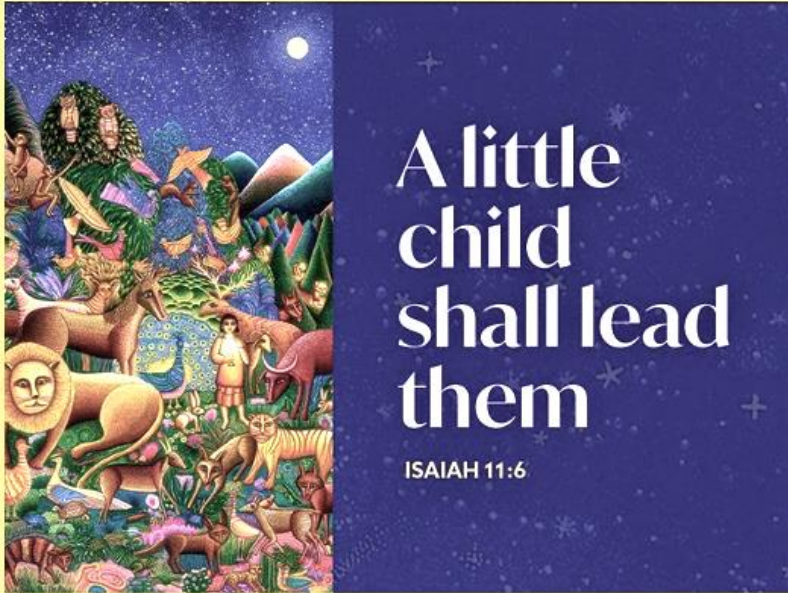


SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent



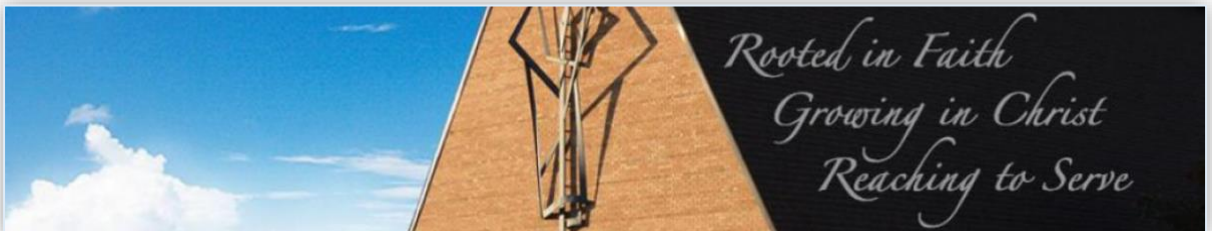
**A little
child
shall lead
them**

ISAIAH 11:6

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

Virginia, MN

Pastor Liz Cheney



*Rooted in Faith
Growing in Christ
Reaching to Serve*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

People Look East

ELW# 248

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose home is heaven and earth,
whose salvation is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Long-expected God,

we confess that we look to ourselves

for the peace and security only you can provide.

We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war.

We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake.

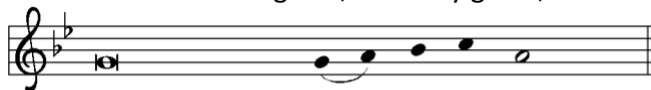
Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors.

Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us,

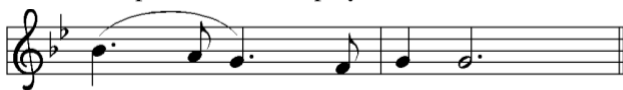
that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness.

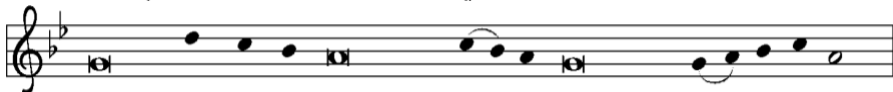
† You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior. **Amen.**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



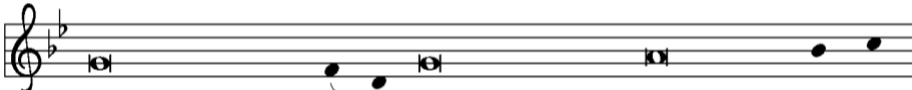
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



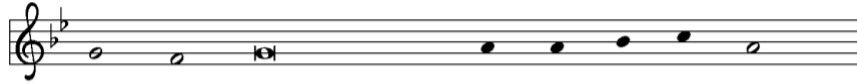
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

Lector, Judy Peliska

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear,

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall
kill the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid;

the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze;

their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,

and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain,

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of Him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19. *Please respond with the verses in bold print.*

May the righteous flourish; let there be an abundance of peace. (Ps. 72:7)

¹Give the king your justice, O God,

and your righteousness to the king's son;

²**that he may rule your people righteously**

and the poor with justice;

³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,

and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴**Let him defend the needy among the people,**

rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,

from one generation to another.

⁶**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,**

like showers that water the earth.

⁷In his time may the righteous flourish;

and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁸**Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel;**

you alone do wondrous deeds!

¹⁹And blessed be your glorious name forever,

and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

⁴Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so

that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name”;

¹⁰ and again he says,

“Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;


¹¹ and again, “Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;

¹² and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope.”

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Congregation: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor: Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12. The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’ ”

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy

of repentance,⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Liz Cheney

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus, What a Wonderful Child

ELW# 297

**Choir first, Congregation join second time through*

APOSTLES CREED

pg. 105

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 In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

* Respond after each prayer petition: *Pastor/Assistant, "God of Grace," congregation, "hear our prayer."*

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

Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

OFFERING Thank you for your continued financial support of OSLC! Whether you join us in person or online, the ministry & missions of Our Savior's depend on faithful giving. You can give the following ways:

- + online links can be found by accessing our website at <https://www.oslcmn.com/>
- + Using the QR code found here:
- + Contacting the church office to set up regular automatic giving
- + Dropping off or mailing in your offering



CHOIR OFFERTORY

Each Winter as the Year Grows Older

Text: William Gay, b. 1920, alt. Music: Annabeth Gay, b. 1925. Text and music, 1971, Pilgrim Press/United Church Press.

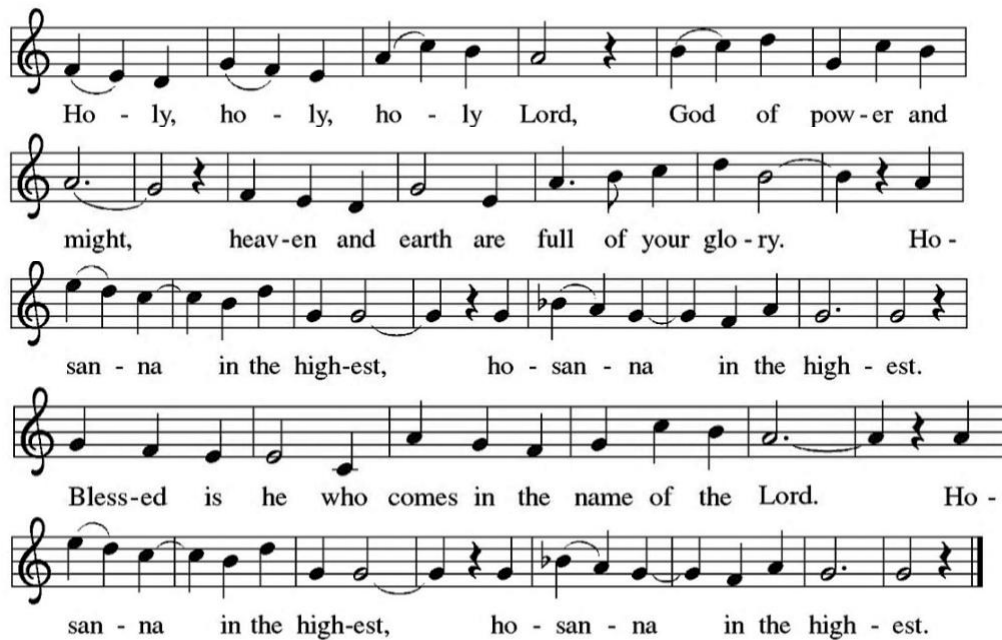
OFFERING PRAYER Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

pg. 191

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

COMMUNION HYMNS:

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

ELW# 247

Wait for the Lord

ELW# 262

TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.

BLESSING May God who comes among us, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always. Amen.

SENDING HYMN

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

ELW 251

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Keep awake. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Anna De Foe, Organist

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for people in need of comfort, hope, healing, or safe transition: Dale, Adeline, Sue, Jim, Wendy, Fred, Harry, Scooby, Larry, Caleb, Pete, Jake, Laurie, Mike, Matthew C, Mark O., Marge, Dana, Doug, Matthew, Bill, Mark, Dena, Jeff & family, Dan, Steve, Rick & Betsy, Gordon, Ross (post-transplant surgery), Doris, Shari, Anna, Jeanette, Aaron, Shawn, Nicole, Gayla-heart, Sarah, Brandy, Rick, Janet, Tom, Lynn M., Archer, Sharon, Mary, Debbie, Leanne, Addy, Deb, Cliff, Lorraine M., Eric, Kyle, Pr. Art, Bob D, John W., Gerilyn, Phyllis, Wally, Tedd, Ralph, Chuck, Sue. *Pray for Cathy and family at the passing of her husband, Gary. Please keep Liz K. and family in prayer at the passing of her husband, Harry.*

Call the church office if you have a prayer need and we will send it to the prayer chain if you desire. If you are in need of any pastoral care or if you or someone you know would like a visit, please call Pastor Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or the church office at 218-741-6207.

CONTACT US Office: 218-741-6207 Email: office@oslcmn.com
OSLC, 1111 8th St. South, Virginia, MN
Website: www.oslcmn.com www.facebook.com/oslcmn
YouTube Page "Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia MN Office"

OFFICE ADMIN HOURS:

CLOSED MONDAYS & HOLIDAYS. OPEN TUES.- FRIDAY, 9AM-5PM

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS Pastor Liz is here Tues.-Thurs. & does visits etc., Mon. & Fri.
Call @ 218-780-8907 or email at lizcheney44@gmail.com

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Liz Cheney

Secretary: Colleen Brown Jacobson

Bookkeeper: Carole Rutka

Custodian: Steve Gagnon

Musicians: Kristen Weikum, Mark Ongalo, Jen Fredrickson, Anna & Jim De Foe



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEC. 7TH 2025, SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

ADULT FORUM Get a coffee after worship, then proceed to the Sanctuary to hear a presentation by AEOA about the local services they provide.

CHRISTMAS BASKETS The new lists for Christmas Baskets are on the kiosk for you to sign up. We thank you for the wonderful response for Thanksgiving!

ADVENT SERVICE OPPORTUNITY We're seeking art works to be displayed in our worship space for our service on **Dec.,10 at 6:30**. This will be a contemplative hour for folks to get away from the rush of Christmas planning & shopping to pray and meditate to the accompaniment of visual art and music. If you have paintings, photographs, or other visual art to enhance our worship space, please **contact Anna De Foe at amdefoe@msn.com**. **ADVENT WORSHIP:** Visual Arts Service will be held here on Wed., Dec. 10 at 6:30pm: the Blue Christmas Service of Remembrance is Wed., Dec. 17, 6:30pm at Gethsemane Lutheran.

CHORALAIRES' CHRISTMAS CONCERTS BRING COOKIES TODAY BY 1PM, and stay for the concert at 2:00! A Coffee & Cookie Reception will take place in the Fellowship Hall following the concert.

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCH WELCA is hosting a lunch this Tuesday, **Dec. 9th 11:30am @ Grandma's Restaurant**. This is for **ALL women** of our congregation! *If possible, but not required, let Marcia Aluni know if you plan on coming so we can have an idea for tables.*

SING AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE Join us **next Sunday, Dec. 14th at 5pm** for a potluck dinner & after, we will be singing our favorite Christmas Hymns together around the Christmas Tree! Family & Friends are invited~

CHRISTMAS EVE This service will begin at 4 p.m. Wed., Dec. 24th. **Please plan on arriving by 3:30**, 30 minutes beforehand to hear our choir sing special music! The choir will also lead the congregation in familiar Christmas carols during that time. All are welcome!

WORSHIP SPONSORSHIP To sponsor Livestream or local TV Broadcasts in honor of a person or special event (wedding anniversary, birthday, etc..) or in memory of a loved one, you may do so in any amount- It helps maintain our sound/camera equipment. See the kiosk/glass cabinet in the narthex to sign up.

FURNACE/PIPE PROJECT: *Thank you for your continued support of this project as we move toward our next payment. The next big update will take place at our Annual Meeting on Jan. 18th. Work is underway!*

WANT TO GIVE SPECIFICALLY TO OUR HEATING & PIPE PROJECT?

We've created a new QR code to give electronically toward this project through our giving app. It's a quick way to give & makes a big difference. Every gift helps - together, we can do this!

Check out the 'update board' in the narthex to see where we're currently at.



Join us



Grab a coffee & join us for the Adult Forum after worship

DEC 7th: AEOA Local Services

THIS WEEK @ OSLC:

- 12/07 WORSHIP 9:30AM, ADULT FORUM
AFTERWARDS WITH AEOA
*WREATH PICK-UP DAY
2PM CHORALAIRES CONCERT
- 12/08 11AM FUNERAL SVC FOR HARRY KUITUNEN
6PM BOY SCOUTS
- 12/09 11:30AM WOMEN'S LUNCH @ GRANDMA'S!
- 12/10 12-3PM C. CLOSET
4PM CHOIR PRACTICE
6:30PM ADVENT VISUAL ARTS WORSHIP SVC
- 12/13 9-11:30AM C. BREAKFAST & CLOSET
- 12/14 9:30AM WORSHIP
10:30 YOUTH GIFT WRAPPING FUNDRAISER
11AM COUNCIL MTG
5PM SING AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE
AND POTLUCK DINNER

*SANCTUARY: ORGAN PRACTICE WILL NOW BE 2:30PM
MON., TUES., WED.

**Join us for the Annual
Choralaire's Christmas Concert**

Friday
Dec. 5TH 6pm
Gethsemane
Lutheran
Church



Sunday
Dec. 7TH 2pm
Our Savior's
Lutheran
Church

Women's Christmas Lunch

TUESDAY, DEC. 9TH AT 11:30AM

WELCA is inviting all women of OSLC
to a lunch at Grandma's Restaurant to start the
Christmas season together. Hope to see you there!



Advent Worship

WED., DEC. 10TH 6:30PM VISUAL ARTS WORSHIP

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN

WED., DEC. 17TH 6:30PM BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

GETHESEMANE LUTHERAN

Sing Around the Christmas Tree
with potluck dinner

SUNDAY, DEC. 14 @ 5PM

JOIN US FOR DINNER AT 5:00
THEN WE'LL GATHER AROUND
THE CHRISTMAS TREE
TO SING OUR FAVORITE
CHRISTMAS HYMNS
TOGETHER

THERE WILL BE A
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS
PROGRAM

DURING WORSHIP

DEC. 21ST 9:30AM

FOR MORE INFO, SEE KATIE FELDT



Our Savior's Lutheran Church
*Christmas Eve
Worship Service*

will be Wed., Dec. 24th at 4pm

You are welcome to join the Choir
singing traditional Hymns
before worship, starting at 3:30



WREATH PICK-UP IS TODAY!

Community Closet Challenge

Thank you for participating in our challenge, it's a big help!

We're listing affordable items in the bulletin for what works best in the Community Closet Food Pantry, and what is most needed for the week.

Our part of the challenge will be finding where these items are on sale & listing them in the bulletin, and your part of the challenge can be deciding what's easiest for you to donate.

The weekly **pantry challenge items will cost \$10.00 and under.**



- 1. YOGURT 4-PK OF 6OZ CUPS, GREAT VALUE BRAND @ WALMART**
\$2.26 A 4PK, OR 12 PK FOR \$6.47
- 2. MILK, HALF GALLON SIZE, @ WALMART**
\$1.97/EA, OR 5 FOR \$9.85
- 3. PROGRESSO HEARTY SOUPS @ SUPER ONE \$1.99 EA, OR HEALTHY CHOICE 2 CANS FOR \$3**
5 FOR \$9.95, OR 6 FOR \$9
- 4. BIRD'S EYE FROZEN VEGGIES, PEAS, CORN, MIXED @ SUPER ONE**
4 FOR \$5, OR 8 FOR \$10
- 5. MRS. BUTTERWORTH'S COMPLETE PANCAKE MIX @ SUPER ONE**
\$2.99 EA, OR 3 FOR \$8.97
- 6. CREAMETTE NOODLES, 12-16OZ 4/\$5, AND RINALDI SAUCE IN JARS FOR \$1.66 @ SUPER ONE**
Meal idea: 1 box of noodles + 2 jars of sauce= \$4.57 a meal. Two meals = \$9.14

*You're always welcome to shop at your favorite store,
and buy the food & brands you prefer if it's more convenient.*

Aldi's is a great place to purchase peanut butter & jelly, for example.

Items that are always in need, regardless of our challenge list are:

Tuna pouches & cans, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce in jars, shampoo & bodywash.

Thank you for helping!

THRIVENT CARDS FOR MINISTRY

If you are a Thrivent member and would like to be a part of an ActionTeam to get a gift card for purchasing food for the Community Breakfasts and the Community Closet, let Nancy Fisher know. It's very easy to get on the Thrivent website to get the card. You are eligible to get 2 cards a year. If you would like to do this, call Nancy at 218-750-2729 or see her in church!

Thank you for helping the church feed many people in our community~



TODAY IS WREATH PICK-UP DAY

Thank you for supporting our Youth!

Sun., Dec 14th Gift wrapping by our youth during worship: bring your gifts to church and during the service our youth will wrap them for you! Your wrapped gifts will be ready for you to pick up after the service! Suggested donation: \$5.00/gift. Please get to church a little early to ensure your gifts are ready to be wrapped! **Dec. 14th 9:15 – until after worship**

In January – Superbowl Sub and Chili Sales: Starting on Sunday, Jan 4th, through Sunday, January 25, the youth will be selling Subs and Chili! Pick up will be Superbowl Sunday, Feb. 8th after worship!

Feb., 21-22 Bake-A-Thon & Coffee An': The youth will be staying up all night baking communion bread & yummy treats! They will be selling their baked goods during Coffee An' on Sunday, Feb. 22nd



Where? The Dwelling - Winston-Salem, North Carolina
When? On site - July 15-19 + Travel days
How Long? 5 Days at the Site + 1-2 travel days on each end
Cost? Around \$1,000/person (WE WILL FUNDRAISE!)
Last year the entire cost was covered by fundraising!
(minus spending money & meals during travel)

Because justice issues related to hunger, homelessness, poverty, racism, education disparity and more are complex situations that require complex conversations and answers, SPARK and The Dwelling team up together and offer opportunities for young people & adults to spend a week during the summer *to participate in Spirit and Service learning experiences.*

ADULTS & YOUTH ARE INVITED!

Talk with Pastor Liz if you are interested in going. The \$100 deposit deadline to attend is Dec. 15th.

For more info about
The Dwelling:
www.thedwellingws.org

God Pause for Friday, December 5, 2025, Matthew 3:1–12 (NRSV)

[Read Matthew 3:1–12 on biblegateway.com](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+3:1-12&version=NRSV)

3In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁶and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Devotion

Whether we like to admit it or not, we are all people who long to belong. God created us for community, and throughout the Bible, we see stories of God's people being drawn together or exiled from community. In today's reading from Matthew, we see people from all over Judea, Jerusalem, and the Jordan River gathering to hear John the Baptist and receive baptism. Even the religious leaders—the Pharisees and Sadducees—were curious enough to witness what was happening at the river. In our own faith tradition, Baptism and Holy Communion serve as two powerful ways we come together as a community of believers. Through the water of baptism, and through the bread and wine of communion, we are freely offered God's grace, acceptance, and the assurance that we belong. In Christ's community, YOU are welcome and YOU belong.

Prayer

God of water and of bread and wine—you have given us the gifts of baptism and holy communion to remind us that we belong. We are part of the community of Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Elizabeth Schoenknecht '04 M.Div. Senior Philanthropic Adviser, Luther Seminary

DON'T FORGET CELEBRATION OF LIGHT AND MUSIC IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!

Join us on Saturday, December 13, from 3:00 to 6:30 PM for an afternoon of hymns and worship, gearing us up for the Christmas season! Enjoy coffee, cocoa, cookies, hymns, worship, and a tasty dinner from our very own Jan and Gary!!

All ages welcome! Hope to see ya there!

Tickets: \$24 (ages 12+), \$12 (ages 4-11), Free (ages 3 & under)

CELEBRATION
of Light & Music

DECEMBER 13TH
3- 6:30 PM

Camp Hiawatha, 36944 Camp
Hiawatha Rd, Deer River, MN
56636