NOV 29, 2026

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



CHILDCARE Available for children 5 and under in the nursery.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Meets at 9:45am. Contact Renee at rengen@flcj.org for more information. To register, print form from flcj.orgssreg.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for graciously welcoming us into their space and allowing us to worship together.

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

GATHERING

PRELUDE Flute Instrumental Amy Palmer

WELCOMING WORDS

stand

GATHERING HYMN 260 The King Shall Come

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: THE CANDLE OF HOPE

Advent begins in the dark, and it begins with a demand.
O that you would tear open the heavens and come down.
We light this candle as a sign of hope.

The first candle is lit.

Hope is not the same as optimism.
Optimism expects things to improve.
Hope keeps watch when there is no evidence yet,
and refuses to go to sleep.
We are the clay. You are the potter. We are the work of your hand.
Keep awake, Jesus said, because you do not know
when the owner of the house will come.
Come, O God. We are waiting. We are awake.

God of the torn-open heavens: we are tired of waiting for a world that has not arrived yet. Do not let our tiredness become resignation. As this candle burns through the longest weeks of the year, keep us watchful, keep us restless, and keep us hopeful — not because things are fine, but because you are not finished.
Amen.

Hymn: Wait for the Lord, ELW 262

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

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

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

sit

WORD

FIRST READING

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

SECOND READING

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

GOSPEL

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

FIRST READING — Isaiah 64:1-9

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

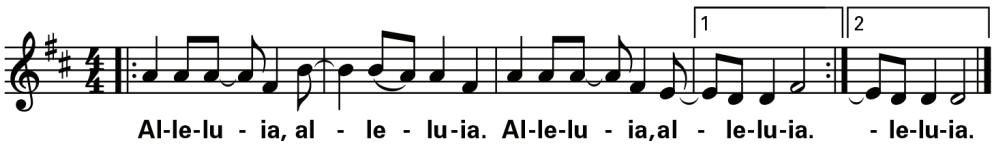
SECOND READING — 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL — Mark 13:24-37

The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

sit

SERMON — Pr. David Andert

stand

HYMN OF THE DAY 242 — Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We pray by petition. At the end of each petition, the leader says, "God, in your mercy." and the assembly responds, ***"receive our prayer."***

PEACE

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

We turn to one another and with a wave or nod and offer a gesture of Christ's peace. We may say these words: "Peace be with you."

MEAL

OFFERING TIME

A story of our ministry...

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Holy Creator, we are the clay and you are the potter; we all are the work of your hand. Receive these gifts. Shape them and our lives for your purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SCAN ME

You can give your offering by scanning the QR code above with your phone camera or place it in the offering basket by the entrance way. You can also bring it to the church office or send it by mail.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

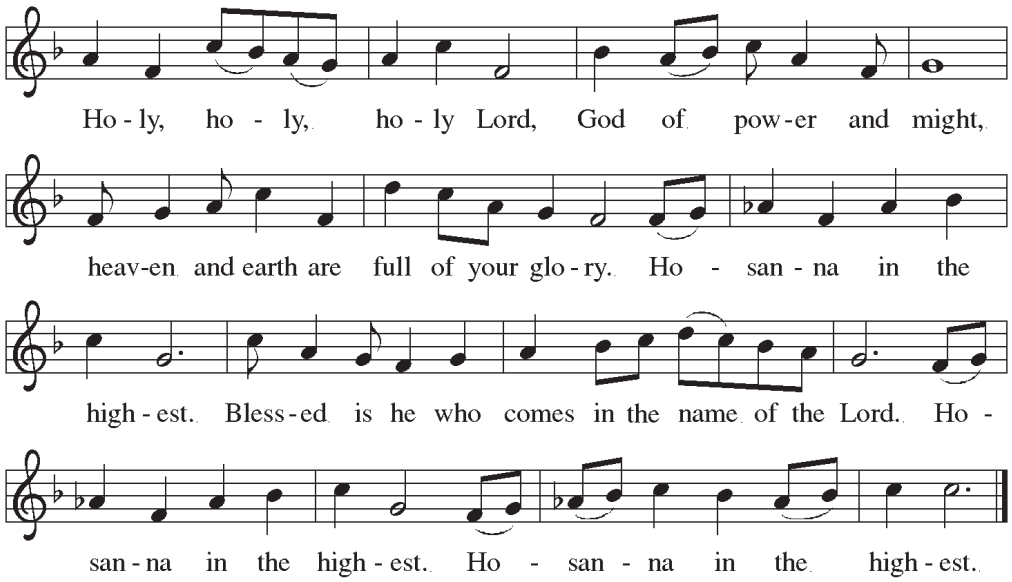
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God,
for you strengthen us, as we wait for Christ to come in fullness.

SANCTUS



To awaken us to greater awareness, for the Sundays of Advent we will pray a contemporary form of the Lord's Prayer.

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.

sit

Communion is open to all who wish to receive it. Individual, sealed communion kits available inside the sanctuary doors, for those who prefer them.

If you would like to receive Communion at your seat, please notify an usher.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION Eye Has Not Seen Worship Team

When all have communed:
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Providing God, you feed your flock like a shepherd and gather your people in your arms. We praise you for the care and sustenance you give at this meal and always. As we leave your table, carry us near your heart, and send us with confidence in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

SENDING

SENDING WORD

BLESSING

God our provider,
God our feast,
God our companion,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG 439 Soon and Very Soon

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Bring good news to the brokenhearted.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



DEC 20 & 24

WORSHIP SUPPORT

First Lutheran will present Christmas for All Ages at 10am on Dec. 20 at First Presbyterian Church, 17 N. Jackson St. Christmas Eve services will be held there at 2pm, 4pm and 7:30pm.

Volunteers are needed to greet and direct worshipers (5–6 per service), serve communion (2–3 per service), and usher (4 per service) by passing offering plates and distributing and lighting candles. All help is appreciated!

To volunteer, contact Nan at 608.752.7434 x15 or nbandt@flcj.org.



PRAYING FOR YOU

IN OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

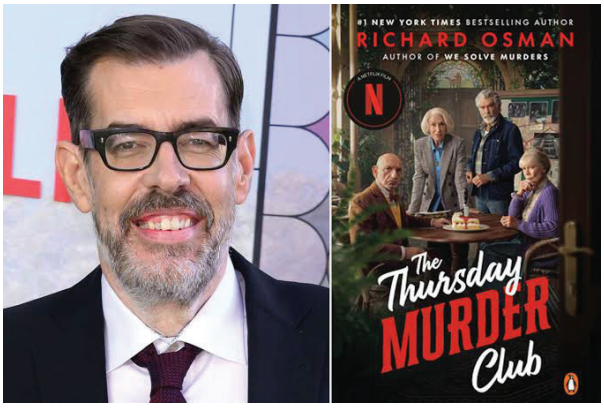
Hospice: Gary Kleinhans
Froedtert Hospital: Barb Evert
Mercy: Stacey Sheldon
St. Mary's Jvl: Linda Coon
St. Mary's Madison: Leon Freeburg
VA Hospital Madison: Bob Engstrom
Prayers: Bishop Joy Mortensen-Wiebe, Anna Banwell, Nathan & Heather Barlass, Enid Branham, Rick Cleasby, Renee Comstock, Karen Curry, Violette Eichman, Connie Evans, Leon Freeburg, Linda Fronczak, Christine Genz, Jane Gesteland, JoAnn Haeberlin, Kathy Hendricks, Myra Jensen, Janet Klawitter, Marcia Kelleher, Robert Kjendlie, Anita Kropf, Audrey Kvistad, K. Letheby, Marion Maddock, Eli Martin, Naomi Martin, Dale McCormack, Kathy Mikkelsen, Curt Nodolf, Shirley Pate, Susan Popp, Kevin Punzel, Debbie Rethlefsen, Elaine Schilling, Sally Schuenke, Earl Schultz, Leola Schultz, Helen Strand, Linda Sturdevant, Kamron Schwartz, Jan Wathke
Nursing Home Care: Marlys Carlson, Ardith Eddy, Bill Foss, Kathy Foss, Nancy Guse, Bea Hanson, Rose Jensen, Tilford "Paul" Paulsrud, Doris Roehl, Jan Sampson, Mary Sather
Homebound: Evelyn Dahl, Ray & Liz Decker, Harriet Hanson, Wayne Koste, Shirley Mooney, Lynn Reddel



TODAY

WELCA THANK OFFERING

Thank Offering envelopes are available through Women of the ELCA circle members and by the weekly church bulletins. Donations support the national Women of the ELCA's administrative, educational, and missionary ministries. Please return envelopes on Nov 29, or include your donation with your regular November offering. Checks may also be sent to the church office with "Thank-Offering" noted. Thank you for your generosity!



TUES, DEC 1 / 5PM
KAREN GRIMSRUD'S HOME

PAGE TURNERS BOOK CLUB

The book chosen for this month is *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. All are welcome to join the group at Karen Grimsrud's home for lively conversation and fellowship whether or not you have read the book. Contact Sally Schuenke at 608.754.0407 for more information.

January's book is *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett.



SUN, DEC 6 / STARTING AT 7:30AM

COOKIE WALK

Join us for the 6th Annual Cookie Walk on Dec 6! Starting at 7:30am and continuing until after the second service, fill a box with your favorite holiday cookies and pay by weight. Please consider baking a few extra dozen to donate! Proceeds support youth mission trips.



TUES, DEC 15 / 6PM

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Join us for Christmas caroling at First Apartments! We will meet at First Lutheran's carport entrance at 5:45pm, then walk across the parking lot to the First Apartments. Bring your favorite instrument (guitar, violin, flute, VOICE, kazoo!, tambourine) and your good cheer! This is family-friendly, so bring friends of all ages, and your littles! All are welcome to celebrate the joy of Christmas! Email Renee Engen with any questions: rengen@flcj.org.



SUN, DEC 20 / 10AM / FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

CHRISTMAS FOR ALL AGES

Join us on Sunday, December 20 at 10am at First Presbyterian, 17 N Jackson St, Janesville, for a special one-service Sunday as we celebrate Christmas for All Ages: Mary Said YES! This joyful service invites everyone—young and old—to come together and rejoice in the hope and light that Jesus brings to our world, both then and now.



THURS, DEC 24 / 2PM, 4PM, 7:30PM
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Celebrate the joy and wonder of Christmas with us! Join us for Christmas Eve worship at 2pm, 4pm, or 7:30pm at **First Presbyterian Church, 17 N Jackson St.** Come experience the beauty of the season through scripture, music, and the message of Christ's birth. All are welcome!

WEEK OF **NOV 29**

WEB flcj.org | **FACEBOOK** @flcjvl | **ON YOUTUBE**
HOURS MON-THURS 9am-4pm | FRI 9am-Noon
CONTACT 608.752.7434 | office@flcj.org

SUN, NOV 29 - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00am	Worship	Good Shepherd
9:00am	Coffee Hour	Good Shepherd
9:45am	Sunday School	Good Shepherd
10:00am	Worship	Good Shepherd
11:00am	Coffee Hour	Good Shepherd

TUES, DEC 1

8:00am	BG's	Parsonage
9:00am	Knitters	First Senior Housing
11:00am	Staff Meeting	Parsonage
5:00pm	Page Turners	Karen Grimsrud's Home
5:00pm	Men of Iron	Parsonage

WED, DEC 2

8:30am	Mission Sew	First Senior Housing
10:00am	Bible Study	Good Shepherd
4:30pm	FLC-Women	First Senior Housing
5:00pm	Disaster Recovery Team	Zoom
6:00pm	Worship Team	Good Shepherd
7:00pm	Youh Group	Parsonage

THURS, DEC 3

3:00pm	Communication Team	Zoom
6:30pm	Young Adults	Good Shepherd

SAT, DEC 5

10:00am	Cookie Decorating	Good Shepherd

CHRISMONS

For many years, Good Shepherd has decorated the Christmas trees with ornaments called "Chrismons". Chrismon is short for Christ Monograms. The ornaments are ancient symbols that refer to Jesus. The craft started in l 950's in Danville, Virginia. Some of the ornaments are needlepoint, and others are Styrofoam, but all are white with gold accents. Each ornament has been made by members of Good Shepherd.

NEXT SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

DEC 6: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

+ Isaiah 40:1-11
+ Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
+ 2 Peter 3:8-15a
+ Mark 1:1-8

STEWARDSHIP

WEEK IN REVIEW

Last Week's Giving:
$15,535,57 *Thank You!*
Avg Weekly Giving YTD: $13,567
Weekly Need: $18,573

The weekly need is calculated by taking the budgeted expenses and dividing by the number of weeks in the year. This budget year, the expected expenses are part of a growth strategy based on insights from members under the direction and oversight of the Church Council. With your support, we are looking forward to the future that is growing at FLC.

ATTENDANCE

8am: 55 10am: 112 SS: 20

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SCAN ME

Scan the QR code to fill out an online Connect Card.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEB flcj.org
FACEBOOK @flcjvl
ON YOUTUBE
HOURS
Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm
Fri 9am-Noon
608.752.7434
office@flcj.org



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
608.754.0067
HOURS
Tues-Fri 9:30am-3:30pm
goodsheperdjanesville.org

GREETERS
8:00 Mat & Peg Haeger

READERS
8:00 Peg Haeger
10:00 Cordy Madorin

COMMUNION SERVERS
8:00 Mat & Peg Haeger, Julie Morris
10:00 Kris Arneson, Karen Schumacher, Barb Clem

USHERS
10:00 Dennis Garvin

ALTAR GUILD
Jeanie Pomplun

TEMPORARY FLC OFFICES
Temporary offices are in the former parsonage at 740 N Randall Ave. Easiest access is through the rear porch door, and close parking is available there. Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm, Fri 9am-Noon.

NURSERY
Caitlin Twitchett

FIRST LUTHERAN STAFF
The Rev. Michael Mueller SENIOR PASTOR
The Rev. Jim Johnson VISITATION PASTOR
Nan Bandt OFFICE ASSISTANT
Kora Conrad CUSTODIAN
Jason Coon CUSTODIAN
Anne Cresswell NURSERY COORDINATOR
Eric Engen YOUTH MINISTER
Renee Engen SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION
Jessi Garvin YOUTH ASSIST & VIDEO PRODUCTION
Aubrey McMeen MASTERPIECE COORDINATOR
Michael Palmer AUDIO/VISUAL ASSISTANT
Jeanie Pomplun OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
Mike Schuler AUDIO/VISUAL COORDINATOR
Christal Swigart COMMUNICATIONS
Dan Talbot WORSHIP COORDINATOR
Jamie Twitchett AUDIO/VISUAL ASSISTANT
Jude Tropp FACILITIES MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR
Arwen Twitchett BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL
Jarod Wasson PRESIDENT
Elisa Ried VICE-PRESIDENT
Lexi Frank TREASURER
Tom Dorscheid SECRETARY
Nathan Anderson
Jon Bjoin
Jer Carpenter
Carrie Chesebro
Tammy Eckley
Barb Evert
Kathy Meier
Kurt Saterbak
Christina Zink

GOOD SHEPHERD STAFF
The Rev. David Andert PASTOR
Lori Weber ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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Juanita Habeck SECRETARY
Terry Seltz STEWARDSHIP
Dick McWilliams PROPERTY & GROUNDS
Ruth Demmon CARE & CONCERN
Syd Rauworth EDUCATION