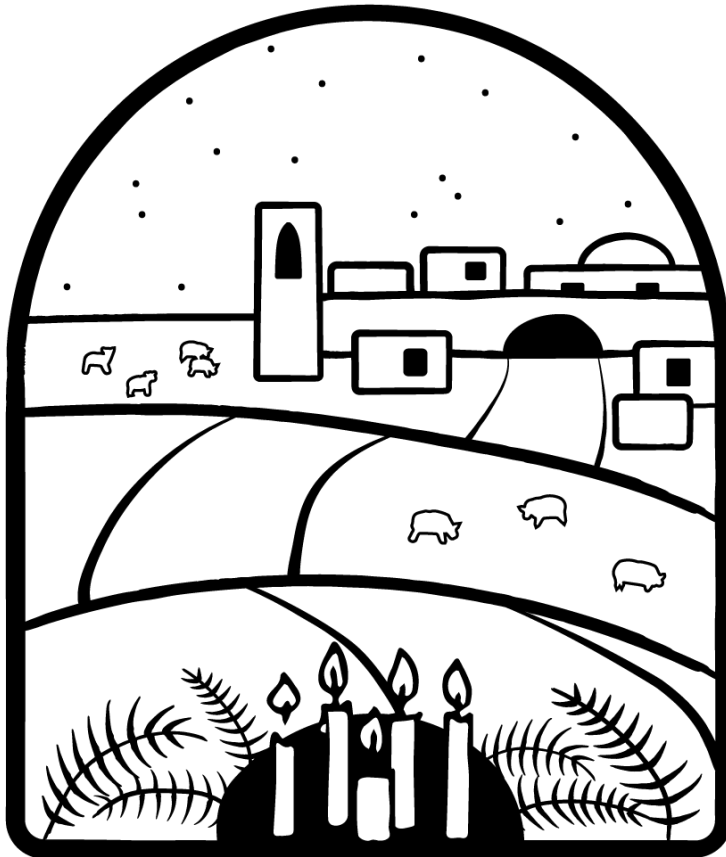


First Sunday in Advent

November 30 and December 1, 2025



ADVENT
IMMINENT ARRIVAL

Imminent Arrival of the King



198 Westridge Avenue, Burlington, Wisconsin
262-763-8229 | stjohnsburlington.org
Pastor Kirk Lahmann | Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord! Please fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in an offering plate, located near the sanctuary doors, as you leave worship. If you are a guest, know that we are thankful you have joined us and hope that you will join us again soon.

Prepare for Worship

To prepare for worship, read through the service focus and the Scripture readings. Ponder the words of the Psalm of the Day. Spend time in prayer, using the prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal or on pages 255-258. For those intending to receive the Lord's Supper, read through the "Christian Questions" on pages 295-296. Consider reading through portions of the Small Catechism on pages 286-293.

Today's Focus for Worship – Imminent Arrival of the King

Advent marks the start of a new Church Year. We begin at the end, watching King Jesus ride into Jerusalem on a donkey colt, knowing full well that he will be killed before the end of the week. The events of Palm Sunday serve as a microcosm for all Jesus' work, proving the King of the universe was willing to humble himself and endure anything for our salvation. That is precisely why Christ came. That is why we anticipate his imminent arrival not with worry but with joy.

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Kirk Lahmann

Guest Preacher: Pastor Robert Johannes

Accompanist: Vicki Jensen

Acknowledgments

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The Service

Setting Six (American melodies)



Opening Hymn

The Advent of Our King | 309
Please stand to sing the final stanza.

Invocation

Matthew 18:20; 28:19-20

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 32:1-2; Romans 4:25; 5:1

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.
Amen.

Advent Candles

We light one Advent candle, remembering Jesus who is coming again. He will come to gather his people from everywhere, both the living and the dead.

We remember Jesus who will come at the end of time. None of us know what day that will be.

We hear his call to watch.

We light one Advent candle as a sign of our watchfulness and waiting.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

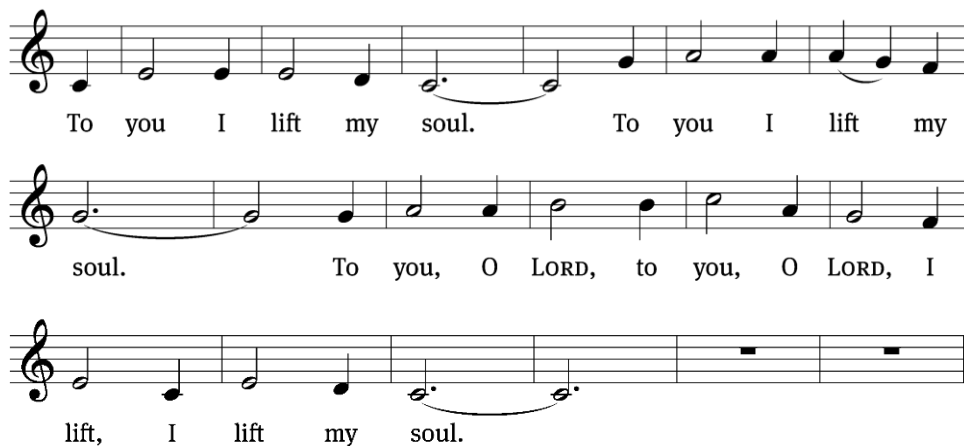
Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

Advent Verse

To You I Lift My Soul | Psalm 25-C

During the season of Advent, we replace the jubilant “Gloria in Excelsis” with a more reflective Advent verse, as we light the candles of the Advent wreath.

One Advent candle is lit as the congregation sings the Advent Verse.



To you I lift my soul. To you I lift my
soul. To you, O LORD, to you, O LORD, I
lift, I lift my soul.

Text: adapt. Francis Patrick O'Brien

Tune: Francis Patrick O'Brien

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The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Protect us by your strength, and save us from the threatening dangers of our sins; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem:

²In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

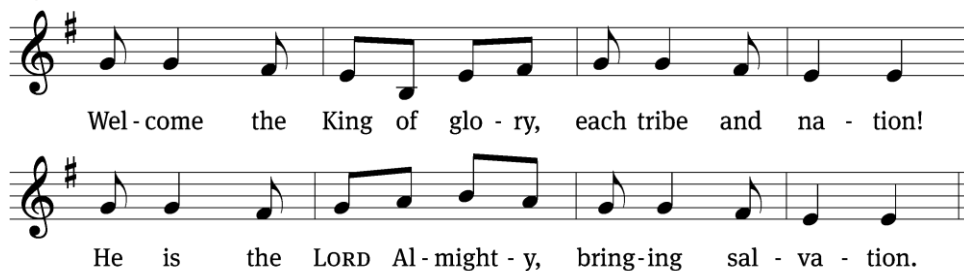
³Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

⁵Come, descendants of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Refrain



Wel-come the King of glo - ry, each tribe and na - tion!
He is the LORD Al-might - y, bring-ing sal - va - tion.

Verses



1 See, all the earth is God's, its peo - ple and na - tions;
2 Who can go up this moun - tain, who stand in prais - ing?
3 They shall re - ceive for - give - ness, and have God's bless - ing
4 Come, lift your voic - es high, be lift - ed to glo - ry;

Refrain (sung after each verse)



God built it on the deeps and laid its foun - da - tions.
Those who are pure, who come with clean hands up - rais - ing.
if they will search for God, their Sav - ior con - fess - ing.
the LORD our God ap - proach - es, come, shout the sto - ry.

- 5 Who is this glorious one, for whom we are waiting?
We wait the mighty LORD, our God celebrating. *Refrain*
- 6 Come, lift your heads with joy; come, lift up your tower;
the King of glory comes in full might and power. *Refrain*
- 7 Who is this King of glory of whom we're singing?
Our God, this LORD of hosts, the vict'ry is bringing. *Refrain*

Text (sts. 1-7): Arlo D. Duba; (Ref): Northwestern Publishing House

Tune: Israeli

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Tune: Public domain

Second Reading

Romans 13:11-14

¹¹ And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. ¹⁴ Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

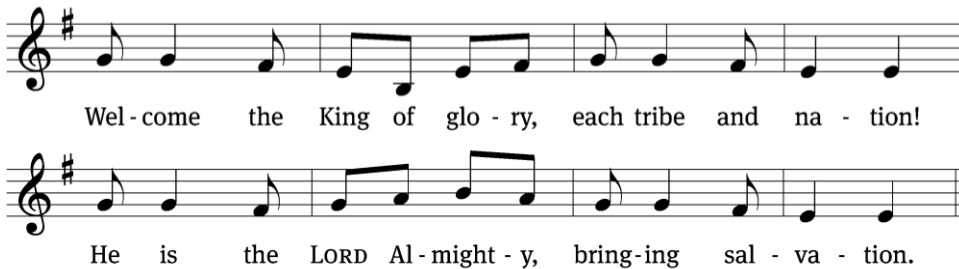
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 24-C



Wel - come the King of glo - ry, each tribe and na - tion!

He is the LORD Al - might - y, bring - ing sal - va - tion.

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵ “Say to Daughter Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

¹¹ The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

Savior of the Nations, Come | 301

Sermon

Romans 13:11-14

Did You Hear the Alarm?

Stand

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Matthew 21:9

O Lord, establish your kingdom in this world by the proclamation of your Word that the nations may stream to you. Teach us your ways so that we may walk in your paths.

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

Lift up our heads and prepare our hearts as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, our heavenly King.

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

All around us we see people walking in darkness, unaware of sin in the world or of your Son's coming, which is nearer to us now than when we first believed. Make us shine like lights in this dark world as we live by faith, empowered by your Spirit as he works in us with the Word.

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

We thank you for those authorities, parents in the home, pastors, teachers and elders in the church, who watch over our souls, and those in the government who have the responsibility of watching over the safety of our bodies. Keep them faithful in their tasks, bless them, and make them a blessing to us.

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

We pray for those who wait for relief of sicknesses of body or mind. Give them patience as they hear the word of promise about your good purpose even in suffering. Heal, restore and relieve all pain and sorrow as it fits your gracious will and plan.

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

O Lord, purify our consciences by your daily presence, that when your Son, our Lord comes, he may find in us a place prepared for himself; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Offering

2 Corinthians 9:7

Offerings given in thanks to the Lord are brought to the Lord's altar. We ask all worshipers to fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in the offering plates at the sanctuary doors following the service.

The Sacrament

Stand



Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136:1

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Tune: WEBB



1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,



your ev - er-last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!



Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!



in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro-claim.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Matthew 26:26

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Lord's Prayer *Pater Noster*

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

Words of Institution *Verba*

Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

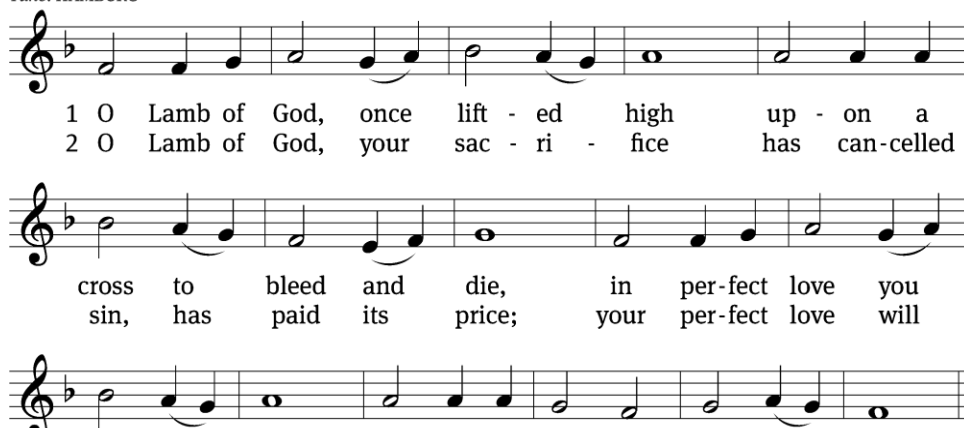
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

O Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

John 1:29

Tune: HAMBURG



1 O Lamb of God, once lift - ed high up - on a
2 O Lamb of God, your sac - ri - fice has can-celled

cross to bleed and die, in per-fect love you
sin, has paid its price; your per-fect love will

took our place— be - stow on us your sav - ing grace.
nev - er cease— have mer - cy, Lord, and grant us peace.

Be seated

Holy Communion Distribution

St. John's Lutheran Church practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of St. John's, or members of a church in fellowship with St. John's, come forward for Communion. Our pastoral staff would be happy to set up a time to discuss this, and any teaching of Scripture, with you.

Distribution Hymns (Sunday)

Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates | 305
Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring | 319
O Bride of Christ, Rejoice | 303

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Lord Jesus Christ, you humbled yourself when you appeared in human flesh at your first coming, you humbly rode into Jerusalem on a donkey when you brought your saving work to fulfillment, and without fear or force, you come to us in Word and Sacrament. Lift up our heads and open our hearts, that you may come in, King of Glory. You are the Lord, strong and mighty; and you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing *Aaronic Benediction*

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
Amen.

Be seated

Closing Hymn

Rejoice, the Lord is King | 524

Be lifted up
O ANCIENT DOORS



that the
KING OF GLORY
may come in



2025 Advent & Christmas Worship Schedule

First Sunday in Advent	Sunday, November 30, 8:00 am and 10:30 am Monday, December 1, 6:30 pm
Lessons & Carols Vespers	Wednesday, December 3, 3:30 pm and 6:30 pm
Second Sunday in Advent	Sunday, December 7, 8:00 am and 10:30 am Monday, December 8, 6:30 pm
Midweek Advent Vespers	Wednesday, December 10, 3:30 pm and 6:30 pm
Third Sunday in Advent	Sunday, December 14, 8:00 am and 10:30 am Monday, December 15, 6:30 pm
Children's Christmas Service	Sunday, December 14, 4:00 pm
Midweek Advent Vespers	Wednesday, December 17, 3:30 pm and 6:30 pm
Fourth Sunday in Advent	Sunday, December 21, 8:00 am and 10:30 am Monday, December 22, 6:30 pm
Christmas Eve	Wednesday, December 24, 4:30 pm and 6:30 pm
Christmas Day	Thursday, December 25, 9:30 am
The Holy Innocents, Martyrs	Sunday, December 28, 8:00 am and 10:30 am <i>No Monday night service, December 29</i>
New Year's Eve	Wednesday, December 31, 4:30 pm