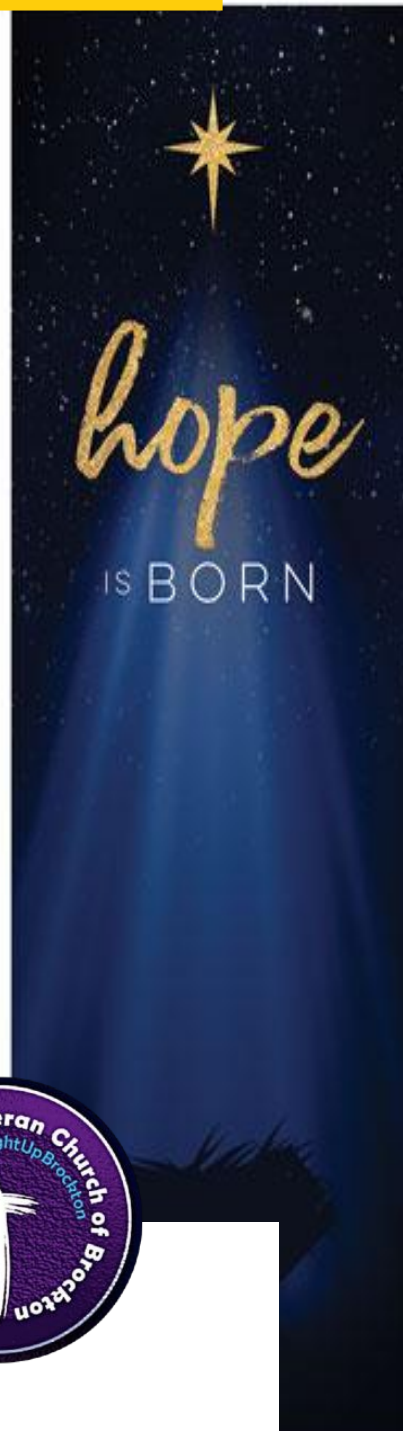
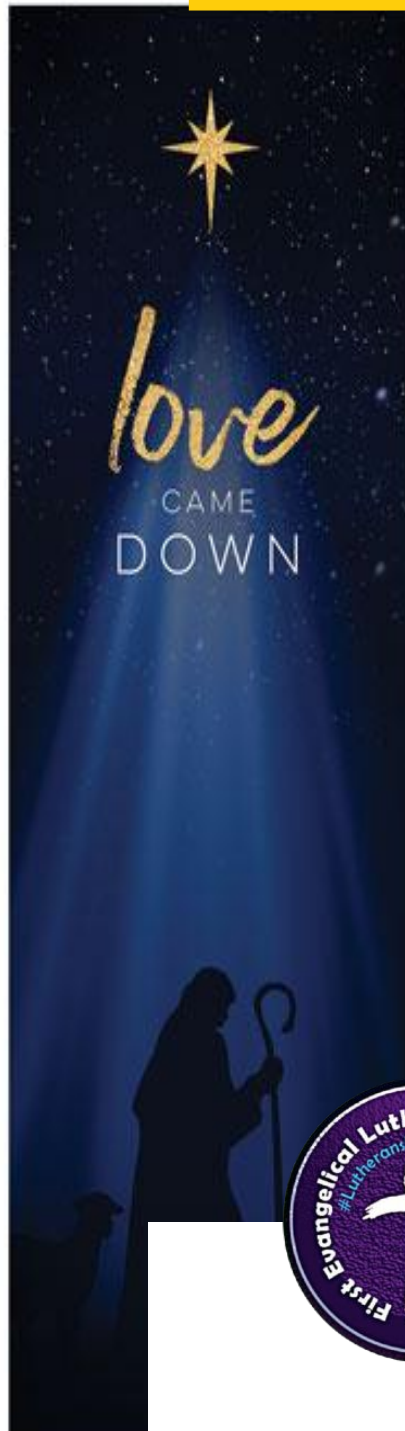


First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, December 4, 9 a.m.



ADVENT II



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Online & in Pews

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

ADVENT II

Welcome! We're glad you're here to join us in worship and fellowship today

Everyone here at First Evangelical Lutheran Church are celebrated and welcomed just as God made them, even if that's wiggly and giggly

Worship Leaders Today

The Reverend: Jeffrey C. Johnson
Assisting Minister: Peter Randall
Layreader: Anne Kelley

Altar Flowers

Our altar flowers this day are given to the Greater Glory of God and in loving memory of my Dad, Paul Sullivan, my grandparents Arthur & Ellen Hammerquist and Maurice & Dorothy Sullivan. by Linda Sullivan

Introduction to Today's Service

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

A Reconciling in Christ Church Where Everyone is Welcome

Ability | Age | Ethnicity | Gender Identity | Language
Life Circumstances | Marital Status | Race | Sexual Orientation

Online service archives available at Firstevlutheran.org

Welcome and Gathering

Prelude: Partita on *Freu dich sehr* Georg Bohm (1661-1733)

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The presiding minister may lead one of the following or another prayer of preparation.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

One of the following or another confession is prayed.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The service continues with gathering hymn.

Opening Hymn: Hark the Glad Sound

ELW 239



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

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.

Lighting of Advent Wreath

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

Candle is lit while verse is sung



- 1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
- 4 Light four can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

Blessing

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe.

You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of our coming is near.

Bless us as we light the second candle of this wreath.

Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when He comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for his is our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God forever.

Repeat Verse 2

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

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

Amen.

The assembly is seated

First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

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

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

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

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

4but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

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

6The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

7The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

8The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

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

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

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

Word of God, Word of Life:

Thanks be to God.



Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

- 1 Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king's son;
2 **that he may rule your | people righteously
and the | poor with justice;**
3 that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.
4 **Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor.**
5 May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,
from one generation | to another.
6 **Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**
7 In his time may the | righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no
more.
18 **Blessed are you, Lord God, the | God of Israel;
you alone do | wondrous deeds!**
19 And blessed be your glorious | name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A- | men. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

Matthew 3: 1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Glory to You, O Christ

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

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.'"

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

7But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8Bear fruit worthy of repentance. 9Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. 10Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

Please be seated.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon & Sermon

Pastor Jeff Johnson

Hymn of the Day: Now the Heavens Start to Whisper ACS 901

Please stand as you are able



1 Now the heav - ens start to whis - per, as the veil is grow - ing thin.
2 Heav - y clouds that block the moon - light now be - gin to drift a - way.
3 Christ, e - ter - nal Sun of jus - tice, Christ, the rose of wis - dom's seed,



Earth from slum - ber wakes to lis - ten to the stir - ring, faint with - in:
Dia - mond bril - liance through the dark - ness shines the hope of com - ing day.
come to bless with fire and fra - grance hours of yearn - ing, hurt, and need.



seed of prom - ise, deep - ly plant - ed, child to spring from Jes - se's stem!
Christ, the morn - ing star of splen - dor, gleams with - in a world grown dim.
In the lone - ly, in the strang - er, in the out - cast, hid from view;



Like the soil be - neath the frost - line, hearts grow soft to wel - come him.
Heav - en's em - ber fans to full - ness; hearts grow warm to wel - come him.
Child who comes to grace the man - ger, teach our hearts to wel - come you.



Apostles Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

United in Christ and guided by the Holy Spirit we pray for the Church, the Creation, and all in need. *A brief silence*

Each petition of the prayer ends with these words.

God in Your Mercy

Hear Our Prayer

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
The people may greet each other. The assembly is seated.

And also with you

Announcements

Offertory Choral Anthem:

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

Offering

please stand as you are able

Create in Me A Clean Heart

**Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God,
And Renew A Right Spirit Within Me,
Cast Me Not Away From Your Presence,
And Take Not Your Holy Spirit From Me.
Restore Unto Me the Joy of Your Salvation,
And Uphold Me With Your Free Spirit.**

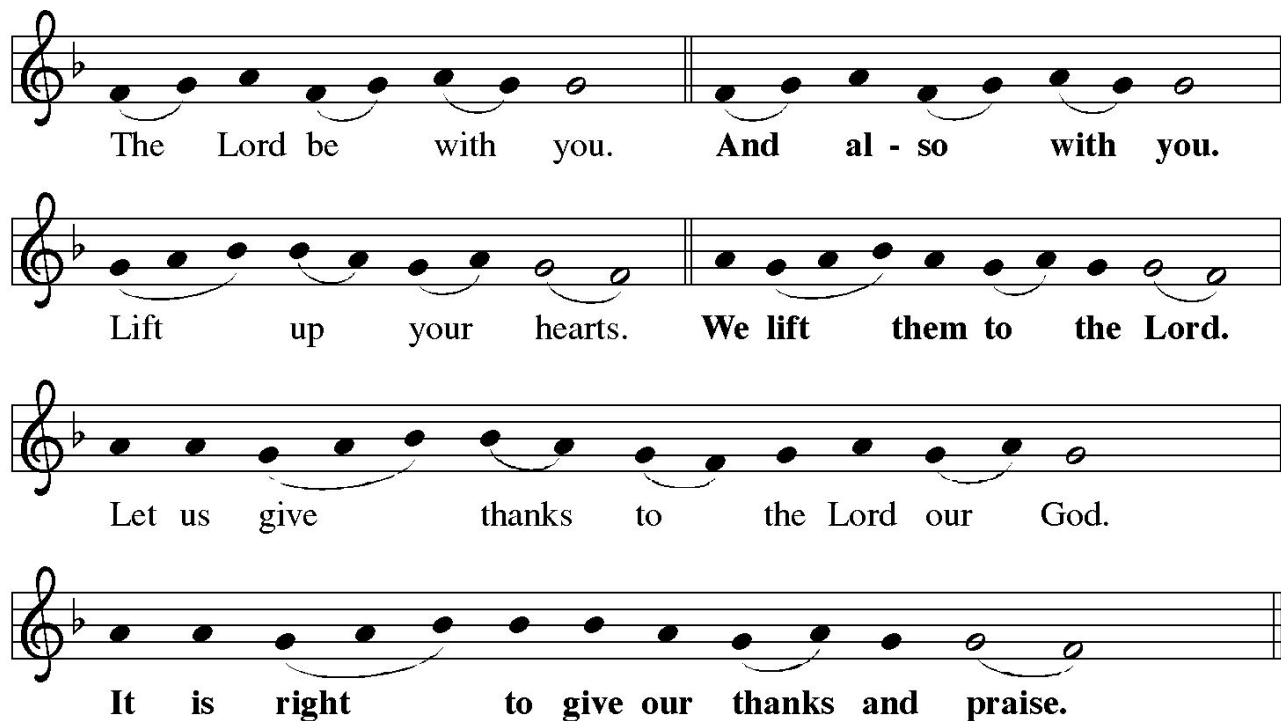
Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

AMEN.

Great Thanksgiving & Dialogue



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

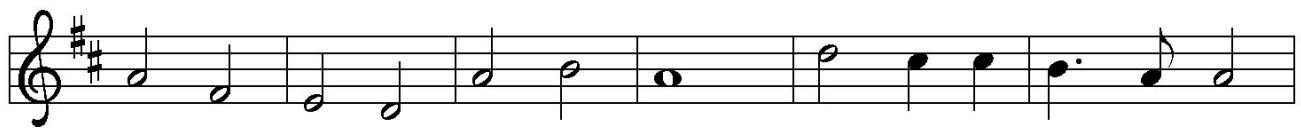
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

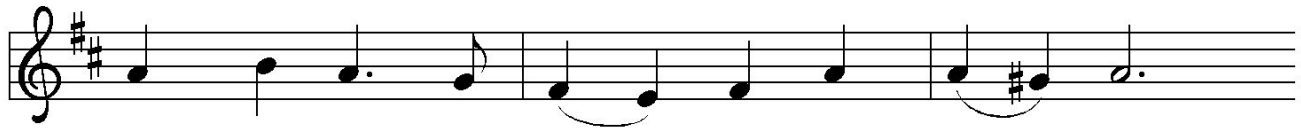
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when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



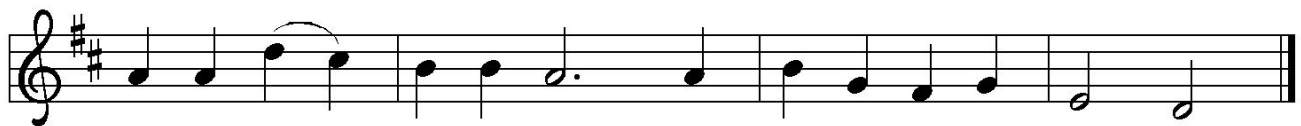
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

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

Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God, who has come to save you

Communion

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Communion Song

Lamb of God



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



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

New Communion Instructions

Please approach the altar in ONE LINE from the center aisle. Fill in from the LEFT TO THE RIGHT COMPLETELY as instructed by usher. When you leave altar use the side stairs closest to where you were kneeling and use side aisles to return to your seat. Walk in a single file when moving to and from the altar area. NOTE: Please receive Communion at the Blue "X's" on the Altar Rail – 10 PEOPLE AT A TIME. Thank you

Hymn After Communion:

Now, Lord ELW 201

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has
been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion
which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Prayer After Communion

Let us Pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sending and Blessing

God the eternal Word, who dwells with us in Jesus, and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen

Sending Hymn: On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

ELW 249



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.



Dismissal

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: Toccata on *Helmsley*

James Vivian (b. 1974)

Please pray for our members, friends, and families listed here.

For additions or corrections, please request by emailing Evelyn Reuben (ereuben@firstevlutheran.org) or by contacting the church office at 508-586-9021 with the information.

Those Homebound, ill, or in need

Jennie Christensen
Russell Perkins
Lois Ness
Rich Vogel
Gary Walters
Vivian Michels
Sue Jahnke
Alejandra Bennett
Chris Newman
Kelly Newman-Milliken
Paula Hilston
Paul McAfee
David Denholm

Diane Perry
John Totter
Richard MacNevin
Inez Johnson
Lillia Eliasson-Parrott
(medical professional)
Bob Cook
Roberta Smith
Bob Parsons
Keith Carlson
Jean Anderson
Gayle Morton
Delica & Michael Georges
Sonia Pina
The Grabau Family

An Extra Measure of God's Mercy

OUR MILITARY FRIENDS AND FAMILY
Zack Lauzon (son-in-law of Nina Sousa), Navy, Overseas
Kristin Perry (friend of Dana & Karen Christensen), Navy, Stateside
Sgt. Ryan R. Casey, USMC (grandson of Carole Casey), Stateside

Pvt. 1st Class Philippe Pinto (son of Sonia Pinto)
Airman 1st Class James Glavin (friend of Beth Christensen)

OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS
Katarina Sousa (daughter of Nina & Mario Sousa) Simmons College, Boston
Johnny Pearson (son of Brian & Lynn Pearson) University of Connecticut, Storrs & Bryant University,
Gia Kenney, Massasoit Community College,
Eva Belanger, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Members of our Extended Family

Friends and Family of FELC Parishioners
Dominick D'Agostino, (father of Jessica Burke)
Nancy Newman, Sheila O'Heir Coelho, (family & friend) of Chris and Donnie Newman,
Kemel Bennett, (husband) of Alejandra Bennett
Karen & Dana Christensen,
Connor, Bernadette & Kevin Long, Vivian Benson (aunt)
Brant & Patty Cruz, **Tony Cruz** (father)
Barbara DeCarli, **Mark Dolan** (grandson)
Barbara DeCarli & Michelle Dolan, **Jeanine Arena (friend)**
Michelle Dolan, **Judy Dolan** (mother-in-law)
Shirley Elefson, **Pat** (friend) Fitzgerald Family, **Hayden Thompson** (friend)
Brian Gagne, self, **James** (Son), **Bonnie** (Wife)
Hilstone, **Paul Haviland**
Carolyn Giordano,
Mackenzie Giordano (granddaughter)
Alice Johnson, **Diane Johnson Briggs (friend)**
Jean-Ellen Kenney,
Stephen P. Doherty (friend)

Lynne Kenyon, self, **Kathy Miliken, Richard Oicles, the MacNevin's & John Lynn Madigan, Debbie Johnson**, (sister-in-law), **Barbara Johnson**, (daughter-in-law)
Michael Madigan, (aunt).
Kris Manning, **Samantha Beal**, (niece)
Pam Mansbach, **Meg Shamon, Jerry Leavis** (friends)
Pat McAfee, **Stephen Maher** (son in law), **Chelsea McDonald** (friend)
Erycah Pearson, **Julia Gleim** (friend)
David & Diane Perry, **Gary Lewis**, (friend), **Jennifer Anderson** (Diane's cousin)
Nina Sousa, **Callum Stetson** (nephew), **Corey Collins, & Maureen Keefe**, (friends), **Jim Stetson** (brother-in-law)
Wilette & Lloyd Thompson, **Willa Tsang**, (Sister & Sister-in-Law), **Rick Venti & John Cribben** (friends)
Amy White, **Brodie Yeaw** (friend)
Sandra White, **Danny Furtado, Melissa White** (daughter-in-law), & **Emma White** (granddaughter), **Emerson W.** (friend)
Linda Whittemore, **Nettie Johnson** (aunt)



The Annual Poinsettia Fund

What is the fund?

This fund is used to purchase memorial plants and flowers used to beautify the chancel, pay for guest musicians for the Lessons & Carols service the Sunday after Christmas, and to purchase altar and worship supplies.

How to Participate?

The memorial list is published during Christmas week in the bulletins for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Lessons & Carols Sunday, and Online.

To take advantage of this opportunity, please submit your information using this order form. Payment can be made online, through the mail, In person at the church office, or over the phone.

Payment Methods

- Online: [Firstevlutheran.org/donate](https://firstevlutheran.org/donate)
- Mail: Nina Sousa
First evangelical Lutheran Church
900 Main Street
Brockton, MA 02301
- Phone: 508-586-9021 | 724-259-9425

Deadline

All payments for this fund need to be received on or before 12/19/2022

Your Information

First Name Last Name

Street Address

Apartment, Suite, etc.

City State Zip

Phone

Email Address

Your Donation

Tax Deductible Gift Offering Box #

Donation Method

- Online*
- Mail a Check
- At the Church
- By Phone

* Online Submissions need to email memorial details to Nina at nsousa@firstevlutheran.org

Memorial

Names of those you would like remembered

How would you like your name listed

FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

INVITES YOU TO A

Christmas

DECORATING

&
PIZZA PARTY

DEC. 9 | 6:00PM

900 MAIN STREET
BROCKTON, MA 02301

Calendar & Events

This Sunday

Holy Eucharist with Preaching
Thanksgiving Fellowship Meal following the service.

Monday

Office Closed
Finance Committee Meeting 5 p.m. in the parlor

Tuesday

The Sunshine Committee will delivering poinsettias on December 6, 2022.

Wednesday

Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.

Thursday

Choir Rehearsal at 7:00 p.m.

Friday

Advent Soup for the Soul, Pastor Jeff Johnson, organ
Christian Holleck, cello
Light lunch to follow 12:00 p.m.
Church Christmas Decorating & Pizza Party 6 p.m.
All Welcome to Join us!!

Saturday

Giving Tree Shopping Date Meet at 9:30 a.m. at Target in Easton if you would like to help!
Jazz in the Sanctuary 5:00 p.m.-- Meet the Artists
6 p.m. --Concert \$15/Ticket



Staff

The Reverend Jeffrey C Johnson
jjohnson@firstevlutheran.org

Nina Sousa | Assistant to the Pastor
nsousa@firstevlutheran.org

Evelyn Reuben | Church Secretary
ereuben@firstevlutheran.org

Dr. Steven Young | Minister of Music/cantor
s1young@bridgew.edu

Dawn Caffelle
Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator

Brian D. Gagne | Sexton

Office Hours

Mon: Closed
Tue-Thur: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Fri: 9 a.m. - Noon
Schedule for other availability

900 Main Street
Brockton, MA 02301

Office: 508-586-9021
Pastor: 508-631-2246
Fax: 508-583-5501

Firstevlutheran.org
[Facebook.com/FELCBrockton](https://www.facebook.com/FELCBrockton)



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.