

AN UNLIKELY CHRISTMAS VERSE

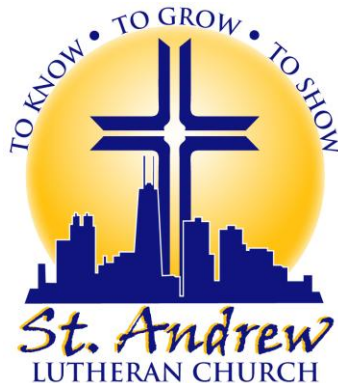
*“A body you  
prepared for  
me”*

*Hebrews 10:5*



**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent  
December 22, 2024**

**SERVICE THEME:  
Born to Die**



**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent**  
**December 22, 2024 – St. Andrew Lutheran Church**

**SERVICE THEME: Born to Die**

**WELCOME** — We're so glad that you've joined us for this worship service! Please let us know if you need any assistance while you're here.

**OUR MISSION** — The mission of St. Andrew Lutheran Church is to guide people **to know** Jesus as their Savior, **to grow** in their faith, and **to show** Jesus to others.

**OUR BELIEF** — We believe that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and the only source of all Christian doctrine and teaching. We believe that the only true God is the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe that we are saved not by anything we do, but only through faith in Jesus Christ, who gave his life for our sins. We will be happy to tell you more about what we believe!

**OUR HISTORY** — St. Andrew Lutheran Church was established in 1888 and is a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), a confessional Lutheran church body with over 1,200 congregations in North America and with more than 30 sister church bodies worldwide.

**Church Office:** 3650 S. Honore St., Chicago, IL 60609 (next door to church)

**Website:** [www.standrewchicago.org](http://www.standrewchicago.org) **Office Phone:** 773-376-5370

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**Facebook Page:** [www.facebook.com/standrewchicago/](https://www.facebook.com/standrewchicago/)

**Pastor:** Adam Gawel, [pastor@standrewchicago.org](mailto:pastor@standrewchicago.org), cell: 773-217-8132

**INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE**

*Since Adam, all have come to life in the sinful image of our first ancestors. With that image comes death. But now comes one who will shepherd his people Israel, one born God and man, the Word made flesh to bring salvation to every generation. The judgment is coming, yet the Lord's deliverance for every generation is at hand.*

## OPENING DIALOGUE AND PRAYER



**M:** The people walking in darkness have seen a great light:

**C: On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.** (Isaiah 9:2)

**M:** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

**C: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.** (Isaiah 9:6)

**M:** Christ himself has come down from heaven, has become incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and has become fully human.

**C: He shared in our humanity. By his death he destroyed the devil and the power of death, and freed us from fear and slavery forever.** (Hebrews 2:14-15)

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son, our Savior, Jesus, became flesh and made his dwelling among us. In him you have revealed yourself, your love, and your plan for all humanity. By his Word, make us ready for his coming. Keep our hearts repentant, constantly turning to your path of righteousness. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with your free Spirit; through him who came to give himself to us and to make us his own, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*Four Advent candles are lit during the OPENING HYMN.*

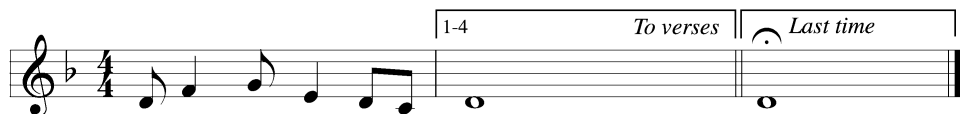
**OPENING HYMN – *My Soul in Stillness Waits* – CWS #703 – printed on the following page – 圣诗 — 在下一页**

## 703

## My Soul in Stillness Waits



For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits,



tru-ly my hope is in you. you.



*Verses*

1	O Lord of Light,	our on - ly hope of
2	O Spring of Joy,	rain down up - on our
3	O Root of Life,	im - plant your seed with -
4	O Key of Knowl -	edge, guide us in our



glo - ry,	Your ra-diance shines	in all who look to
spir - its.	Our thirs - ty hearts	are yearn-ing for your
in us,	And in your ad - vent	draw us all to
pil-grim-age,	We ev - er seek,	yet un - ful-filled re -



*To Refrain*

you.	Come, light the hearts	of all in dark and sha-dow.
Word.	Come, make us whole,	be com-fort to our hearts.
you,	Our hope re - born	in dy - ing and in ris - ing.
main.	O - pen to us	the path-way of your peace.

*This Advent hymn, based on the ancient "O" antiphons, calls to mind the Old Testament titles of our Savior and the longing of God's people for the Savior to come.*

Text: *O Antiphons*, adapted. © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS (11 10 11 and Refrain) Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** 召唤，认罪及赦罪

**M:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C:** **Amen.**

**M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

*We join to sing My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord (Magnificat – Song of Mary) – CW93 #274 – on the following page*

## 274

## My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord

*Magnificat*

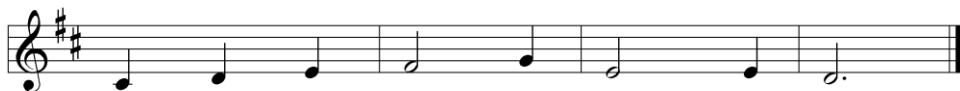
1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord;  
 2 Hence - forth shall peo - ple call me blest,  
 3 His mer - cy is on all who fear,  
 4 He brings down rul - ers from their seat  
 5 He helped his serv - ant Is - ra - el,



My spir - it shall in God re - joice.  
 For great things he has done for me.  
 Who trust in him from age to age.  
 And rais - es those of low de - gree.  
 Re - memb - 'ring his e - ter - nal grace,



My hum - ble state he did re - gard,  
 The might - y God is now my guest;  
 His arm of strength to all is near;  
 He fills the hun - gry souls with meat;  
 As from of old he did fore - tell



Ex - alt - ing me by gra - cious choice.  
 The Ho - ly One has set me free.  
 The proud he scat - ters, though they rage.  
 The rich de - part in pov - er - ty.  
 To A - bra - ham and all his race.

6 So praise with me the Holy One,  
 Who comes in all humility.  
 To our Redeemer, God's own Son,  
 Be glory in eternity!

Text: Hermann Bonnus, c. 1504–48; tr. John T. Mueller, 1885–1967, alt.

Tune: ANGELUS (LM) Georg Joseph, 17th century, adapt.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** 本日共祷文

**M:** Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

**FIRST READING** – Micah 5:2-5a (EHV) – 弥迦书 5:2-5a

<sup>2</sup>But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
though you are small among the clans of Judah,  
from you, will go out the one who will be the ruler for me in Israel.  
His goings forth<sup>c</sup> are from the beginning, from the days of eternity.<sup>d</sup>

<sup>3</sup>Therefore the LORD<sup>e</sup> will give them up,  
until the time when the woman who is in labor bears a child.<sup>f</sup>  
Then the remaining survivors from his brothers will return to the people  
of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>He will stand and shepherd with the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

They will dwell securely, for at that time he will be great to the ends of  
the earth.

<sup>5</sup>This one will be their peace.

**PSALM OF THE DAY** – Psalm 85 – CW93 p. 97 (text NIV84) – printed on  
the following page – 诗篇 97 — 在下一页

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<sup>c</sup> The term *goings forth*, which is plural in Hebrew, has been understood in three ways: 1) as a reference to the eternal generation (begetting) of the Son, who goes out from the Father; 2) as a reference to the human origins of the Messiah, who descends from the patriarchs; 3) as a reference to the appearances of Christ as the Angel of the LORD, throughout the Old Testament.

<sup>d</sup> Or *from days of old*

<sup>e</sup> The Hebrew reads *he*, without specifying the antecedent.

<sup>f</sup> This is the same woman and child who appear in Isaiah 7:14.

*Refrain*



I will hear what the Lord pro-claims: peace to his peo - ple.

*Psalm tone*



**Refrain**

You showed favor to your land, O LORD;\*  
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of your people\*  
and covered all their sins.

Show us your unfailing love, O LORD,\*  
and grant us your salvation.

**Refrain**

I will listen to what God the LORD will say,\*  
he promises peace to his people, his saints.

Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,\*  
that his glory may dwell in our land.

Love and faithfulness meet together,\*  
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Refrain**

Refrain Tune: From *The Psalmsody for the Day, Series C*. © 1976 Fortress Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.



**SECOND READING** – Hebrews 10:5-10 (EHV) – 希伯来书 10:5-10

<sup>5</sup>Therefore when he entered the world, Christ said:

Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,  
but you prepared a body for me.

<sup>6</sup>You were not pleased  
with burnt offerings and sin offerings.

<sup>7</sup>Then I said, “Here I am.

I have come to do your will, God.

In the scroll of the book it is written about me.”<sup>a</sup>

<sup>8</sup>First he said:

Sacrifices and offerings that were offered according to the law,  
both burnt offerings and sin offerings,  
you did not desire,  
and you were not pleased with them.<sup>b</sup>

<sup>9</sup>Then he said:

Here I am.

I have come to do your will.<sup>c</sup>

He does away with the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup>By this will, we have been sanctified once and for all, through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ.

**VERSE OF THE DAY** 备福音词及哈利路亚

**M:** Alleluia. The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel. Alleluia. (*Matthew 1:23*)



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**GOSPEL** – Luke 1:39-55 (EHV) – 路加福音 1:39-55

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary got up and hurried to the hill country, to a town of Judah. <sup>40</sup>She entered the home of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>Just as Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>42</sup>She called out with a loud voice and said, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed

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<sup>a</sup> Psalm 40:6–8

<sup>b</sup> A paraphrase of Psalm 40:6

<sup>c</sup> Psalm 40:7. Some witnesses to the text add *O God*.



# 24 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came, His  
 2 "I come from heav'n to tell the Lord's de - cree: A  
 3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head; "To  
 4 Of her Im - man - u - el, the Christ, was born In



wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame; "All  
 bless - ed vir - gin moth - er you shall be. Your  
 me be as it pleas - es God," she said. "My  
 Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn, And



hail," said he to meek and low - ly Mar - y, "Most  
 Son shall be Im - man - u - el, by seers fore - told, Most  
 soul shall praise and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly name." Most  
 Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say, "Most



high - ly fa - vored maid - en." Glo - ri - a!  
 high - ly fa - vored maid - en." Glo - ri - a!  
 high - ly fa - vored maid - en, Glo - ri - a!  
 high - ly fa - vored maid - en." Glo - ri - a!

Text: Basque carol, paraphrase Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, alt.

Tune: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE (10 10 12 10) Basque carol.

**SERMON** – Hebrews 10:5-10 – Born to Die – 讲道：基于 希伯来书  
10:5-10

## **APOSTLES' CREED** 使徒信经

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **OFFERING** 奉献

*Members of St. Andrew Lutheran Church use this time to respond to God's goodness with gifts of thanks and love. Our giving is guided by God's Word: "Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits from your entire harvest" (Proverbs 3:9); "Each one should give as he has determined in his heart, not reluctantly or under pressure, for God loves a cheerful giver. God is able to make all grace overflow to you, so that in all things, at all times, having all that you need, you will overflow in every good work" (2 Corinthians 9:7-8, EHV).*

*Feel free also to make use of online giving options: 1) via our website: go to <http://standrewchicago.org/>, then click on the "Giving" tab; or just click on [this link](#); or scan this QR code with your mobile device; or 2) via the Vanco Mobile app: use our invite code: GEVWA7, or search for our church name and address (links to the app & more info on p. 22).*



**HYMN** – *Savior of the Nations, Come* – CW93 #2 – printed on the following page – 圣诗 — 在下一页

2

# Savior of the Nations, Come



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Vir - gin's  
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the  
 3 Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child Of the  
 4 From the Fa - ther's throne he came And as -  
 5 Praise to God the Fa - ther sing, Praise to



Son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, O  
 Spir - it of our God Was the Word of  
 vir - gin un - de - filed, Though by all the  
 cend - ed to the same, Cap - tive lead - ing  
 God the Son, our King, Praise to God the



heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.  
 God made flesh, Wo - man's off - spring, pure and fresh.  
 world dis - owned, Yet to be in heav'n en - throned!  
 death and hell— High the song of tri - umph swell!  
 Spir - it be Ev - er and e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Ambrose, 340–97, abr.; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76, alt.  
 Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) *Geistliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH 教会公祷

**M:** Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent’s head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

**C:** **We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.**

**M:** As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

**C:** **Move us to take to heart the words of John: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.”**

M: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

**C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.**

M: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

**C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow, including the following special prayers:*

*for the home mission in Easley, South Carolina:*

Lord of the Church, you call us to shine the light of your gospel to those in need amid the darkness of this sin-filled world. We are grateful for the opportunity to have a new base to share your good news in the city of Easley, South Carolina. We ask your blessings on the beginning of this new mission, the ongoing efforts of the core group, the process of calling a pastor, and their planned ministry. Use them, gracious Lord, to reach the people of Easley and the surrounding communities, so that souls might be reached, lives might be transformed, and eternities might be changed. We boldly ask this for Jesus' sake. Amen.

*Additional special prayers may be included.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** 主祷文

**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.**

**PRAYER and BLESSING** 祷告及祝福

**M:** O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



**C: A - men. A - men. A - men.**

**CLOSING HYMN – Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel – CW93 #23 –**  
printed on the following page – 圣诗 — 在下一页

# 23 Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel



1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
 2 Oh, come, O Root of Jes - se, free Your own from Sa - tan's  
 3 Oh, come, O Day-spring from on high, And cheer us by your  
 4 Oh, come, O Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our



Is - ra - el That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
 tyr - an - ny; From depths of hell your peo - ple save,  
 draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,  
 heav'n - ly home. Make safe the way that leads on high,



Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 And bring them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
 And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
 And close the path to mis - er - y.



Em - man - u - el Shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 12th century, abr.; tr. John M. Neale, 1818-66, alt.  
 Tune: VENI, EMMANUEL (LM with Refrain) Plainsong melody, 15th century, alt.



**ST. ANDREW'S MINISTRY THIS WEEK**  
**December 22-29, 2024**

Today	9:30 AM	<b>Worship Service</b>
	11:00 AM	<b>Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible study</b>
Tuesday	7:00 PM	<b>Christmas Eve Worship Service</b>
Wednesday	9:30 AM	<b>Christmas Day Worship Service</b>
Sunday (12/29)	9:30 AM	<b>Worship Service</b>
	11:00 AM	<b>Sunday School for children</b>
	11:00 AM	<b>Ministry Council meeting</b>

*The paraments are blue for the season of Advent. Our Christian faith rests on the hope that Christ, who came in history taking on human flesh, will also return on the last day of time from that same blue sky into which he ascended long ago.*

**WELCOME, GUESTS!** – We are glad to have you worship with us today! Please sign the guest register in the center church entryway so that we have a record of your visit. Our pastor, Adam Gawel, would be happy to speak with you if you would like; please contact him (see page 2 for contact information). Please join us for worship or Bible study again!

**MEMORIAL** — In loving memory of Mrs. Anna J. Kluge who passed away December 17, 1981, by Frank and Sandy Thompson.

**THANK OFFERING** — In thanksgiving for the birth of their grandniece, Eleanor Lorraine Pelley on Nov. 15, 2024, by Frank & Sandy Thompson.

**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Please join us for Christmas Eve worship this Tuesday evening (Dec. 24) at 7:00pm, and Christmas Day worship this Wednesday morning (Dec. 25) at 9:30am. Next Sunday (Dec. 29) at 9:30am, we will continue our

Christmas celebration and ask for God's blessing as we close out the current year and look forward to the new year. (Note: the ministry council has decided not to hold a separate New Year's Eve service next week on Dec. 31, so we will incorporate the year-end emphasis in our regular Sunday worship service on Dec. 29 at 9:30am.) Please join us for these worship services, and invite your family and friends to join us too! All are welcome!

### **CHRISTMAS INVITATION POSTCARDS**

Please use the Christmas invitation postcards available on the Bible-study table to invite a friend, relative, coworker, or neighbor to join us for our Christmas worship services (and/or any other worship service or Bible study). Surveys have shown that many people who don't regularly attend church are open to receiving an invitation to attend a Christmas worship service with someone they know, so let's make good use of this opportunity to share the love of God through Jesus! Please take as many postcards as you'd like to distribute... we have hundreds! If you'd like to help distribute some postcards via door-hangers in our neighborhood, please take some and let Pastor Gawel know where you plan to distribute them; or contact Pastor Gawel to coordinate a time to distribute them together before Christmas. God bless your efforts to share the love of Jesus this Christmas season!

### **CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE**

There are still plenty of Christmas cookies that will be available for purchase again after the worship service in the Bible study area in the back of the worship space. Proceeds from the sale will be used to support the mission work of our church body, and/or to assist local families in need. Thanks to all who baked and helped pack the cookies!

**POINSETTIA MEMORIALS** – Please pick up a copy of the poinsettia memorials and thank-offerings folder on the podium in the center entryway. Thanks to all who donated to beautify our church for our Christmas celebrations!

### **CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

If you're interested in Christmas caroling in our neighborhood sometime this week, contact Pastor Gawel, and we'll discuss with all who are interested about a date and time.

## **ADVENT DEVOTIONS IN PRINT & ONLINE**

This year again, our church-body's college of ministry, Martin Luther College, in New Ulm, MN, has prepared a devotion booklet for Advent. We have plenty more hard copies (on the Bible study table and in the center entryway), and it is available to download or read online as well: <https://mlc-wels.edu/publications/seasonal-devotions/> . WELS Women's Ministry has also produced daily devotions for Advent that you can subscribe to receive by email here: <https://wels.net/wm-advent-devotions/> . *Forward in Christ* produced weekly devotions for Advent last year that can be read or listened to here: <https://forwardinchrist.net/advent-devotions-2023/> . May God bless your meditation on his Word this Advent!

## **OFFERING ENVELOPES & STATEMENTS**

If you made use of offering envelopes in 2024, there is a box of envelopes with your name on it for 2025 on the Bible study table in the back of the worship space (unless you picked it up already). If you would like to begin making use of offering envelopes in 2025, we have extras and can assign a box to you. Online giving is also available (see note on that below). ... And, if you made use of offering envelopes or online giving in 2024 and would like a statement of your offerings for tax deduction purposes, please sign up on the sheet on the podium in the center entryway.

## **GERMAN CHRISTMAS SERVICE – Christ the King, Palatine, today**

An all-German Christmas song service followed by a fellowship meal will be held at Christ the King Lutheran Church, 100 W. Michigan Ave., Palatine, IL 60067, today (Dec. 22), at 4:30pm. Meal to follow in the church fellowship hall. All are most welcome! For more information, call (847) 358-0230 or visit [www.byfaithalone.org](http://www.byfaithalone.org)

## **ADULT BIBLE STUDY: “Apologetics: Defending the Faith” – Sundays after worship**

*Apologetics: Defending the Faith* is a six-lesson Bible study to help us thoughtfully and lovingly engage in conversation with people who are skeptical of the Christian faith. We do this using God's gift of reason, rooted in gentleness and respect, all with the goal of love toward our neighbor. Each lesson includes video segments by Wisconsin Lutheran College professor Rev. Dr. Michael Berg, a study guide, and time for discussion. All are welcome! (If you missed a lesson or would like to

rewatch one of the videos, you can find them here:

<https://welscongregationalservices.net/apologetics-defending-the-faith/>

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL – 11:00 / after worship**

Sunday school is held after the worship service, either in the church basement or in the ministry center (next-door to church). Sunday school is open to children from age 3 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. (High-schoolers are welcome to join adult Bible study in church during the same time.) All are welcome!

### **“TABOO QUESTIONS” PODCAST/VIDEOS WITH PASTOR MIKE NOVOTNY**

Have you ever had questions you wanted to ask a pastor but felt silly or embarrassed to ask them? Questions about “taboo” topics (that is, topics that feel “off-limits”), like: sex, politics, porn, IVF, and mental illness? Well, there's a podcast for that! Hear how Pastor Mike Novotny from Time of Grace answers some real questions from people just like you, giving thoughtful, Bible-based answers that point people back to Jesus. New episodes published every week! Find even more questions and links to Apple and Spotify podcasts and YouTube videos at [www.timeofgrace.org/tabooquestions](http://www.timeofgrace.org/tabooquestions) . You can also order Pastor Mike's book, *Taboo: Topics Christians Should Be Talking About but Don't*, at <https://www.taboobook.org/> . Pastor Gawel is also available for confidential, Bible-based conversation and prayer at any time, about these or any other matters.

### **“made. known.” WELS WEBSITE ON IDENTITY, GENDER, & SEXUALITY**

Identity and human sexuality have become key spiritual concerns with numerous cultural pivots over time. Many people have questions about sexuality and gender in connection with their faith. This new WELS website, <https://madeknown.net/> , exists to walk with you in faith through identity, gender, and sexuality, so that together we can all see how wide and high and deep is the love of Christ (Ephesians 3:18). Formed at the request of the Conference of Presidents of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), *made. known.* is an effort of the WELS Committee on Identity, Gender, and Sexuality. The committee is made up of pastors, counselors, teachers, and other members of the WELS. Pastor Gawel is also available for confidential, Bible-based conversation and prayer at any time, about these or any other matters.

## **WORKPLACE GIVING FOR CHRISTIAN LIFE RESOURCES (CLR)**

Christian Life Resources (CLR), a WELS-affiliated ministry, is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization included in the United Way's Donor Choice program. That means you can participate in the United Way campaign (or other similar workplace giving programs) and direct your support to CLR. CLR touches countless lives as a ministry of love and compassion centered around the Gospel of Jesus Christ and promoting the sanctity of life. If you intend to participate in the United Way campaign, please consider supporting CLR's ministry through the Donor Choice program. For more information, go to [www.ChristianLifeResources.com](http://www.ChristianLifeResources.com)

## **PASTORAL COUNSELING; PRIVATE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

Pastor Gawel is available for confidential pastoral counseling and for private confession and absolution. Please feel free to make an appointment to see him. (You may call or text Pastor Gawel on his cell phone: 773-217-8132.)

## **YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASS – Mondays 6:30pm; other time possible**

Youth confirmation class is open to youth in grades 5 through 8, and to high-schoolers who have not yet been confirmed. If you have a potential student in mind, please speak with Pastor Gawel. All are welcome! The class is currently held on Monday evenings from 6:30-8:00, but we can adjust the class day or time or add a second class-time if needed, to accommodate the schedules of everyone who is interested.

## **BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS**

This class is open to anyone who is interested in learning more – or who would like a review – about what the Bible teaches and what Lutheran Christians believe. At the conclusion of the class, those who are in agreement in faith are invited to join our church, though this is not a requirement for taking the class. Pastor Gawel is able to teach the class in English and Mandarin Chinese, and we have class materials in Spanish available as well. If you or someone you know are interested in starting Bible information class, please contact Pastor Gawel.

## **SATURDAY EVENING CHINESE MINISTRY 周六晚上7:45中文圣经学习**

On Saturday evenings at 7:45pm in our ministry center (the house next-door to church), we have Chinese ministry, which includes elements of a worship service, Bible study, and prayer, all in Mandarin Chinese. New

friends are always welcome to join! Please invite any Chinese friends or neighbors. You may share with them the following invitation:  
每周六晚上 7:45, 圣安得烈基督教路德宗教会成人中文圣经学习。欢迎您参加! 我们在教会的事工中心(教堂旁边的房子)现场聚会; 地址是 3650 S. Honore St., Chicago。如果你了解更多, 请联系高乐仁牧师: 手机: 773-217-8132。欢迎!

### **WELS Family Devotions**

Get your family into God's Word during the week! WELS has developed short devotions for the entire family to use. Each devotion comes complete with a set of questions for different age groups, a prayer, and hymn verses that can be sung or spoken. Downloadable printable versions are also available. Find the family devotions at [www.wels.net/family-devotions](http://www.wels.net/family-devotions)

### **Sign up today for Marriage Moments**

Every marriage has its "moments." That's why marriages need moments of encouragement and refreshment. *Marriage Moments* are short, weekly videos highlighting one biblical marriage thought accompanied by a discussion question. Watch a video introduction and subscribe to receive the videos directly to your e-mail at [www.welscongregationalservices.net/marriagemoments](http://www.welscongregationalservices.net/marriagemoments)

### **ONLINE GIVING INFORMATION**

There are a number of ways to give to St. Andrew online: 1) via our website: go to <http://standrewchicago.org/>, then click on the "Giving" tab; or just click on [this link](#); or scan this QR code with your mobile device; or 2) via the Vanco Mobile app: use our church's invite code: GEVWA7, or search for our church name and address. You can download the Vanco Mobile app from the [Apple App Store](#) for iOS devices or the [Google Play Store](#) for Android devices. Please contact St. Andrew's elder for stewardship, Sam DeLaurentis [del Laurentis.sam@gmail.com](mailto:del Laurentis.sam@gmail.com) with any questions.



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Budgeted need each month	Total offerings received in November
\$14,517.92	\$8,230.84

Offerings received last week: \$1,558.72

(budgeted need each week: \$3,350.29)

Total offerings received so far this month: \$4,492.69

**Ministry Attendance Last Week**

**In-church worship attendance last Sunday: 36** (29 adults, 7 children)

**Sunday service live-stream peak concurrent viewing devices: 6**

**Last weekend's Saturday Chinese ministry: 7**

**Adult Bible study attendance: 10** (Sun.: 7; Mon.: 3)

**Sunday school: 9**

**Youth confirmation class: 4**

**God bless you this week as you share the joy of the gospel with others!**