

**Our Savior Ev. Lutheran Church & School
Grafton, WI
December 14, 2025**

Third Sunday in Advent

Today's Focus: Our Advent prayer is, "Come Lord Jesus." Jesus' coming brings us joy as we consider his faithfulness.

Stewardship from God's Word: Isaiah 35:1-10

Distractions while driving a vehicle can be dangerous, even fatal. The Lord reminds us that, as his redeemed people, we're traveling on the highway of glory to eternal life with him. Especially at this time of year, there are plenty of deadly distractions. Keep your focus on Christ, your coming King and Savior!

Welcome!

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding:

Jonathan Fischer

Organist:

Bob Klug

Pastor: Jonathan Fischer

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Principal: Philip Krueger

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Church Office: Lisa Skogstad

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School Office: Jill Klug

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The 10:30 service is livestreamed for our members at home.



Our Savior
LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

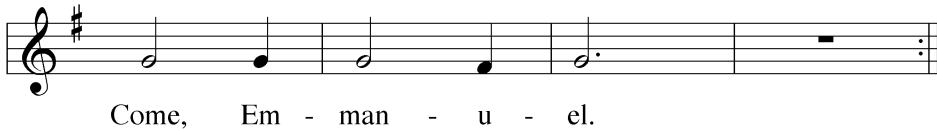
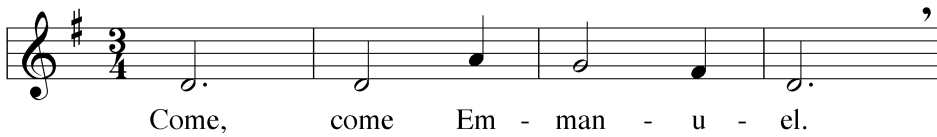
1332 Arrowhead Rd, Grafton, WI

OurSaviorGrafton.org

Church 262-377-6363

School 262-377-7780

The cantor will sing the refrain once
The congregation will then join and continuously sing:



During the singing of the refrain the cantor sings:

See the glory of God and ...

Oh be strong, fear not and ...

For our God comes to save us, so ...

Oh be patient, the Lord will ...

Bring good news to the poor and ...

For the way is prepared, so ...

Invocation

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

And also with you.

Confession

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

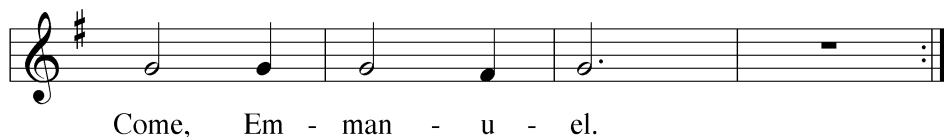
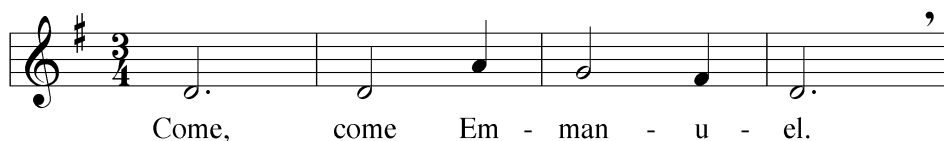
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

All sing the refrain while the cantor sings the verses



Lord have mercy upon us and come.

Christ, have mercy upon us and come.

Lord, have mercy upon us and come.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Hear our prayers, Lord Jesus Christ, and come with the good news of your mighty deliverance. Drive the darkness from our hearts, and fill us with your light; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Isaiah 35:1-10

¹The desert and the parched land will be glad;
the wilderness will rejoice and blossom.
Like the crocus, ²it will burst into bloom;
it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy.
The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;
they will see the glory of the LORD,
the splendor of our God.

³Strengthen the feeble hands,
steady the knees that give way;
⁴say to those with fearful hearts,
“Be strong, do not fear;
your God will come,
he will come with vengeance;
with divine retribution
he will come to save you.”

⁵Then will the eyes of the blind be opened
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

⁶Then will the lame leap like a deer,
and the mute tongue shout for joy.
Water will gush forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert.

⁷The burning sand will become a pool,
the thirsty ground bubbling springs.
In the haunts where jackals once lay,
grass and reeds and papyrus will grow.

⁸And a highway will be there;
it will be called the Way of Holiness;
it will be for those who walk on that Way.
The unclean will not journey on it;
wicked fools will not go about on it.

⁹No lion will be there,
nor any ravenous beast;
they will not be found there.
But only the redeemed will walk there,
¹⁰and those the LORD has rescued will return.

They will enter Zion with singing;
everlasting joy will crown their heads.
Gladness and joy will overtake them,
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

146A I Will Praise the Lord All My Life

Psalm 146A

Second Reading

James 5:7–11

⁷Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. ⁸You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. ⁹Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

¹⁰Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

This morning, three candles on the Advent wreath are lit. The third candle, the pink one, is called the Shepherd candle, or the Joy candle. This candle reminds us of the joy the shepherds had and we have as we hear the news of a Savior who has come to save his people from their sin.

We light three Advent candles, remembering Jesus, the Light of the world. He came to defeat the prince of darkness.

We remember Jesus, who came in answer to his people's prayers. John proclaimed him the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

We hear his call to see the light.

We light three Advent candles as a sign of our trust and confidence.

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

Three Advent candles are lit.

Stand

Gospel

Matthew 11:2–11

²When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples ³to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?”

⁴Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. ⁶Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”

⁷As John’s disciples were leaving, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? ⁸If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear fine clothes are in kings’ palaces. ⁹Then what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written:

“ ‘I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Tidings Carol

Patrick M. Liebergen

Anthem sung by the choir.

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

CW 324

Sermon

Matthew 11:2–11

Space is provided for you to take notes during the sermon.

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**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.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Our Savior's ministries are supported by the joyful and generous gifts of her members. If you are not a member of Our Savior, please do not feel obligated to give an offering. It is our privilege and pleasure to serve you with God's Word today. You may make your gift in the following ways:

Give In person: The offering is collected during each service.

Give with the App: Download the *Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement* app, search near me and select "Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran".

Give Online Oursaviorgraffton.org/give.



During the offering, please sign the friendship register located in each pew.

Prepare the Royal Highway

CW 302

Prayer

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your Holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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. 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.

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

CW 318

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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Christmas Worship Opportunities

Christmas at Our Savior

A Children's Christmas Service

December 14 @ 4:00 pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

December 24 @ 6:00 and 8:00

Christmas Festival Service

December 25 @ 9:30 am