

SUNDAY- NOVEMBER 30TH, 2025 -9:00 AM

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love
with all people.*

WELCOMING WORD

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. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering.

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.



WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity.

You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable.

In Christ's love, we welcome you.

MINISTERS
INTERIM PASTOR

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
KAREN HOFSTAD



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, November 30, 2025 | First Sunday of Advent | 9:00 AM

(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C = Congregation**)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN # 239 *Hark, the Glad Sound*

+CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

C: Amen.

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

L: Long-expected God,

C: We confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised.

Amen.

L: God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

C: Amen.

GREETING

+KYRIE pg. 147

+HYMN OF PRAISE pg. 148 *"Glory to God in the Highest..."*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SONGS *Messiah*
I Believe in Jesus

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Romans 13:11-14

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

+ACCLAMATION pg. 151

(sing) Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

+L: The Gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 24.

+C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶"About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you

also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

+L: The Gospel of the Lord.

+C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM *Arise, Your Light Has Come*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Pastor Karen Hofstad

MESSAGE Pastor Karen Hofstad

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN #248 *People, Look East*

+APOSTLES’ CREED pg. 105

+THE PRAYERS (pg. 152)

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING PRAISE TEAM *Mention of Your Name*

+OFFERTORY #186 *“Create in me....”*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

+THE LORD’S PRAYER (pg. 154) (right hand column)

COMMUNITY WORD

+BLESSING

L: May God who comes among us, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.

C: Amen.

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN #257 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*
(vs. 1, 2, 7)

+DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God.

**“I am God’s child, deserving of love and respect,
and God will use me to change the world.”**

*If you would like more information about ELC of Mount Horeb
please fill out the visitor cards in the pew pads
which are passed during offering.*

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 2025

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the daily readings to deepen your understanding:

Monday, Psalm 124, Thanksgiving for Deliverance

Tuesday, Genesis 9:1-17, The Covenant with Noah

Wednesday, John 1:35-42, The First Disciples

Thursday, Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19, A Prayer for the King

Friday, Isaiah 30:19-26, God's Promise to Zion

Saturday, Isaiah 40:1-11, God's People are Comforted

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

“Therefore, you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.” -- Luke 24:34

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

- Isaiah promises the nations shall not learn war any more. How can you live this out in your love for neighbor and God? (Isa 2:4)
- Paul says, “Make no provision for the flesh.” What does this mean for working, shopping for clothes, and cooking meals? (Rom 13:14)
- Matthew says, “The Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.” How is this bad news? Good news? (Matt 24:44)

PRAY: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESS: 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.