

# Welcome to Worship in this Season of Advent



**December 3, 2023 ~10:00 a.m.  
French River Lutheran Church, ELCA  
Duluth, MN**

**Reverend Kimberly Sturtz ~ Presiding**  
**Worship Assistant: Loren Slette**  
**Lector: Sue Baker**  
**Altar Guild: Mary Ann Sironen**  
**Musicians: Organist – David Fiebiger, FRLC Choir**

**Welcome to all in Jesus' Name!**

A family restroom and nursery are to the left of the sanctuary; please follow the Preparedness Plan for use. To contact the pastor or church office, you are invited to complete a pew card and return the information portion either to an usher or by way of the offering plate. Please keep the bookmark and worship with us again! We appreciate electronic devices set on "mute" during the service.

**Bold print signals places where the assembly speaks in unity in worship.**

\*Indicates where to stand as you are able in body or in Spirit.

**Welcome/Announcements:**

———GATHERING———  
The Holy Spirit gathers us together as people of God

**\*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.**

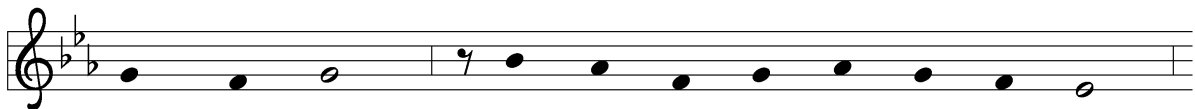
**\*Gathering Hymn: *Creator of the Stars of Night***

**ELW 245**

Creator of the Stars of Night



1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's ev - er -  
2 When this old world drew on toward night, you came; but not in  
3 At your great name, O Je - sus, now all knees must bend, all  
4 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray, re - deem us for e -  
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it,



last - ing light, O Christ, re - deem - er of us all,  
splen - dor bright, not as a mon - arch, but the child  
hearts must bow: all things on earth with one ac - cord,  
ter - nal day; de - fend us while we dwell be - low  
Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you hear us when we call.  
of Mar - y, bless - ed moth - er mild.  
like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.  
from all as - saults of our dread foe.  
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. *Hymnal* 1940, alt.  
Music: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM, plainsong mode IV  
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**\*Lighting the Advent Candle: First Sunday of Advent: Hope**

**\*Candle Lighting:**

We are a people of hope. Our hearts are full of anticipation for the coming of our beloved Christ Child. For God is to be among us and we will see a great light in the midst of our night.

Let us light the Candle of Hope. *(Light the first blue candle)*

written by Rev. Jolene Cadenbach, Pastor of Arcadia United Church of Christ in Arcadia, CA.

**\*Advent Song: Verse 1**

~Mary Lu Walker

## Advent Song

Mary Lu Walker

1. Light the Ad - vent can - dle one. Now the  
2. Light the Ad - vent can - dle two. Think of  
3. Light the Ad - vent can - dle three, Think of  
4. Light the Ad - vent can - dle four. Think of

wait - ing has be - gun. We have start - ed  
hum - ble shep - herds who filled with won - der  
heav'n - ly har - mo - ny An - gels sing - ing  
joy for - ev - er more. Christ - child in the

on our way, Time to think of Christ - mas Day,  
at the sight of the Child on Christ - mas night.  
"Peace on earth" at the bless - ed Sav - iors birth.  
sta - ble born. Gift of love that Christ - mas morn.

Can - dle, can - dle burn - ing bright, shin - ing in the  
cold win - ter night. Can - dle can - dle burn - ing  
bright, fill our hearts with Christ - mas light.

### **Responsive Litany:**

Advent is a time to wait.

**We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

During Advent we wait for the light in the darkness.

**We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

During Advent we wait for freedom from captivity.

**We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

During Advent we wait for comfort in sorrow.

**We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

During Advent we wait for power in weakness.

**We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.**

### **\*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.**

### **FRLC Choir Anthem: Jesu, Joy of Mans Desiring**

~Bach

———WORD———

**God speaks to us through scripture, preaching, and song.**

A reading from Isaiah:

*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.*

### **First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9**

**Sue Baker**

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.

You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**

*Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)*

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh,  
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

Restore us, O God;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

**O LORD God of hosts,  
how long will your anger fume when your people pray?**

You have fed them with the bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

**You have made us the derision of our neighbors,  
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore us, O God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

**Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,  
the one you have made so strong for yourself.**

And so will we never turn away from you;  
give us life, that we may call upon your name.

**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.**

A reading from 1 Corinthians:

*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.*

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation: Celtic Alleluia**

*(The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.)*



**\*Gospel: Mark 13:24-37**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 13:24-37. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

[Jesus said:] “In those days, after that suffering,  
the sun will be darkened,  
and the moon will not give its light,  
and the stars will be falling from heaven,  
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

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

**Children’s Sermon:**

**The Reverend Kimberly Sturtz**

**Sermon:**

**The Reverend Kimberly Sturtz**

**\*Hymn of the Day: *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn***

**ELW 242**

# Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for  
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -  
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when  
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, Sing out your joy, for  
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is  
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so  
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.  
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;  
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.  
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -  
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in  
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and  
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to  
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and  
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.  
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.  
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.  
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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**\*Nicene Creed:**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and  
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic 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.**

**\*Peace:** The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**  
*(Please share this peace with your neighbors.)*

**Prayers of the People:**

**Sue Baker**

With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

*(A brief silence.)*

Call your church into holy fellowship as we await the restoration of all things. Reenergize your faithful people to live with hope and compassion, especially those who serve as missionaries near and far. Center us on your promise to come among us and make all things new. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

All creation signals your presence, O God: the vastness of the cosmos, the turn of the seasons, and living things that both rest and flourish. Rekindle our commitment to care for the earth. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Let the nations tremble at your holy presence, that justice and liberation prevail in all corners of the earth. Restore peace to nations in conflict, teach righteousness to corrupt leaders and systems, and bring stability to areas facing uncertain futures. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Enrich the spirits of all who feel hopeless, fearful, or despairing. Stay close to those who await healing or relief *(especially those who we pray for silently or aloud)*. Deliver all in any need. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Be with those who keep awake at night: nurses working overnight shifts, caregivers of newborns and aging adults, stargazers, those who are anxious, or those who are traveling. Reveal to all that the dark can be a place of calm and comfort filled with your presence. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

You have sent out your angels and gathered your faithful people from every time and place, calling them into one fellowship of saints. Bless the witness of those who dwell in your eternal presence. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.  
**Amen.**

**\*Offering Prayer:**

*(Please stand as you are able as the offering is brought forward. If you did not place your offering in the plate as you entered the sanctuary, feel free to hand it to an usher upon dismissal. During the week, offerings may be placed in the secure lockbox by the lower doors [slot is right of the door]. Mail and online giving are also available. Thank you for your generous support of our ministry together!)*

God our provider,  
by your merciful hand  
abundance springs up from the earth.  
Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.  
Let them be a sign of your steadfast love  
and faithfulness for all people,  
through Jesus Christ our Savior.  
**Amen.**

———MEAL———

**God feeds us in goodness and grace with the presence of Jesus Christ.**

*(All are welcome to receive the true presence of Jesus in the bread and wine or juice provided. **Today we offer two ways to commune, at the front or in the pew.** If you wish to receive grape juice instead of wine, please pick up the colored tab of paper in the envelope holder in the pew and show it to the server. **Today, communion will be distributed continuously at the altar rail. If you cannot come to the altar, please indicate to an usher and communion will be brought to you. Children not communing may come forward for a blessing.** Gluten free wafers are available; please inform the pastor if you prefer one. For those who wish to receive communion while in the pew but did not pick take a packet upon entering the sanctuary, please signal for an usher and a packet will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available from their own basket.)*

**\*Words of Institution and Blessing:**

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.**

**\*Preface: Advent**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.  
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,  
through whom you will also make all things new  
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***\*Holy, Holy, Holy: by Grayson Brown***

1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,  
2. Bless - ed is he who comes in the

1. ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of  
2. name \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord God of

1. hosts. Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
2. hosts. Ho - san - na in \_\_\_\_\_ the

1. glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
2. 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.

**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:**

In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.  
Come, take your place at the table.

**\*Interlude: Lamb of God - David Clark Isele**

**"LAMB OF GOD"**

The musical score is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff is for the Cantor or Choir, and the second is for the All. The lyrics are: \*Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. grant us peace. The score includes a triplet of eighth notes in the first staff and a repeat sign in the second staff.

**\*Communion Meditation:**

**\*Prayer After Communion:**

Generous God,  
in bread and cup you have revealed your glory  
for all people to see together.  
Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim  
your good news of liberation and release,  
brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.  
**Amen.**

————SENDING————  
**God blesses us and equips us as disciples sent into the world**

**\*Blessing:**

The God of peace bless you,  
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,  
and the anointing of the Spirit ✠ remain upon you  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn: Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning**

# Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning



1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your  
2 Dark - er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er  
3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the  
4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your



lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps  
mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er mid - night  
morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing  
lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps



trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.  
lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.  
soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.  
trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.



*Refrain*  
Chil - dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil - dren, don't grow wea - ry;



chil - dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al - most done.

Text: African American spiritual  
Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual

## **\*Dismissal:**

Go in peace. Keep awake.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please remain in your pew/chair until the pastor processes to the narthex and you are invited by an usher to depart.)*

## **Postlude:**

**Organist: David Fiebiger**

***Thank you for joining us from wherever you are.***

***Remember, you are beloved and blessed!***

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Covid-19 Preparedness**

In the care and consideration of others, the wearing of masks is optional for worship. However, if you or a family member are experiencing any fever, cough, stomach issues, or are recovering from an illness or other ailments within 48 hours before gathering in worship, we strongly advise the wearing of a mask while in worship.

A simple mask in these moments and places helps us protect loved ones, especially the weak and elderly, front-line medical personnel and their families, our faith community and larger communities.

Thank you for this kindness.

### **Coming Up:**

**12/3 Sun: 10a – First Sunday of Advent;**

Worship In-Person/Online: Rev. Kim Sturtz;

**10:45a - Noon – Sunday School;** 11:15a – Coffee Fellowship

**12/4 Mon: 9a – Outreach; 6p – Adult Bible Study**

**12/5 Tues: 9a – Bulletin Deadline; 5:45p – Exec. Council; 7p – AA**

**12/6 Wed: 5:30 - 7:30 – Cocoa & Carols; 7p – Choir**

**12/7 Thurs: 5p – Riversong Rising**

**12/9 Fri: 9a-2p – Scandinavian Festival**

**12/10 Next Sun: 10a – 2nd Sunday of Advent; Blended Worship**

Worship In-Person/Online: Rev. Kim Sturtz;

**10:45 - Noon – Sunday School;** 11:15a – Coffee Fellowship

It's time to warm up those bells! Here is the link to sign up for the **Salvation Army Red Kettle Bell Ringing**.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0D4CAAFF2EA7F85-45938771-2023#/>

FRLC will not be taking an entire day. Using this sign up to **ring at SuperOne—Two Harbors** allows you to pick and choose a time/day based on your availability. Don't wait to sign up! If you do not have Internet capability, call me and I'll look for an open spot for you.



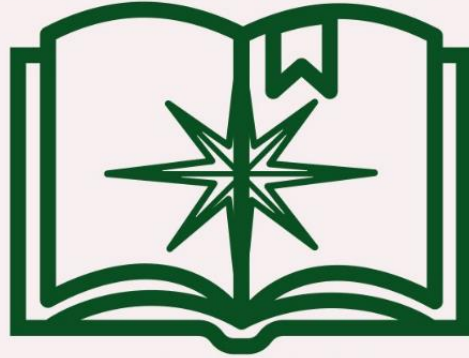
Thank you for supporting the Red Kettle Campaign.  
Sue Baker, 218-341-4181

Did you check "Outreach Committee" on the Time & Talent form?  
Join us for a meeting on Monday, December 4 at 9:00 a.m.

## A Storybook Christmas Pageant!

*The story of Christmas with tales told by the actual people that experienced it!*

**French River Lutheran Church  
Sunday December 17, 2023**



**During Worship 10 am!**



If your youth or child would like to be a part of the pageant: Please be in attendance in Sunday school or Wednesday Fish Force to receive an assigned role and practice



**"Let every heart prepare him room!"**

**FRENCH RIVER LUTHERAN  
CHURCH, DULUTH**

**CHRISTMAS  
EVE  
CANDLELIGHT  
SERVICE**

**DECEMBER 24, 2023  
• 4 PM**

**All are welcome to join us in person or online!**

**<https://youtube.com/c/FrenchRiverLutheranChurch>**



# French River Lutheran Church

## Cocoa & Carols

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6, 2023

5:30-7 pm @ the Timberframe

Come celebrate the light and warmth of  
friends & community on the shore!

(back up weather day: Dec 13)



### SCANDINAVIAN CHRISTMAS ON THE SHORE

DECEMBER 9, 9AM - 2 PM

Mark your calendars for our **Scandinavian Sale on December 9 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.** Fancy baked goods, Lefse, candy shop, artisans & crafters and pantry.

We're offering a soup and sandwich lunch option with or without your choice from our dessert menu, and vendors will fill the fellowship hall with their wonderful products.

We're looking for all the usual cookies and baked goods, pantry items, craft items and glassware to fill the narthex with a festive holiday atmosphere. There will be a bread baking day, a cookie packing day, set up and clean up opportunities, as well as workers needed for the different shifts on Saturday.

Do you know someone who might want to have a table? Or friends who may want to come to the sale? There are so many ways to participate!!



**2023 SCANDINAVIAN CHRISTMAS ON THE SHORE  
& OLD-WORLD BAKED GOODS  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 9:00 A.M.**



Please fill out this form and give it to Barb Jackson or turn it in to the  
WELCA/Women of French River mailbox  
(lower level near bulletin boards).  
THANK YOU!

**WHAT CAN I BRING?**

- cookies/breads for the Bake Sale  
(please identify your baked goods for packaging)
- candy
- canned goods for the pantry
- crafts/goods for the Christmas Shop

**HOW CAN I HELP?**

- I will pack cookies on Friday, Dec. 8 at 9 AM
- I will help make cardamom bread on Friday, Dec. 8 at 9 AM
- I will work Saturday, Dec.9 (available\_\_\_\_\_)
- I will help with clean up Saturday, Dec 9 at 2 PM
- I will participate in a bread-baking day on  
Thursday, Dec. 7 at 9 AM (contact Carolyn Marino)
- I will make lefse on Thursday, Dec. 7
- I will help decorate on Friday, Dec. 1 at 9 AM
- I will rent a space (\$15 per 8' space; please enclose payment)
- Enclosed is a donation

**Scandinavian Festival contacts:**

Comments or questions –  
Barb Jackson 525-5992  
Or Peggy Dahlberg 525-4469  
Bread baking – Carolyn Marino 525-6431  
Lefse – Bonnie Smrstick or Peggy Dahlberg  
This is our major fundraiser for benevolence and projects.  
Thank you for your support!



**Adult Bible Study will meet at 6 p.m. on December 4 & 11** and will resume Monday, January 8, 2024. Do you have a topic you'd like to explore? Reach out to Pr. Kim with your ideas.

**Welcome to French River Lutheran Church**

*You are welcome; to keep this bulletin however, we recycle when possible so you may leave it on the ushers' stand.*



**Immediate:** Marvin Slette (family of Loren Slette) Carol Pearson; Bonnie Smrstick; prayers for peace and comfort both as she travels to be with Dennis as he is nearing the end of his journey.; Deb Sodomka (cousin of Bill & Susie Lannon).

**Long-Term:** Phil Strom, for Parkinsons; Julie Moe-Hommerding; 5-year-old great niece of Susie Lannon (heart surgery 6/26/17, still not healthy); Kathy Johnson (Carol Leppala's friend); Bruce Sundberg; Angela Debelak, (niece of Gail Johnson) is currently in remission from for her brain cancer and recovering slowly; please continue to pray for no recurrence.; Alex Peterson – military service; David Peterson (brother of Paul Peterson); Todd Sironen; Family of Ingrid Hanson, in loss of step-daughter Tony Hanson.

**WHEN SUBMITTING A NAME TO THE TELEPHONE PRAYER CHAIN, PLEASE INDICATE IF IT IS PERMISSABLE TO LIST IN THE BULLETIN.**

<i>Called by the Spirit</i>	<i>December 3</i>	<i>December 10</i>
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Rev. Kim Sturtz	Rev. Kim Sturtz
<b>Lector</b>	Skipper Sironen	Ann Rankila
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Skipper Sironen	Kathy Pierson
<b>Ushers</b>	Phil & Babs Strom	Doug & Lynne C.
<b>Counters/Worship Assistant*</b>	Adam Marks/ Loren Slette*	ArMAnd Nelson/ Sheila Laiti*
<b>Coffee Fellowship</b>	O'Leary, Moe, Wilman	Bonnie Smrstick
<b>Prayer Chain</b>	Babs Strom 218.525.6200	

**French River Lutheran Church, 5310 Ryan Rd, Duluth, MN 55804**  
 Church: (218)525-5659; [frlc5310@gmail.com](mailto:frlc5310@gmail.com)  
 Pr. Kim Sturtz: (218)393-7444; [frlcpastorsturtz@gmail.com](mailto:frlcpastorsturtz@gmail.com)  
 Office hours vary so please call ahead.  
 FRLC webpage: [www.frenchriverlutheran.org](http://www.frenchriverlutheran.org).  
 FRLC Mission: *“To live and love as God commands, accept His grace, and share the Good News.”*

Watch services at FRLC anytime! **YouTube live streaming of the service** at  
<https://www.youtube.com/c/FrenchRiverLutheranChurch>  
 This link is also found on our church homepage and Facebook group. If you are unable to watch it live, you can view it any time after the service by following the same link.

✝ We're glad you worshiped with us today. Thanks be to God! ✝

Jesus tells us to be ready. Decorating for the Advent season is one way we can get ready for Jesus.

Which of these decorations are in your worship space?

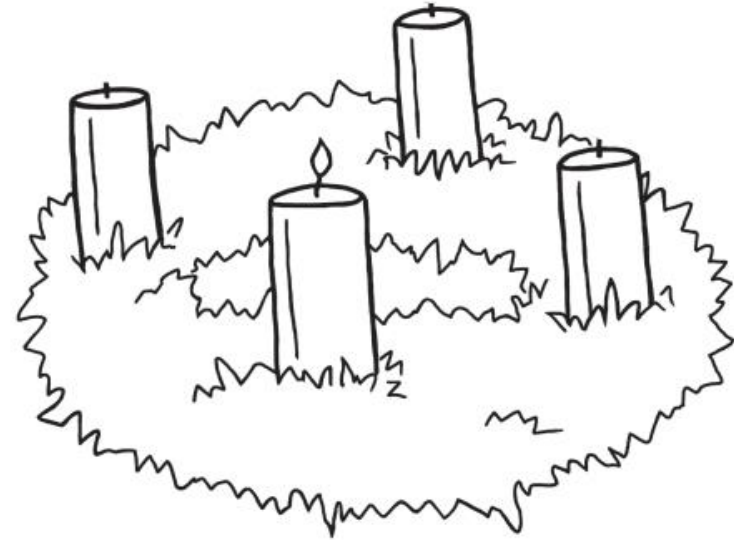


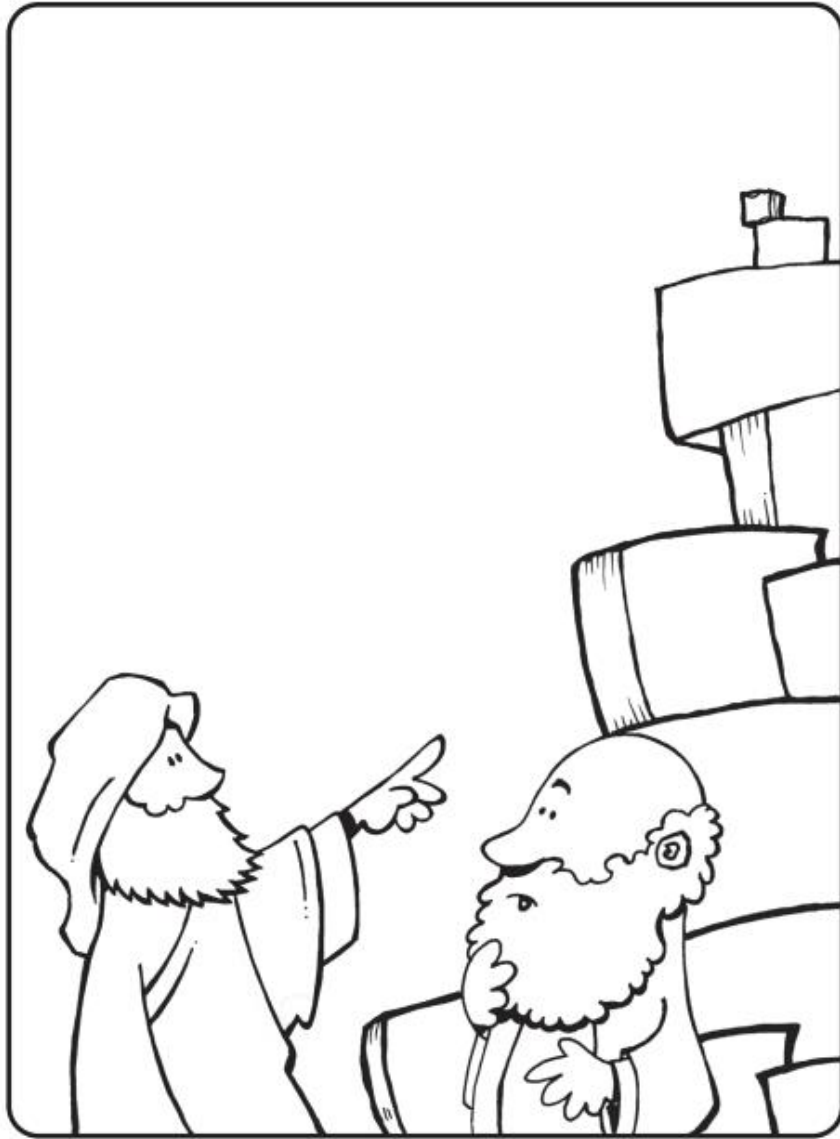
## PRE-READER

Advent 1

- Today is the **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent.**
- During Advent, we **prepare** for Jesus to come.
- One **symbol** for Advent is an **Advent wreath.**

Color the Advent wreath. Light one candle.  
Do you see other wreaths in your worship space? Draw them here.

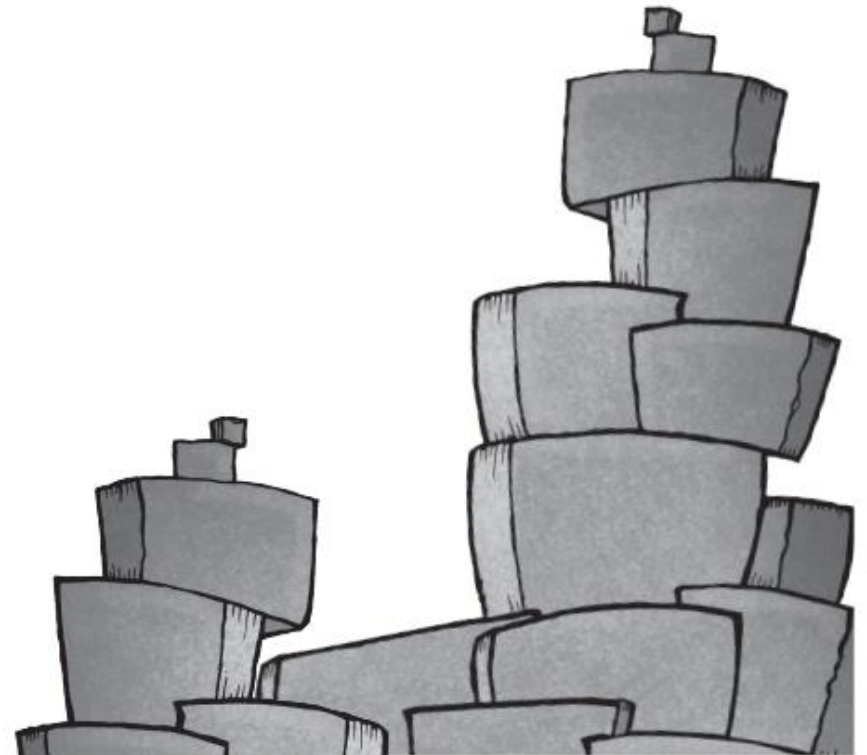




**“Don’t be afraid. Even when scary things happen, God is working for good.”**

Oh no! All the stones have fallen! Buildings may fall down, but God never does. God's love can rebuild every broken piece of our lives.

**Create something new on top of the stone pile.**

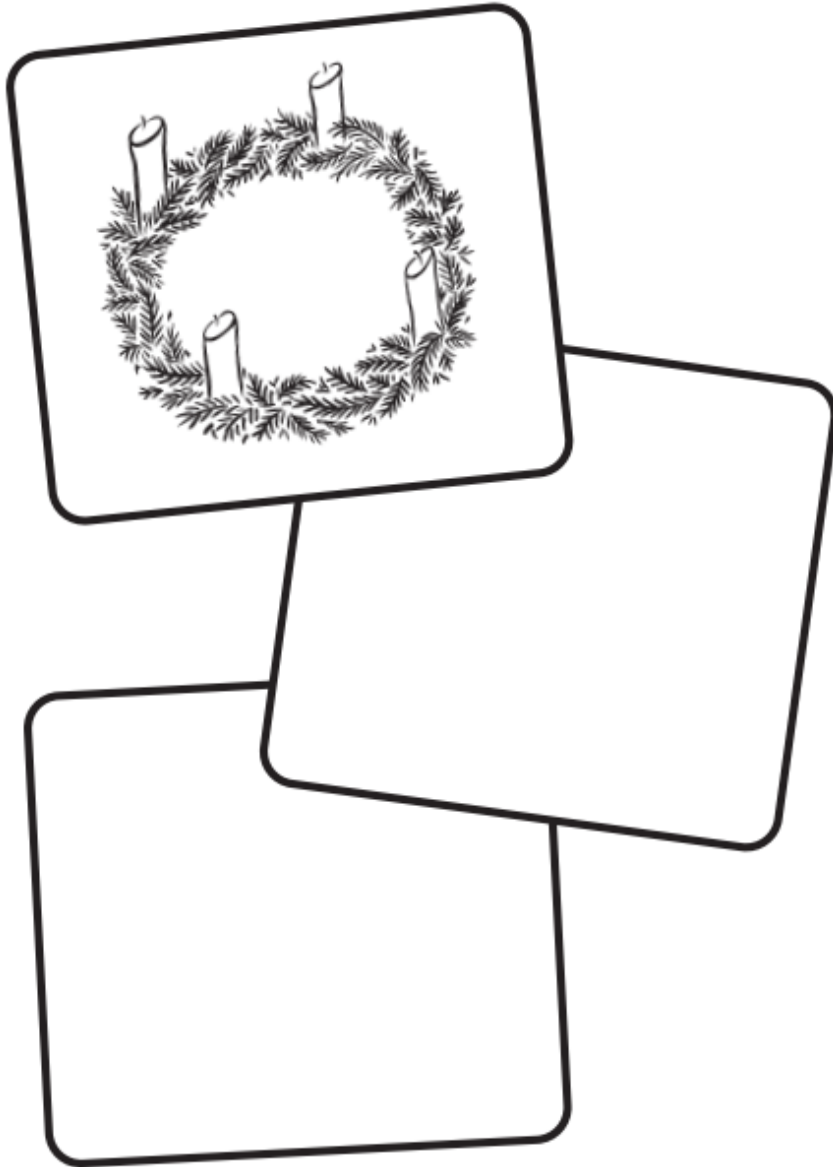


## Decoration Preparation

A common Advent symbol is the Advent wreath.

First, color one of the candles in the Advent wreath below.

Next, look for any new decorations you see in your worship space and sketch them here. Then, sketch any new decorations you have seen in your home.



## READER

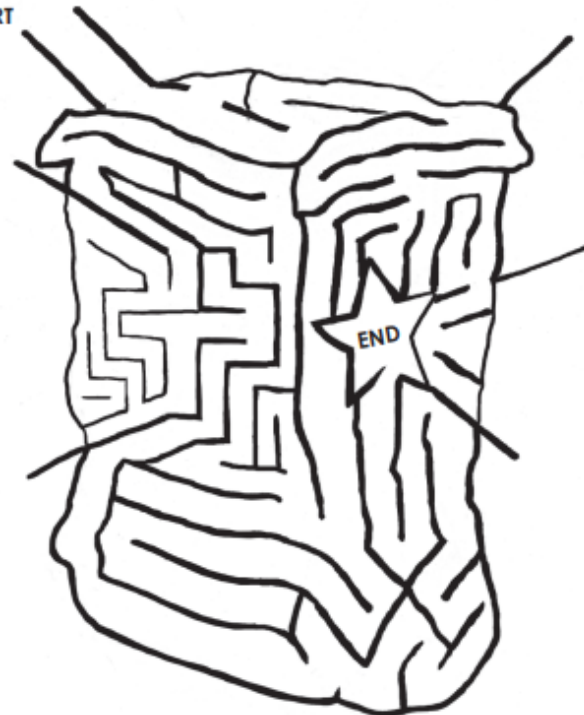
Advent 1

- Today is the **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent**.
- There are **4 weeks** of Advent.
- During Advent we **prepare** for Christmas.
- One symbol for Advent is the **luminary**.
- A luminary is something that **gives off light**.

## Season of Light

Advent is all about getting ready for Jesus! Music and decorations change as we prepare for the joys of Christmas. Find your way to the light-filled center of this luminary.

START



# Advent Words

Advent is here. We know that Jesus is coming. Can you find these Advent words in the word search?



- WATCH    WAIT    WONDER    ADVENT    STAY AWAKE
- BE ALERT    JESUS IS COMING    LIGHT CANDLES

It is important to be ready for Jesus! Crack the code to find a memory verse from the Gospel of Mark.



" \_\_\_\_\_ ,  
 7    12    6    2    5    12

\_\_\_\_\_ ;  
 8    12    12    9    2    4    12    5    1

\_\_\_\_\_ you do not \_\_\_\_\_ n \_\_\_\_\_  
 10    11    5    8    11    6

\_\_\_\_\_ h \_\_\_\_\_ n    \_\_\_\_\_ h \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_ i \_\_\_\_\_  
 6    12    1    12    1    3    12

\_\_\_\_\_ i \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ c \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ .” Mark 13:33.  
 6    4    4    11    3    12



Isaiah describes God as the potter and us as the clay. Look up the passage Isaiah 64:1-9. How has God shaped your life? Write or draw about it on this clay pot.

