

First Sunday of Advent

Hope Lutheran Church Worship Service

November 29, 2026 10:00 a.m.

Live streaming on Facebook at HopeLutheranChurchCbus

Zoom info:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87022443010?pwd=Vb20CctLVvbwCWNabXQoU9d1ebbgip.1

Meeting ID: 870 2244 3010 Passcode: 681468 Tel: +1-309-205-3325

WELCOME

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.
C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: A voice cries out in the wilderness, "Make straight the way of the Lord!" We are called to confess our sin and turn back toward God's love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Comforting God,

C: We are your people, but we have neglected to call on your name. We are your people, but we have not remembered your ways. We are your people, but we have forgotten your hold on us. We are your people, but now we fade like a leaf, and our sins, like the wind, take us away. Restore us as your people. Cleanse us from our sin, and clothe us in your righteousness. Amen.

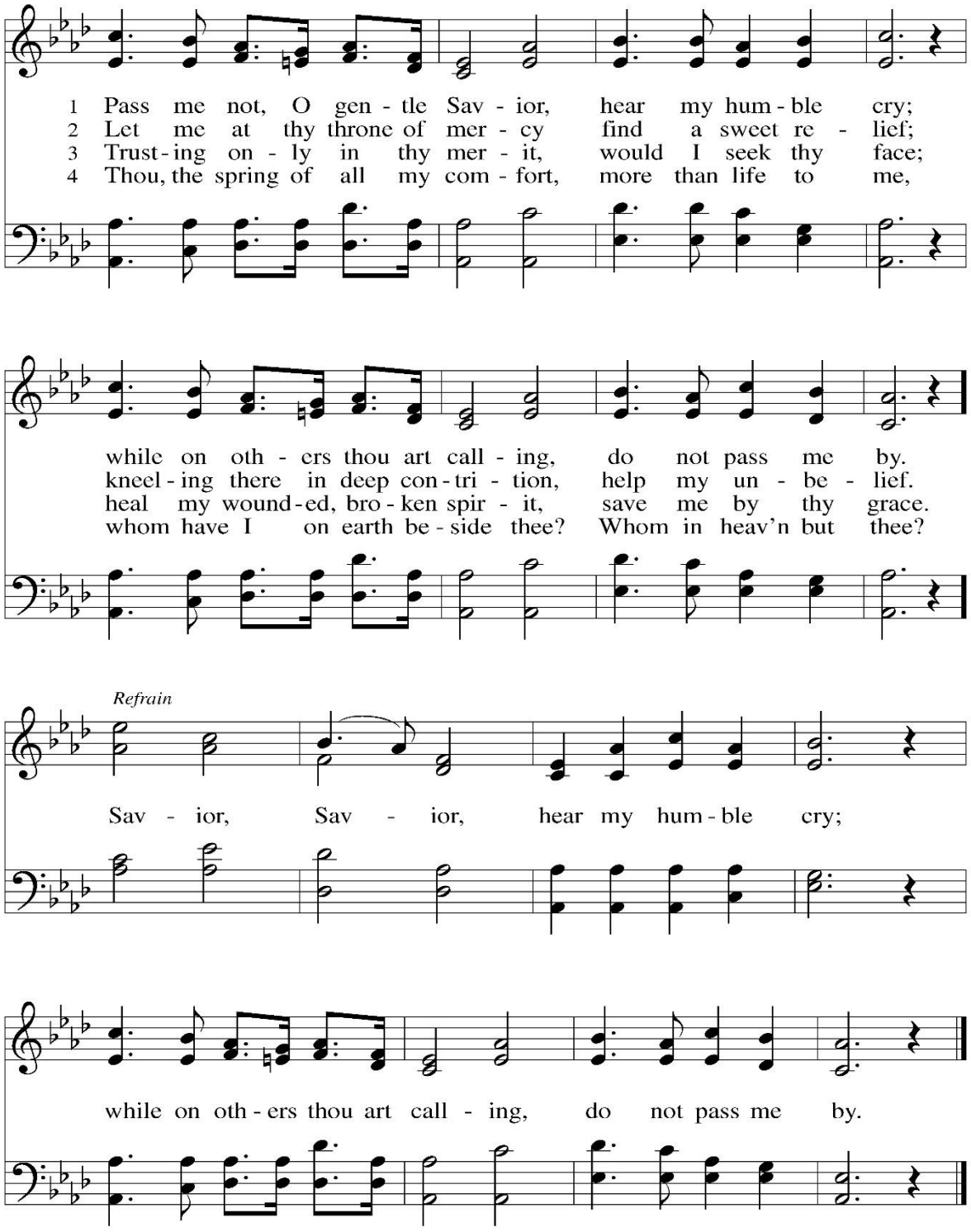
P: "Comfort, comfort my people!" says your God, who has clothed you with the garments of salvation and wrapped you in the robe of righteousness. God has given you a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. In the name of ☩ Christ, your sins are forgiven: Rejoice in the Lord! Rejoice in the Lord!

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior" *(TFF pg. 150)*

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Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: PASS ME NOT, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE *(TFF pgs. 26-27)*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
Amen

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah" *(ELW 240)*
(sing twice)

Light one candle to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel; God fulfills the promise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

C: 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.

FIRST READING ISAIAH 64:1-9

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.

R: Word of God, Word of life.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up on 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.

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 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 whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

R: Word of God, Word of life.
C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(TFF pg. 45)*

"Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
his name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us;
his name is called Emmanuel."

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark 13:24-37
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

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 the 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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

YOUNG PEOPLE SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY **"Somebody's Knockin' at Your Door"** *(TFF pg. 40)*
Go to This Far by Faith 40

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 THE CHURCH

A. God in your mercy,
C. Receive our prayer.

WE SHARE THE PEACE

A. The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C. And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

QUIET TIME

OFFERTORY **"Let the Vineyards"** *(TFF pg. 36)*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest of seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all, unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Holy Creator,

C: We are the clay and you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. Receive these gifts, shape them and our lives for your purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

SANCTUS **"Holy, Holy, Holy"** *(TFF pg. 38)*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of power and might.
Heaven and Earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Blessed Assurance" *(TFF pg. 118)*
"Let Us Break Bread Together" *(TFF pg. 123)*

BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

CANTICLE **"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"** *(TFF pg. 38)*

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name. Send us with your promises, O God and lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving, with shouts of thanksgiving, with shouts of thanksgiving, Alleluia.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

A: Providing God,

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

BENEDICTION

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen

SENDING SONG **"I Heard an Old, Old Story"** *(TFF pg. 97)*
Go to This Far by Faith 97

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Bring good news to the brokenhearted.

C: Thanks be to God.

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Worship Participants Today
Preaching and Presiding: Pastor Julianne Smeck
Ministers: All worshippers
Bassist: Dan Abell **Guitarist**: Kurt Keljo **Drummer:** Seth Daily **Pianist:** Robert Wade
Reader: Aubrey Fentress
Worship Assistant: Denise Rector
Usher: Frank and Doris Nelson

Worship Leaders Next Sunday
Reader: Kim Fedrick
Worship Assistant: Janet Ligon
Usher: Florine Castleman

PHONE NUMBERS
Pastor Smeck: (734)972-6126
Office: (614)258-6634

PRAYER REQUESTS

The family of Richard Terry (including Florine Castleman and Dwight and Tonya Steward), the family of Grace Winfrey, Alan Strahler, Beverly Chavis, Peter Elencovf, Shirley Huber, Gloria Jones, Michel Leonhart, Frank Nelson, Monica Price, Morris Scruggs, Francene Travis, Margaret Belcher, Karen and Travis Davis, Linda Davis-Stewart, Billy Gilyard, Judy Smeck, and Helen Watson.

DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Frank and Doris Nelson, celebrating 60 years together on December 2!

THE LORD IS THE POTTER AND WE ARE HIS CLAY: DECEMBER 6

WELCA is pleased to present the 2026 Advent Festival on Sunday, December 6. Based on the scripture from the First Sunday of Advent today, we invite participants to reflect how "we" as a congregation envision how the Lord would shape our ministry in the Driving Park community and within our congregation.

The event, taking place following worship service, will include a light lunch, activities, and Hope-style fellowship. Sign-up sheets to assist with the luncheon (sandwiches, chips, cookies, and drinks) are posted on the kitchen door and also at the back of the sanctuary.

BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES

Join us as we study 1 Samuel on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. (see the link and the phone number on the front page of this bulletin).

OFFERINGS – NOVEMBER 22, 2026

Received: $133,538
Anticipated: $127,763
Over/(Short): **$5,775**

Capital Improvement: $10,480
(Includes Mission Possible: $8,977)

LOOKING AHEAD TO DECEMBER

Dec. 2: Ruth Circle Holiday Luncheon, Fellowship Hall, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Dec. 8: Paraclete Post packing, 5:00 p.m. **Note the day and time change!**
Dec. 14: Church Council, Fellowship Hall, 6:30 p.m.