



WEEKLY UPDATE BULLETIN

Reaching Out . . Sharing Christ – 12/14/2025 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

Mount Moriah Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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SECRETARY / OFFICE

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Office Hours this Week (change)

Tues. & Thurs. – 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Weds. – 9 a.m. -- 3 p.m.

Welcome: The time draws near to celebrate our Savior's birth! Welcome to worship, which is part of our preparation. It's good to be here together. You are always welcome to join us for any of our activities.

December 14 – Advent 3

Isaiah 35:4 – “Say to those who have an anxious heart, ‘Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.’” The return of our Lord at the Last Day is a cause of joy and anticipation for us believers. We know our Lord and His love, and we look forward to His Second Advent. Indeed, how we live our lives here and now flows from our certain hope of resurrection and eternal life.



ADVENT
A Season of Preparation



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

For Comfort and Healing:

- For **Cora Gibbs**, Ardi Gibbs' granddaughter.
- Please keep **Bruce Arett** in your prayers.

Other

- Our church family, especially for **Michele Barnes**.
- For **Christians** persecuted around the world.
- For **Peace** in Ukraine.
- For **Peace** in Israel.
- For the **safety** of our government leaders.

THANKSGIVING:

Birthdays this week (12/14 thru 12/20):

Brian Hahn	December 16
Tristan Naatz	December 17
Hannah Coleman	December 18
Jared Hahn	December 19

No Anniversaries this week.

PRAYER CHAIN: **Ardi Gibbs** is our **Prayer Chain Leader**.

Please contact Ardi with your prayer requests or if you would like to join the prayer chain team --- 507-254-6564/
ardig775@gmail.com

Growing in Christ

Weds. 12/3/25 - 1st Weds. in Advent

Worship	12
Envelopes	\$3,262.00
Plate	15.00
Total	\$3,277.00

Sun., 12/7/25 - 2nd Sun. in Advent

Worship	26
Communion	26
Adult Bible Study	8
Envelopes	\$515.00
Plate	60.00
Joyful Response	164.00
Total	\$739.00



Electronic Giving: Consider automating your regular donations with our electronic giving program. Mount Moriah relies on the financial support of the congregation and electronic giving offers an effortless way to give on a recurring basis. For additional information, talk with our financial secretary, Tammy Vosberg.

LUTHERAN ADVENT TRADITIONS by Dcs. Betsy Karkan (Part 1)



At a time when much of the world is frantically gift shopping, putting up Christmas lawn decorations and anticipating the arrival of Santa Claus, Christians around the world are observing the liturgical season of Advent. From the Latin word for “coming”, Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation for the coming of Christ both in the past in His incarnation as the baby Jesus, but also in the future with His promised second coming as Christ Triumphant. Furthermore, Advent is a time to focus on His present coming to us in the Word and Sacraments. In the Lutheran church there have been many traditions observed during Advent that help Christians to both prepare for and anticipate His coming at this time. Martin Luther encouraged families to observe Advent as a time for them to teach their children about the coming of Christ.

Advent marks the beginning of the church calendar. It traditionally starts on the Sunday closest to St. Andrew’s Day (November 30th) and continues for four Sundays until Christmas. During this time the liturgical paraments and vestments in many churches will change to violet to recognize Advent as a time of preparation and repentance as well as a symbol of the royalty of the coming King. The color blue can also be used as a symbol of anticipation and hope.

Christians in many countries have adopted various traditions of lighting candles during Advent to observe this as the time of the coming of Christ who is the light of the world. One widespread tradition is the use of an Advent wreath both in the church and the home to mark each Sunday in the Advent season. While the origin of this as an Advent tradition dates back to the Lutheran church following the Reformation, the current form commonly used today was developed more recently and is used in many other Christian churches throughout the world. The wreath is made out of evergreens in the shape of a circle to represent eternal life. It consisted of four candles originally; three purple or blue candles to match the liturgical colors and one pink candle lit on the 3rd Sunday in Advent. This 3rd Sunday is known as *Gaudete* Sunday, meaning “rejoice” in Latin and comes from Philippians 4:4. Lighting this 3rd candle, Christians relax the fast to rejoice for the promised Messiah is coming soon. Many Advent wreaths also have a 5th candle, the Christ candle, which is lit during the time of Christmas, symbolizing that Christ, the light of the world, has entered the darkness.

(continued next Sunday)

A Purposeful New Year



The man who goes into the new year without some priorities governing his life and without some principles guiding his behavior, is prey to the tempting, unimportant and destructive things in life. The new year is an opportunity to sort out the useless tasks and plan for the important; to review the failures and resolve to be successful; to take an inventory of causes and pledge life to purpose and service. These being done, the new will truly be new, different and better.

— C. Neil Strait

Attention Christian Book Lovers!

Books displayed in the narthex have been donated by Jan Pfeiffer, whose husband Cletus passed away in Oct. 2024. From 2000 until his retirement in 2007, Cletus served as principal at Rochester Central Lutheran School in Rochester, Minnesota.

Please help yourself to the books and also share with your friends.



LWML Update



Thank you to everyone for all the wonderful, generous gifts and gift cards donations for family 1 (mom, girl 9, boy 8, and boy 5). Gifts were dropped off at the Intermediate Byron school with the school social person. She was overwhelmed and excited with the number of gifts for this needy Byron area family. Thank you so very much.

Mt. Moriah non-food collections will be going to the Byron Food shelf at the community education center on Tuesday, December 16. Thank you for the wonderful variety for the food shelf.

Thank you --- Ardi



Dec. 14, 2025 – 3rd Sunday in Advent

Worship – 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship – 9:30 am Adult Bible Study - 830

Elder – Shane Amundson
Reader – Kristie Hahn
Music – Justin Hahn
Altar Guild for Dec./Kim Amundson
Preacher – Rev. Dr. Scott Fiege

Dec. 17, 2025 – 3rd Weds. in Advent

Worship– 7:00 p.m.

Dinner – 6:15

Elder – Brant Klepel
Reader – Dave Welsh
Music – Dave Welsh
Altar Guild for Dec./Kim Amundson
Preacher – Rev. Dr. Scott Fiege

Dec. 21, 2025 – 4th Sunday in Advent

Worship – 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship – 9:30 am Adult Bible Study – 8:30

Elder – Shane Amundson
Reader – Kim Amundson
Music – Margaret Karst
Altar Guild for Dec./Kim Amundson
Preacher – Rev. Dr. Scott Fiege

