

SpringHouse Advent Worship

Sunday, November 30th - 10:30 AM



**First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Lyndale United Church of Christ
Salem English Lutheran Church**

SpringHouse
Ministry Center

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Land Acknowledgement

Opening Hymn

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

CH 138



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for an - gels
2 In deep - est night his com - ing shall be, when all the
3 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night. Though dark the



her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for soon he is
world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so qui - et and
win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall crown you with



born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing. Come as a ba - by
free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing. Then shall the si - lent
light; be strong and lov - ing and fear - less. Love be our song and



weak and poor, to bring all hearts to - geth - er, he o - pens
join in song, the tired shall leap in won - der, the weak be
love our prayer and love our end - less sto - ry; may God fill



wide the heaven - ly door and lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
raised a - bove the strong, and weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
ev - ery day we share and bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Lighting the Advent Candles

Children, you are welcome to join Deb Murphy at the Advent candles and to help lead us in prayer.

PROCLAIMING

Originally chanted in medieval monasteries during the final week of Advent, the "O Antiphons" still stir longing hearts. Each verse draws on images from the Hebrew Bible to address Christ: Wisdom, Adonai, Root of Jesse, Key of David, Dawn, Ruler of nations, and Emmanuel ("God-with-us"). In Latin, the initials of these titles spell the reverse acrostic "ero cras," which means "I shall be with you tomorrow."

However, this poetry also perpetuates anti-Jewish prejudices: that Jews live in spiritual exile because they do not acknowledge Jesus as the messiah, and that Christians can understand themselves as the new Israel. In the last quarter-century poets and preachers have reached for new words, some of which we will sing today.

Together, let us sing:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el,
2. O come, O Wis - dom, raise your voice,
and with your peo - ple al - ways dwell.
and chall - enge us to make a bol - der choice:
Our spi - rits mourn in ex - ile here
"Em - brace the won - ders of the dark!
un - til in - car - nate love ap - pears.
In joy, in pain, im - a - gin - a - tion spark."
Re - jice! Re - jice! Em - man - u - el
shall come a - gain and with us al - ways dwell.

First Reading

Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-18

The Inclusive Bible

Wisdom shines brightly and never fades. She is seen by those who love her and is found by those who seek her. She reveals herself to all who desire to know her, and those who rise early to search for her will not grow weary of the journey, for they will find her seated at the door of their own homes. To ponder her is the fullness of wisdom and to be loyal in her pursuit is the shortcut to freedom from care. She searches the far ends of the earth for those who are worthy of her, and she appears to them on their daily path with kindness, meeting them halfway in all their journeys. The true meaning of wisdom is the desire to learn, and to be passionate about learning is to love her. The love of wisdom means keeping her laws at all times—keeping her standards assures you of immortality.

Reflection

Rev. Rebecca Voelkel

Together, let us sing:

O come, green shoot of Jesse, free
your people from despair and apathy.
Forge justice for the poor and meek,
grant safety for the young and the weak.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come again and with us always dwell.

Second Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

The Inclusive Bible

Then a shoot will sprout from the stump of Jesse;
from Jesse's roots, a branch will blossom:

The spirit of God will rest on you— a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of counsel and strength, a spirit of knowledge and the reverence for God. You will delight in obeying God, and you will not judge by appearances, or make decisions by hearsay. You will treat the poor with fairness and will uphold the rights of the land's downtrodden. With a single word you will strike down tyrants, with your decrees you will execute evil people. Justice will be the belt around your waist; faithfulness will gird you up.

Then the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat; the calf and the lion cub will graze together, and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear; their young will lie down together. The lion will eat hay like the ox. The baby will play next to the den of the cobra, and the toddler will dance over the viper's nest. There will be no harm, no destruction anywhere in my holy mountain, for as the water fills the sea, so the land will be filled with knowledge of God.

On that day, the Root of Jesse will serve as a symbol to the peoples of the world—nations will flock to you, and your home will be a place of honor.

Reflection

Rev. Dan Adolphson

Together, let us sing:

O come, O radiant dawn, and cheer
our spirits by your advent here;
Love, stir within the womb of night,
and death's own shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come again and with us always dwell.

Third Reading

Luke 1:67-79

The Inclusive Bible

Zechariah, John's father, was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: "Blessed are you, the Most High God of Israel—for you have visited and redeemed your people. You have raised up a mighty savior for us of the house of David, as you promised through the mouths of your holy ones, the prophets of ancient times: salvation from our enemies and from the hands of all our foes. You have shown mercy to our ancestors by remembering the holy Covenant you made with them, the oath you swore to Sarah and Abraham, granting that we, delivered from the hands of our

enemies, might serve you without fear, in holiness and justice, in your presence all our days.

"And you, my child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, for you'll go before our God to prepare the way for the Promised One, giving the people the knowledge of salvation through forgiveness of their sins. Such is the tender mercy of our God, who from on high will bring the rising sun to visit us, to give light to those who live in darkness and the shadow of death and to guide our feet into the way of peace."

Together, let us sing:

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and bless each place your people dwell.
Melt every weapon crafted for war.
Bring peace on earth forever more.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come again and with us always dwell.

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS AND OUR GIFTS

Prayers of the People

Rev. Rhonda Hlavinka

As we wait and watch for Emmanuel's new day, let us pray for the earth and all in need of healing and hope, concluding with the prayer that Jesus taught in the words below or those that live in our hearts.

Our Mother, our Father, our Creator 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.**

Offering Invitation

"O come, O Key of David, come..." The image of Christ as the key to the royal household comes from a prophetic rebuke of an unjust steward (Isaiah 22:15-25). Guided by the justice of Jesus, may we steward the gifts offered today for the wellbeing of this shared building and for our earth home.

If the Spirit is moving you to offer a financial gift, you may place it in the offering plate, mail it, or give online, perhaps scanning one of the QR codes below. You may designate your gift by congregation ("First," "Lyndale," or "Salem") or give cash to be shared among our three congregations.



First Christian Church



Salem English Lutheran



Lyndale UCC

Choral Anthem

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

SpringHouse Choir

Offering Prayer

Together, let us pray:

**God-with-us, bless these gifts we have offered.
Join our hearts with the song of the angels,
and gather us at your table of celebration.
Strengthen us to share with all the world
the abundance of your grace upon grace,
poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.**

FEASTING

Prayer at the Table

Rev. Ben Masters

Holy One, the beginning and the end,
for the birth of creation, blessed are you!

*Echo as you are invited: **Blessed are you!***

...Even now, you draw near in love,
and so we offer all honor and glory and praise to you:
Covenanting Creator, Incarnate Word, Surprising Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Invitation to the Table

Feasting Together

*No matter where you are on your journey of faith, **all** are welcome to Christ's table. If you are worshipping at SpringHouse, come forward to a Communion station: common cup, intinction, or individual service. All bread is gluten free. If you are unable to come forward, servers will come to you. If you are worshipping online, the Spirit blesses whatever food and drink available.*

As we celebrate Communion, you may join in singing:

Communion Hymn

Each Winter as the Year Grows Older

NCH 435



1 Each win - ter as the year grows old - er, we each grow old - er,
2 When race and class cry out for trea - son, when si - rens call for
3 Yet I be - lieve be - yond be - liev - ing that life can spring from
4 So e - ven as the sun is turn - ing to jour - ney to the
5 O Child of ec - sta - sy and sor - rows, O Child of peace and



too. The chill sets in a lit - tle cold - er; the
war, they o - ver - shout the voice of rea - son and
death, that growth can flow - er from our griev - ing, that
north, the liv - ing flame, in se - cret burn - ing, can
pain, bright - en to - day's world by to - mor - row's, re -



ver - i - ties we knew seem shak - en and un - true.
 scream till we ig - nore all we held dear be - fore.
 we can catch our breath and turn trans - fixed by faith.
 kin - dle on the earth and bring God's love to birth.
 new our lives a - gain; Christ Je - sus, come and reign!

Communion Hymn

like a child

Gm C Am Dm

1 like a child love would send to re - veal and to mend, like a
 2 like a child we will meet, rag - ged clothes, dirt - y feet, like a
 3 like a child born to pray and to show us the way, like a

Gm C F D7

child and a friend, Je - sus comes like a
 child on the street, Je - sus comes like a
 child here to stay, Je - sus comes like a

Gm7 C Am Dm7

child we may find claim - ing heart soul and mind, like a
 child we once knew com - ing back in - to view, like a
 child we re - ceive all that love can con - ceive, like a

Gm7 C11 F

child strong and kind, Je - sus comes
 child born a - new, Je - sus comes
 child we be - lieve Je - sus comes

Blessing and Prayer after Communion

Together, let us pray:

**God of promise, we thank you for feeding us at this table.
Make our hearts your Spirit's home, that Christ may be born in us today
and borne into the world by our acts of compassion and courage. Amen.**

SENDING

Sending Hymn

He Came Down

ELW 435

You are welcome to sing "He came down" or "Christ came down."



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Benediction

Rev. Rhonda Hlavinka

Postlude

Worship Leaders

Salem English Lutheran Church

Paul Harper, Saxophonist

Tom Pieper, Jazz Music Coordinator and Bassist

Rev. Rhonda Hlavinka, Pastor

Lyndale United Church of Christ

Paul Kovacovic, Director of Music

Rev. T. Michael Rock, Pastor for Congregational Life

Rev. Dr. Rebecca Voelkel, Pastor for Justice Ministries

First Christian Church of Minneapolis

Rev. Dan Adolphson, Associate Pastor

Rev. Ben Masters, Intentional Interim Pastor

Deb Murphy, Director of Spiritual Formation for Children

Dr. Caroline Povolny, Music Director

Erin Roe, Pianist

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPRINGHOUSE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please join us Wednesday evenings in Advent (12/3 - 12/10 - 12/17) for Holden Evening Prayer. Soup will be served at 6 PM, followed by the service at 6:30 PM, and a brief Advent spiritual practice learning afterwards. There will be an online option for our online community.

This year, we will be doing a joint **Blue Christmas service** on Sunday, December 21 at 5:00 PM. There will also be a **Christmas Day** service led by Pastor T. Michael open to the entire SpringHouse community, beginning at 10:30 am.

Our next SpringHouse meal packing at EveryMeal will take place on Monday, Dec. 22 from 6-8 pm at their warehouse in Roseville. Signup is available on the SpringHouse website - look for the 'Every Meal' signup page in the menu.

First Christian Church of Minneapolis

This week's meetings & social gatherings: Mission & Outreach meets Tuesday (12/2) at 1 PM; Coffee Hour in Community meets Wednesday morning (12/3) at 9 AM; Elders meet Wednesday evening (12/3) at 7 PM;

My Soul Proclaims: Advent Contemplative Prayer starts this Thursday (12/4). In place of Happy Hour, join FCC online for contemplative prayer on Thursday evenings in Advent. Singing with Mary of Nazareth, we will proclaim God's love and pray for God's peace. Log on at 5pm for a brief community check in; prayer starts at 5:45 pm.

Coats, Coffee and Creativity is happening on Saturday (12/6) at 9 am. Please bring items for the Aliveness Project Winter Warming Project (you can find the list on the website in the NEWS section and in this week's eblast). Coffee hour will be onsite and online. Aliveness Cooking Baking will begin at 11 AM and finish at 4 PM.

A reminder that next Sunday at 10:30 am we will worship in the Garden Sanctuary. Seth is on vacation this week; reach out to Dan or Ben with office questions.

Lyndale United Church of Christ

Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Center Down, Rise Ready Workshop and Dinner

First Universalist Church of Minneapolis, 3400 Dupont Ave.

We are a movement of spiritually minded folks that are grounded in love, courage, faith, and humility. Join us for a workshop to learn how you can plug into a national noncooperation movement and learn about the power of collective noncompliance and mass noncooperation. This training is based on the Freedom Trainers noncooperation curriculum and will be infused with a spiritually minded and expansive theological framework. Dinner will be served, childcare is available. Come learn about plugging in and skilling up to help stop authoritarianism and white Christian nationalism and lead with love, courage, and faith to fight for a government and a culture that affirms the dignity, worth, and civil rights of every human being. RSVP is required for food and childcare arrangements.

Please register here: <https://www.volgistics.com/appform/929883705>

We will offer this training again on Jan. 7, 2026 and Feb. 4, 2026.

Saturday, December 13 12:00-6:00 PM

Isaiah Convention: A Light in the Storm

Minneapolis Convention Center, 1301 2nd Ave S

Join people across race, class, and faith for one of Minnesota's biggest movement events of the year! Together we will: Celebrate our growing multiracial, multi-faith movement, Ratify ISAIAH's 2026 statewide issue agenda, Build power to hold elected officials accountable, Connect to a national strategy defending democracy, healthcare, public schools our communities, and Train to fight back against harmful federal policies. Registration is from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Convention starts at 1:00. Coffee, snacks, and food will be available for purchase from 11 am to 12:45 pm. Register here: <https://bit.ly/ISAIAHDec13Event>

Saturdays 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Social Justice Coffee Hour - Sister Sludge, 3746 23rd Ave S, Minneapolis

Join us take actions for social change together! We will contact our legislators, sign petitions, and learn about boycotts while we build community and stay motivated. Bring a laptop if possible. Bring a friend. (No zoom option available, but feel free to complete the checklist on your own schedule!) Let us know if Saturdays don't work for you and we can find another time: admin@lyndaleucc.org

Wednesday, December 3 7:30-8:30 PM

Sacred Reckonings: Exploring a Reparatory Eco Map – on Zoom

Join to explore a framework created by a pro-queer multifaith and multiracial group of organizers. This work guides through Truth Telling, Solidarity, Followership, Political Solidarity, Spiritual Practices, and Wealth Surrender. The Eco-Map offers a multidimensional model of repair that helps organizers and individuals formulate questions for deeper action and relationship and is presented by Rev. Rebecca Voelkel, co-founder of Sacred Reckonings.

Salem Lutheran Church

Stewardship Season

If you have not been able to turn in your pledge form for 2026, please do so ASAP so we can start planning our next year of ministry together. We appreciate all your faithful giving – your money, your time, your talent, and your love of this community!

Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be available again this Christmas season in honor or memory of those people you want to remember. **Orders need to be in by THIS Sunday, November 30th.**

Red and white poinsettias are available and cost for each plant is \$15. Fill out the green order form or complete the order form online in the eblast. You can pay for your flowers either online via PayPal/Venmo, or via check made out to Salem marked "poinsettias".

Thank you for helping to make worship beautiful for Christmas!

Join us in a THANK YOU to our Baker!

As the end of the year approaches, the Salem council thought it would be a wonderful idea to thank Matthew Seaburg for all the fresh pastries and other treats he offers up each and every Sunday morning that spoil us as we fellowship.

Our plan is to get a special gift certificate from one of the websites he purchases kitchen and baking supplies from. ***We will be taking donations through the first week of December to go toward the gift certificate.*** Donate using PayPal, Venmo, OR put your donations in the special offering box on the fellowship table. ***We appreciate all giving toward this special gift!***

Oh Come Let Us Adore Him!

Christmas Eve Worship: Wednesday December 24, 4:00 pm

Advent Joint Wed Soup and Evening Prayer

Join all of SpringHouse IN PERSON on the three Wednesday evenings during Advent (**December 3, 10, & 17**) for a light **soup supper at 6 pm** followed by **Holden Evening Prayer at 6:30 pm**.

Salem is in charge of the soup and service on December 3 - so if you are willing or able to **bring (or drop off) soup** and/or help serve that evening OR **would like to help lead Holden Evening Prayer**, please let her know ASAP.

Advent Devotionals

Pick up an Advent Devotional in the back of the sanctuary or print it from the link in the eblast. This year's main devotional is called: ***We Are Never Alone: A Watershed Discipleship Advent Workbook for Kids and Adults*** Written and illustrated by Sarah Holst

You can also pick up a Praying in Color Advent calendar in the sanctuary or download it from this week's eblast.