 1-2** for the holidays. Call/text Pastor Wendy with a need
- ✝ **For meetings, events go to our calendar at: <https://covluth.org/calendar/>**

WORSHIP NOTES

Pastor: *Pastor Wendy Moen*; **Acolyte:** *Brayden Edwards*
Lighting of the Advent Wreath: *The Wagner Family*
Assistant Minister: *Ann Nelson* **Lector:** *Ingrid Thompson*
Greeter: *Karen Hanson Cook and Bill Cook*
Communion Worship Assistants: *Kathy Andrusz, Ann Nelson, Karen Hanson Cook*
Organist/Pianist: *Meghann Proper* **Vocal Assistant:**
Ushers: *Karl Nissler, Thor Anderson, Sue Richards, Doug Juve*
Sound/projection: *Jude Surrell*
Altar Guild: *Jean and Norm Sime*; **Communion Prep:** *Jessica and Mia Wagner*
Altar Flowers: *in honor of my brother Clyde*
Fellowship Hosts: *Larry Beck and Kirsten Almo*

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