Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025 9:30AM



Jefferson Prairie Lutheran Church

As a community called by Christ, we live our faith by loving and serving all creation

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025 9:30AM

Prelude Welcome

Please stand as you are able

GATHERING The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Invocation

In the name of the \pm triune God in whose presence we wait, the Holy Parent, fulfilling the promise, the Holy Child, waiting to be born, the Holy Spirit, illumining the way.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

"Blessed Be the God of Israel"

#250

Advent Candle Lighting

An angel came to Joseph in a dream and said, "Do not be afraid." For the child conceived in Mary is from the Holy Spirit, Emmanuel, God with us.

In Jesus Christ, God's love takes flesh and dwells among us.

As we near the celebration of Christ's birth, we remember that love is not a feeling we create but it is a gift God gives.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

(The fourth candle is lit)

We light this candle as a sign of God's love revealed in Jesus Christ. It is love that is stronger than fear, deeper than sorrow, and greater than we can imagine.

Come, Lord Jesus, dwell with us in love. Amen.

Blessing Response

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel v. 4"

#257

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

. . . one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

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

Reading

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

page 529

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

²In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

³Restore us, O God;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴O Lord God of hosts.

how long will your anger fume when your people pray?

⁶ You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

⁷Restore 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.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem	Waiting for a King	Choir
The Gift of Chris	stmas- "O Come, All Ye Faithful"	#283
The Promise	e of a Savior: Isaiah 9:6 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"	p 625 #257
The Angel \	isits Mary: Luke 1:26-38 "Angels We Have Heard on High"	p 931 #289
The Journey	y to Bethlehem: Luke 2:1-5 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"	p 933 #279
The Birth of	Jesus: Luke 2:6-7 "Away in a Manger"	p 933 #277
The Shepherd and Angels: Luke 2:8-14 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"		p 933 #270
The Visit of	the Magi "The First Noel"	#300
The Gift for	the World "Joy to the World"	#267

Please stand as you are able.

Prayers of Intercession

Petition Response: **hear our prayer.** . . . through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. **Amen.**

Peace

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

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

Offerings Place offerings in the plate at the sanctuary entrance, mail to the church, or give through our website or Tithe.ly App. Thanks you for your financial support of our ministry.

Presentation of Gifts

Come Now, O Prince of Peace vs. 1, 2

#247

Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body.

Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

Come now, O God of love, make us one body.

Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.

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.

Great 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.

. . .and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

p. 153

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Promise

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Please be seated

Communion All are welcome at God's table. Communion is by intinction. You will receive the wafer and then dip it into the wine. Gluten-Free wafers are available by request.

Communion Hymns

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" #276
"We Come to the Hungry Feast" #479
"We Place upon Your Table, Lord" #467

Please stand as you are able

Post Communion Blessing

...keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

. . .in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

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

Blessing

Bell Toll

Sending Hymn

"Canticle of the Turning"

#723

Dismissal

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

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Worship Leaders

Terry & Loretta Williams — Ushers/Greeters
Jettie Morelock & Hayden Olson — Acolytes
Chris Vance–Reader
Steve Mentele — Choir Director
Robin Hoefer — Pianist
Wade Crevier — Pastor

Special Thanks to:

Banner Artists

Bodhi Erickson, Charlotte Heeren, Harlyn & Poppy Morelock, Delaney Olson, Decorah & Randy Williams

The Gift of Christmas Readers

Jameson Dredske, Hattie Erickson, Jettie Morelock, Hayden Olson & Eli Ward

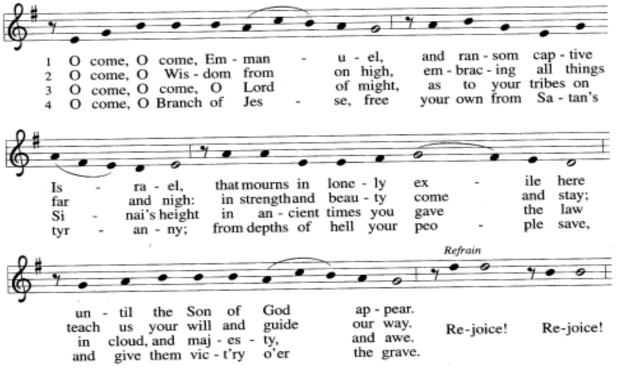
Youth Vocalists

Blessed Be the God of Israel



Text; Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944, based on Luke 1:68-79 Music: English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company Arr. © Oxford University Press

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel





- O come, O Key of David, come, and open wide our heav'nly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Refrain
- O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight. Refrain
- O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one: refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new. Refrain
- 8 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Refrain

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent, as follows:

Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)

Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)

Dec. 19: O Branch of Jesse (4)

Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)

Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)

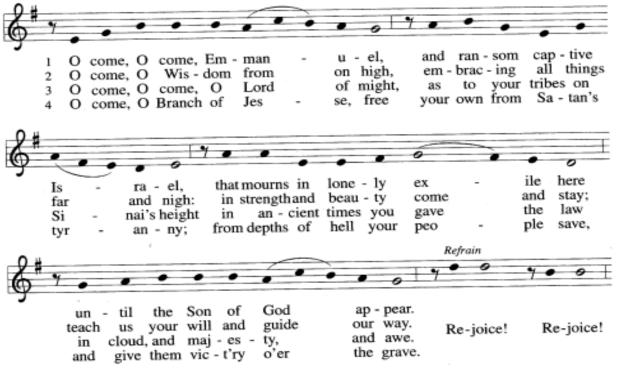
Dec. 22: O King of nations (7)

Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (8)

O Come, All Ye Faithful



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel





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Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)

Dec. 22: O King of nations (7)

Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (8)

O Little Town of Bethlehem



Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–1893 Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908

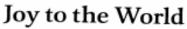
ST. LOUIS 86867686

Away in a Manger











Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748 Music: English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

ANTIOCH CM and repeat Ososŏ, ososŏ



Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope Music: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947 Text and music © Geonyong Lee



Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

276



- 1 In fant ho ly, in fant low ly, for his bed a cat tle stall;
- 2 Flocks were sleep-ing, shep-herds keep-ing vig-il till the morn-ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know-ing Christ the child is Lord of all. saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift-ly wing-ing, an - gels sing-ing, bells are ring-ing, tid - ings bring-ing: Thus re-joic-ing, free from sor-row, prais-es voic-ing, greet the mor-row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885–1933, alt. Music: Polish carol

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We Come to the Hungry Feast

479



Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943 Music: Ray Makeever Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortross

HUNGRY FEAST 77889

We Place upon Your Table, Lord



Text: M. F. C. Wilson, 1884-1944, alt.

Music: DISTRESS, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

Canticle of the Turning 723with a My cries out ful soul joy shout that the God, small, my . Though 1 am my all, the halls of pow'r to the for -From tress tow'r, not a Though the na tions rage from . . age to age, we re -God of my and my spir - it sings of the heart great, work great. . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the stone will be Let the king be left on stone. ware for your God's mem - ber who holds mer - cy us fast: must de bring you drous things that to the who wait. won ones depths of the past to the end of the age to be. jus -liv tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne. - er us from the con - quer-or's crush - ing grasp. You fixed your sight on your ser vant's plight, and my puts the Your ver у name proud to shame, and to poor shall . . the The for hun weep no more. gry ing This sav word that our fore - bears heard is the weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the there are ta bles spread, ev - 'ry nev - er food they can earn; prom - ise which holds bound, the spear and rod can be name be blest. Could the world turn? for the world is a - bout turn. flight, to strong to mouth fed, for the world is a - bout to turn. crushed by God. who is turn ing the world round. My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus-tice burn.

Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

Announcements for December 21, 2025

Welcome! We are happy you are here today!

- **Families:** It is our hope that you will find a comfortable way to worship at JP. There are activity bags in the Narthex for young children to use during worship. There is also a large pew area, "Prayground", on the righthand side of the Sanctuary, near the pulpit, that is available for families to use.
- Large Print Bulletins and Hymns are available in the narthex in a red binder. Ask the ushers!
- Visitors: Sign the Visitor's Book and pick up a visitor's bag located on the table in the Connecting Room.

Keep in prayer: June Bates, Mary Carlson, Judy Clark (sister-in-law of Bill), Dean Erickson (Brett's dad), Jill Fiorenza (Jim Baker's Sister), Barb Grenawalt, David Hagemann, Lois Keller, Leandra Miller (Ginny's friend), Brad Pfaff (son-in-law of Mary Jane), Emma Schutt (Rose's niece), Don Seeger, Ron Torkilson, Lynn Tracy, Mary Jane Tracy, Susan (Svenson) Witte. **Please contact the office with any changes in requests.**

Donations of hats and mittens may be placed on the tree outside the offices. New and CLEAN, like-new used items may be donated. Last year donations when to the Clinton Elementary School.

"FALALALA" - Join us for Christmas Caroling, Sunday, December 21 after a brief time of Fellowship we'll travel to Alden Meadows in Clinton and then Riverside in Beloit.

The Christmas Spirit was strong with the carolers on Wednesday evening. A group of about 25 members invaded 3 JP member's homes with angelic voices and so much warmth. The Seeger's shared that it is their family tradition to go to Alden Meadows on Christmas Day night to carol. After experiencing a Congregation doing this in Northern Minnesota they took it upon themselves to spread the tradition. Hope said anyone interested should meet at their house at 6pm (even if the Seeger's can't go ②) Contact Hope if you're interested.

Wreaths Across America was a wonderful success! Watch for a recap in the January Prairie Light!

Congregational Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 25th following worship. If needed, reschedule date will be February 1st.

Donations must be received on or before December 28th to count toward 2025 giving.

Giving Envelopes are in the connecting room hallway. If you give electronically, you do not need an envelope. Please let Julia Pearson know if you need envelopes.

Parsonage Update: Council discussed and decided that a Planning Team, made up of members of Jefferson Prairie, would be most appropriate for mapping out the future of the parsonage. Are you interested in gathering ideas and information? Do you have suggestions? Contact Terry Pearson to sign-up for the Parsonage Planning.

Sharing Your Offering: Thank you for your generosity that supports God's ministry here at Jefferson Prairie and our mission partners. There are multiple options for sharing your offering.

- Offering plates are located on stands by the entrance to the sanctuary.
- Give online at www.jplchurch.org. Click on the GIVE tab at the top to be directed to Tithe.ly.
- Mail your check to church: 23184 Bergen Rd. Poplar Grove, IL 61065

Online worship available at: https://www.facebook.com/jeffersonprairie/live/ and www.jplchurch.org homepage. Click on Sermons on the website to watch previous worship services. The bulletin is under Sermon Notes. NOTE: This worship service is being livestreamed.

Please contact the church office 815-292-3226, prior to driving to the building if you have business to do there. During the holidays and with winter weather, there is a chance we could be delayed or working from home.

This Week's Calendar				
Sunday, December 21	8:15 am	Choir		
	9:30 am	Worship with Children's Program		
		Fellowship		
	11:15am	Caroling @ Alden Meadows and Riverside (inside)		
Tuesday, December 23	9:00 am	Quilting		
Wednesday, December 24	mber 24 Christmas Eve-Office Closed			
	4:00pm	Christmas Eve Worship		
	9:00pm	Christmas Eve Worship (also on livestream)		
Thursday, December 25	Christmas Day-Office Closed			
Friday, December 26	3:00 pm	Bell Choir		
Sunday, December 28	Prairie Light Available			
	9:30 am	Worship		
		Fellowship		