



First English Lutheran Church
9 NW 3rd Street; Ortonville, MN 56278
320-839-2527



Reverend Denise Fossen
Lisa Berdan, Senior Choir Director
Dr. Stephen and Jodi Swanson, Missionaries/Tanzania

Second Sunday of Advent – Time is Relative

November 19, 2023

“Out of Time”

9:00 am

GATHERING

Gathering Music

‘Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me’
‘What Does the Lord Require of You?’

SONG SHEET
SONG SHEET

Bells

Welcome & Announcements

Temple Talk

GATHERING

Greeting & Passing of the Peace

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

Call to Worship

P: We gather today. **C: It is time to worship!**

P: We listen for God. **C: It is time to hear!**

P: We receive God's grace. **C: It is time to be loved!**

P: We leave in peace. **C: It is time to serve others!**

P: As we wait for Jesus' arrival, Emmanuel, God-with-us, is already here in this time and place.

Prayer of Confession:

P: People of God, when we think that we have nowhere ...Holy one,

C: We have not stayed awake. We have missed you when you appeared in our neighbors, in strangers half a world away, in the suffering planet. We have wasted the time and the skills that you gave us and assumed we were powerless to mend the breaches in our world. Sometimes, we even gave up on your mercy, justice, and love. God, is it too late for us? Speak tenderly to our anxious hearts. Tear open the heavens and heal what we have done.

Amen.

P: People of God, God's judgement... we will witness wonders. **C: Amen.**

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Sara & Ann Mattison

Zephaniah 1:14 & Psalm 90:1

Advent Prayer L: Let us pray: God who is near: Our days rush past us, and we can't hold onto what's most dear. Our days drag on until we long for change. Yet you are everlasting, as faithful to us now as to those who lived thousands of years ago. And you are urgent, bringing sweeping change within a single moment. As we light another candle on this wreath, remind us of your power unfolding in seconds and in eons. **C: Amen**

Advent Lighting Hymn

'Out of Time'

SONG SHEET

Greeting

pg. 147

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.**

Song

'God Welcomes All' (sing 3 times)

SONG SHEET

Prayer of the Day: P: Righteous God, **C: our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

First Lesson: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

OT pg. 679

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

NT pg. 159

Children's Message

Pastor Denise Fossen

Duet

'10,000 Reasons'

Liv & Landri Wollschlager

Song by Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

NT p. 22

P: The Holy Gospel according to... **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: The Gospel of the Lord... **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Denise Fossen

Sermon Song

'Make Me an Instrument'

SONG SHEET

Affirmation of Faith

C: Into the silence of the void the Creator spoke, and the world came into being. The Word of God in the vastness brought light from darkness, matter from nothing, flesh from dust, life from lifelessness. In the quiet of a small town in Palestine the Word of God came to us.

Even though of one being with the Creator, Jesus our Christ, taking on human form, was born, lived and walked among us, speaking the words of life. He was crucified, died, and was buried.

He rose from the dead and speaks to us today. He is the one who saves us from ourselves. In the stillness of our souls the Spirit of God, who is one with the Creator and the Christ, whispers the Word, and calls us back to the Creator, back to the Christ, back to the wholeness of everlasting life in the unity of the Creator, Christ, and Spirit.

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Prayers for the People of God

Song *'There is a Longing in Our Hearts'*

SONG SHEET

MEAL

Offering Collection and Presentation

Offertory Hymn *'Giver of the Heartbeat'*

SONG SHEET

Offertory Prayer

P: Loving God, For the time we have, we say: **Thank you.**

P: For the gifts we offer, we say: **C: Thank you.**

P: For the chance to help others, we say: **C: Thank you.**

P: For the people whose lives will be better because of these gifts, we say:

C: Thank you.

P: For the ways you are changing the world, we say: **C: Thank you.**

P: We pray in the name of Jesus, who appears wherever people need our help.

C: Amen

Lord's Prayer

SENDING

Benediction

P: God our Creator, who made the starlit sky, blesses you. Jesus our Redeemer, † who arrives at just the right time, blesses you. The Holy Spirit our Enlivener, who sparks hope for the hopeless, blesses you. You are blessed in the name of God, the Three in One. **C: Amen.**

Dismissal

P: As you leave this place, remember: whether you feel lost in time that races like a waterfall or trapped in time that drips away slowly, God is beside you. Keep alert; trust God; seek peace. **C: We Will! Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn

'Give Me a BE-attitude'

SONG SHEET

Bells Postlude

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Psalm 139:14. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. In other words, "created to be..."

If you have pastoral needs, please call Pastor Denise anytime at 763-516-2026.

Welcome to all visitors and guests! May the joy of Christ fill you as we worship today. Friendship Pads are at the ends of each pew (by middle aisle). Fill them out, pass them on to your neighbor(s), and send them back to the middle aisle. **KDIO Radio Broadcast** is sponsored in honor of our mother & grandmother's birthday, Adeline Burgess, which was Nov. 16th from her children and grandchildren. [Radio broadcast cards are available on the information kiosk in the narthex; cost is \$100/week]. 2024 cards are in the box.

OFFERING UPDATE: Here are the expenses for October: \$21,335.74. Here is what we received: \$21,931.22. You're also encouraged to visit our webpage for Online Giving at www.firstenglish.net.




If you want to receive a box of donation envelopes in 2025, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.

There will be a baby shower honoring Zach, Kara (Helgeson), and baby Wulftange on Saturday, November 25 at 2:00 pm at OMG Hall in Ortonville. All are invited, men, too! Please bring a children's book, new or used, instead of a card. Sign your name in the book, and you will be thought of every time the book is read! Join us for an afternoon of fellowship and fun!

The students planning on attending the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans will be having a bake sale on Sunday, December 10th before and after church. If you would like to donate baked goods to their event, please contact Archer Dorry at 320-305-1839 or at archerhdorry@gmail.com.


This advent season we are looking for volunteers to help with our Sunday advent services by reading scripture, a prayer, and lighting the candles. Please contact someone in the office if you would like to help us out.

Thanksgiving Eve service is Nov. 22nd at 7:00 pm. Our Thanksgiving Eve donations will be donated to the Food Shelf. We also need some acolytes, ushers, and greeters to help with that service. Please contact the office to volunteer.

Coffee Fellowship needs volunteers to continue. Please contact the office or sign-up in the fellowship hall if you're willing to help to prepare & serve coffee. If no one volunteers to serve, we won't have coffee fellowship that Sunday. 

CentraCare will be offering 3 Grief Support Groups for 7 weeks during the holiday season when the intensity of grief can be stronger. In Ortonville, the sessions will be at the Robrt Ross Building (Golf room) at 450 Eastvold, from 3:00-4:30 pm 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21, 12/28, and 1/4. See posters for more info on registration.

The new Photo Directory is available online! If you haven't had your picture taken and would like to upload your own photo, 'how to' instructions are available next to the newsletters in the narthex.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING and COMFORT for Ricky Anderson Jr., Carol Barrett; Adeline Burgess; Marcus Hanson, Arlen LaCombe; Gail Olson; Harris Selvig; Russ Thielke; Brandi Tweeter; Clara Zeek; Monty Athey, Paul Erdman; Beckett Foster; Baby Rosie Frank; Larry Helgeson; Natalie Henneberg; Baby McCoy Jipson; Zane Kilde; Brian Pribyl; Janice Redfield; David Scholberg; and Jerry Stotesbery. AT FAIRWAY VIEW NEIGHBORHOODS: Janet Anderson; Arvilla Bergseth; Ruth Hansen; Jim Hipple; Vivian Janssen; & Eleanor Nickolauson. ALL OUR MILITARY who are deployed to areas of conflict. If you would like a name added/removed, please contact the church office. 

REMINDER: Calendar and other important information is on our website at www.firstenglish.net and on the bulletin board (kiosk) in the narthex. The church office number is (320)839-2527

This Week's Ministry Assistants—November 19th

Greeters: Lynne Giese & Amelia Zinski	Acolytes: Rylie & Bailey
Organist: Lisa Berdan	Advent Volunteers: Sara & Ann Mattison
Tech Desk: David Ellingson & Marina Thomson	Lector: Liz Ketz
Ushers: Dean Longnecker, Josh Wollschlager, Russel Thielke & Vern Nickolauson	

This Week's Ministry Assistants—November 22nd Thanksgiving Eve

Greeters: NEED VOLUNTEERS	Acolytes: Archer & Volunteer
Organist: Carol Ydstie	Lector: Kari Dorry
Tech Desk: Marina Thomson & Marge Dragseth	Ushers: NEED VOLUNTEERS

Next Week's Ministry Assistants—November 26th

Greeters: Clara Zeek & Becky Parker

Acolytes: Owen & Cameron

Organist: Amy Adelman

Coffee Servers: Ellingsons & Schmeichels

Tech Desk: Terry Kalberg & Marina Thomson

Lector: Becky Parker

Ushers: Tami Lundberg, Marilyn Chindvall, Jackie & Mel Domine

Advent Volunteers: Doug & Tyler, Tenley, Ander & Savannah Adelman

Weekly Calendar

Sun – 11/19 9:00 am Worship – Stewardship Emphasis – KDIO & FB Live
10:00 am Sunday School (Christmas Practice)
4:00 – 5:15 pm Cantata Practice
5:00 – 7:30 pm Youth Group at New Life Community Baptist Church (supper, worship, hayrides, & caramel apples)

Mon – 11/20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

10:00 am Staff Meeting

Tues – 11/21 8:30 am Day of Love

4:00 pm Pastor Denise at Donnie's Diner at Fairway View

Wed – 11/22 NO CONFIRMATION OR YOUTH GROUP

9:00 am Bulletins Printed

9:30 am Channel 3 broadcast

5:30 pm Channel 3 broadcast

6:30 pm Choir Warm-Up

7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

Thurs – 11/23 THANKSGIVING – OFFICE CLOSED

Fri – 11/24 OFFICE CLOSED

Sun – 11/26 Christ the King (NO SUNDAY SCHOOL)

9:00 am Worship – Noisy Offering – KDIO & FB Live

10:00 am Coffee Fellowship

10:20 am WAM Meeting

4:00 – 5:15 pm Cantata Practice





November 19, 2023,

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 25:14-30

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God of all, free us from the gnawing feelings of 'not enough' in our lives—not enough resources, not enough time, not enough love—and give us hearts full of boldness to share all that you have given us, certain that in your eyes, we are whole—we are enough. In Jesus name. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. (Matthew 25:18)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus challenges hearers with a troubling parable about investing. What are we to make of Jesus' words?



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What gifts have you been given—literal or figurative—that you are reluctant to put to use? What is holding you back?

For the littles: Do you treat all your toys exactly the same way?

Why do you think some toys get played with more often than others?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God grand you an abundance of joy and the courage to share it.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

There is a difference between equality and equity. Do an internet search for “equality vs. equity” and select “images”. There you will see an illustration of how equity works best for everyone. Consider what you could do to make your community a more equitable place.



Go Deeper: Read and reflect on the readings for each day of the week.

Monday, Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Judges 4:8-24; Romans 2:1-11

Tuesday, Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Exodus 2:1-10; 1 Thess. 5:12-18

Wednesday, Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Esther 7:1-10; Matt. 24:45-51

Thursday, Psalm 100; Genesis 48:15-22; Revelation 14:1-11

Friday, Psalm 100; Isaiah 40:1-11; Revelation 22:1-9

Saturday, Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34:25-31; Matthew 12:46-50