



**NORTHDAL E LUTHERAN CHURCH
TAMPA, FL
DECEMBER 4, 2016**

Northdale Lutheran Church and School

15709 MAPLEDALE BLVD

TAMPA, FL 33624

WWW.NORTHDALELUTHERAN.ORG

813-961-9195

"WE GROW IN GOD'S WORD SO THAT WE CAN GO WITH GOD'S WORD"

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Welcome to Northdale Lutheran! We are so glad you are joining us to proclaim what God has done and to sing his praises. Here the Lord also comes to us and strengthens us with his mighty Word. Take a moment to meet and greet those around you! Also:

- ❖ Restrooms are in the entrance and through the nursery hallway.
- ❖ Snacks and drinks are available for everyone after the second service.
- ❖ Help us be more welcoming by signing the guest registers in each row.

Please Note: To help keep the sanctuary as a quiet place of worship and meditation and for your convenience:

- ❖ A Quiet Room is available for the whole service for young children in the back of the sanctuary. Please make use of this room if your child becomes loud in worship.
- ❖ In the entryway, Busy Bags are provided for all the children during worship. There are coloring books, toys and snacks provided in each of the bags.



WORSHIP THEME

Heed the call of God's messengers and be prepared to meet the Lord when he comes.

Notes for worship:

- ❖ All hymns from *Christian Worship (CW)* are in the red hymnals in front of you unless printed in this service folder.
- ❖ All hymns from *Christian Worship Supplement (CWS)* are in the blue hymn books on the end of each of the pews.
- ❖ Everything else will be printed in the worship folder.

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN, CW #16, "ON JORDAN'S BANK THE BAPTIST'S CRY"

PLEASE STAND

INVOCATION

(The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.)

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**

CONFESSION OF SINS:

M During the season of Advent, we remember how a lowly baby, born in Bethlehem, came to pay for the sins of the entire world. We also rejoice that he is coming again in his power and glory on the last day.

C: **With all the prophets and the Apostles we say, "Come, Emmanuel!"**

M: Christ, the Light of this world has come once. We prepare for his coming again as we confess our sins.

O Advent King, come free us from the burden of our sins.

C: Reign in our hearts so that sin is not our master.

M: O Word made flesh, give to us the robe of your righteousness.

C: Cleanse us of our sin and cover us with your perfection.

M: O righteous judge, do not cast us away.

C: Be merciful and come to us with your grace, mercy and peace.

M: When the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of Sons. God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in him and through him to reconcile all things, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. In Jesus, your sins are forgiven and you are reconciled with God. Go now in the peace of Christ.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

C: Sing CW #21, vs. 1 & 3

**Hosanna to the coming Lord!
Hosanna to the incarnate Word!
To Christ, Creator, Savior, King
Let earth, let heav'n hosanna sing.**

**O Advent King, our sins forgive;
Come in our lives and hearts to live,
And let our humble souls become
A temple worthy of your name.**



PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED

THE WORD OF GOD*



THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 40:1-11

The message of God's messengers has not changed. Through their message, God prepares you for his coming.

Comfort, comfort my people,
says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and proclaim to her
that her hard service has been completed,
that her sin has been paid for,
that she has received from the Lord's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice of one calling:
"In the wilderness prepare

the way for the Lord;
make straight in the desert
a highway for our God.
4Every valley shall be raised up,
every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become level,
the rugged places a plain.
5And the glory of the Lord will be revealed,
and all people will see it together.
For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

6A voice says, “Cry out.”
And I said, “What shall I cry?”

“All people are like grass,
and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field.

7The grass withers and the flowers fall,
because the breath of the Lord blows on them.
Surely the people are grass.

8The grass withers and the flowers fall,
but the word of our God endures forever.”

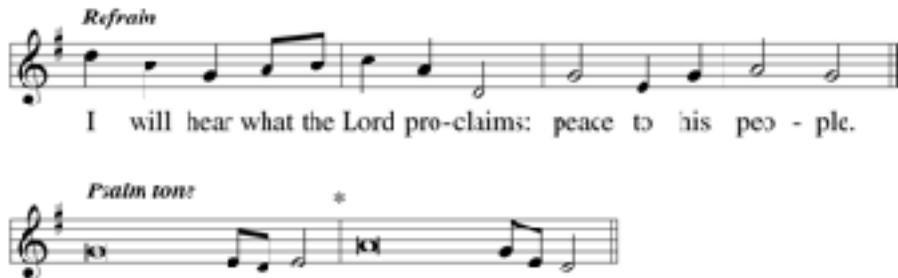
9You who bring good news to Zion,
go up on a high mountain.
You who bring good news to Jerusalem,
lift up your voice with a shout,
lift it up, do not be afraid;
say to the towns of Judah,
“Here is your God!”

10See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power,
and he rules with a mighty arm.
See, his reward is with him,
and his recompense accompanies him.

11He tends his flock like a shepherd:
He gathers the lambs in his arms
and carries them close to his heart;
he gently leads those that have young.

PSALM OF THE DAY, PSALM 85

Listen to what God says through his messengers!



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

PLEASE STAND

THE GOSPEL LESSON: MARK 1:1-8

The message of God's messengers is one of forgiveness that washes away guilt and sin through the Water and the Word so that those who receive it will be fit to meet their King.

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God,
²as it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way”—

³“a voice of one calling in the wilderness,

‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’ ”

⁴And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

BE SEATED

SERMON HYMN, CWS #702, "PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY"

SERMON TEXT: 2 PETER 3:18-24

"But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

¹¹Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹²as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

¹⁴So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

SERMON THEME:

Jesus is Coming. Be Ready!



THANKSGIVING

PLEASE STAND

THE NICENE CREED

(Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

BE SEATED

OFFERING

Please sign the Friendship Register in each of the pews and pass it to those sitting next to you.

Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." (Luke 12:34) The members of Northdale Lutheran joyfully give our offerings to the LORD in response to His Word and in thanks for the many ways he has blessed us. We have joined together as a congregation to use these offerings to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world through the work of our Synod. Your gifts moved by the Holy Spirit out love for God and his blessings are welcome.

PLEASE STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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 forever. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Northdale Lutheran practices Close Communion. We ask that only members of Northdale Lutheran or another WELS/ELS congregation partake of the sacrament today. If you have questions about becoming a member to partake of the sacrament, please speak to pastor after worship.



PREFACE

(The words of the Preface mark the beginning of the Sacrament section of the service and lift the worshipers' hearts in praise. The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy.)

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. Through his holy prophets, he promised a King to bring light to those living in darkness and in the shadow of death. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.



I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -



va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.



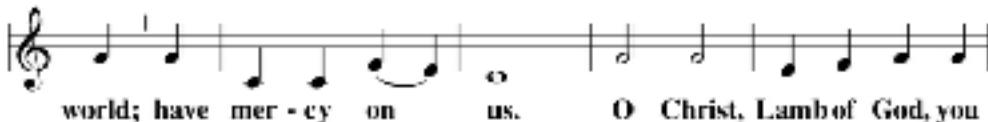
The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



DISTRIBUTION

(The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith.)

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

CW #11, "COMFORT, COMFORT ALL MY PEOPLE"

CW #13, "THERE'S A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS CRYING"

PLEASE STAND

SONG OF THANKSGIVING



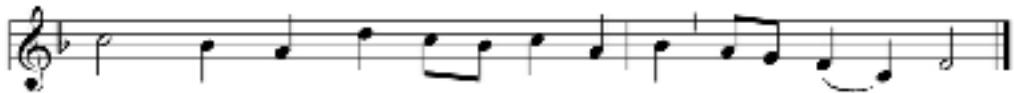
C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

FINAL PRAYER

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

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 upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace



BE SEATED

Copies of today's sermon and last week's sermon can be found on the table in the narthex on the way out of church. You can also find them on our website at www.northdalelutheran.org. In addition, all of our services are live streamed & can be viewed through the live streaming link located on our church website. We also e-mail out daily devotions. If you would like to receive these daily devotions, please e-mail Pastor Vann at pastorvann@tampabay.rr.com and let him know. You can also become a friend on Facebook.



Announcements:

Bible Class: Today we continue our study of Luke's account of Jesus' life in his Gospel in our Sunday Morning Bible Class. We encourage everyone to join us for this. Join us at 9:25 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Thursday Night Bible Study: We continue our study of the book of Exodus in our Thursday Bible Study. We'd love to have you join us for this study. If you are interested in purchasing a People's Bible of Exodus to aid you in your study, please let me know. We meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays. Please consider joining us for this.

Order Scrip Now for Christmas: Using Scrip is a great way for you to purchase gift cards as Christmas gifts for loved ones who live so far away. You can get all your shopping done in one place and get the exact cards that you need. If you want to do that through Jessie Thiesfeldt, the order is going in December 5, so you will want to take care of that quickly. If you want to order online, just go to www.shopwithscrip.com and use our enrollment code which is 2BD4FDAL1328L. If you have any questions about this, please contact Jessie Thiesfeldt at (786) 423-1686.

Stewardship Appeal Team: We are thankful for the many people who have agreed to serve on the Stewardship Appeal team and lead our congregation as we seek to expand the ministry of our school. The next meeting for the Appeal team is Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in helping, you can contact Pastor Vann or any one of the Ministry Leadership Team members. We are excited about the opportunity and thankful for the help that we will receive.

Thanksgiving Food Drive: Our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive for Metropolitan Ministries starts today! God has blessed each of us tremendously. This is one opportunity we have to give thanks to him for all of his good news by giving to others who are less fortunate for us. We will begin collecting food the first Sunday in November and will continue into the first week of December. Please bring non-perishable food items and place them on the tables provided either in the church or the school building. Please plan on participating in this giving opportunity.

The Northdale Lutheran ONLINE church directory is now up and available for our members to access! Visit www.northdalelutheran.org and select "Resources" then log in to the Member Directory (if you don't have a login, you can create an account.) If you did not take advantage of our church directory family photo sessions at the end of last year, but would like a family photo included in the directory, please email your family photo to our office volunteer, **Kati Hatfield, at beautybykati@gmail.com** along with any updates (or if any information is missing) - such as address, phone, name, or birthdate - changes to your household records. Thank you to everyone for their contributions to the directory!

Annual Christmas Dinner/White Elephant Gift Auction: Our annual Christmas Dinner/White Elephant gift auction will be held on Sunday, December 11 after our second service. This is an annual gathering that is a blast. We ask each person to bring a gift to auction off and all of the proceeds help to fund our Women of Northdale who take care of the paraments and the decorations in our church. There will be a potluck dinner served that day. We will have a sign up sheet in the entryway if you are planning to attend, just so we know we have a variety of foods available. Set your calendars and plan to attend this great fun activity.

Mid-Week Advent Worship: This year, we will be holding one mid-week advent service. This special mid-week service will be on Wednesday, December 7th. We will offer the service at both 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. We are encouraging all of our members to plan for this special service. Our mid-week Advent service will be a service of lessons and carols. This is a hymn sing service where we sing hymns and carols followed by readings. It will be a night of reflection and meditation as we ponder the coming of our King and reflect on Jesus Christ as the Light of the World.

Christmas Worship Schedule: It is time to once again be thinking about our Christmas worship of our Lord and King. What joyous days of celebration these are for God's people as we ponder God's love in the miracle of Jesus becoming flesh. We invite you and any guests you might want to invite and/or bring to join us for each of these special opportunities to gather before God and worship him for his goodness in sending Jesus to be our Savior. Our Christmas Worship is as follows:

Christmas Eve Worship: Saturday, December 24

5:00 p.m. Children's Service

7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

Christmas Day Festival Service: Sunday, December 25 10:00 a.m.

New Year's Day: Sunday, January 1 10:00 a.m.

(Note that we will follow the Holiday schedule for both Sundays. There will be no Bible Class or Sunday School on Christmas Day or New Year's Day.)

Called Staff

Pastor Charlie Vannieuwenhoven: 813-850-7520

Principal Mark Thiesfeldt: 941-209-0010

Aimee Hardman: 813-464-5113

Amy Vannieuwenhoven: 813-850-7520

Christopher Haring: 517-202-7283

Lynn Marggraf: 262-613-3020

This Week:

Monday (12/5): 6:30pm - School Ministry Team Meeting

Tuesday (12/6): 5:15-6:15pm - Catechism Class

Wednesday (12/7): 2:00 & 7:00pm - Midweek Advent Worship

Thursday (12/8): 6:30pm - Thursday Bible Study

Sunday (12/11): 8:00 & 10:30am - Worship

9:15am – Teen Bible Study and Sunday School for Children

9:25am – Adult Bible Study

11:30am - Christmas Dinner/White Elephant Gift Auction

Serving Today

Music: Mark Thiesfeldt

Ushers: 8:00—Bill Montgomery
10:30 —Tom/Ona Scherer

Acolyte: 8:00—Mary Sawyer
10:30—Rebecca Radcliff

Hostess: Lourdes Jacobs

Elder: Chris Teeples

Serving Next Week

Music: Lynn Marggraf

Ushers: 8:00—Mike Laurin
10:30 — Chris Haring/Tim Madden

Acolyte: 8:00—Julia Busch
10:30—Elyse Vannieuwenhoven

Hostess: Lourdes Jacobs

Elder: Chris Teeples

Attendance Last Week

8:00 a.m.—32

10:30 a.m.—77

Total: 109

Yearly Average: 111

% of Members in Worship: 50%

Financial Information

Contributions for 11/23: \$643.00

Contributions for 11/27: \$2,703.25

Contributions budgeted: \$4,884.61

Contributions budgeted to date: \$107,461.42

Contributions received to date: \$80,143.62

Ahead or (Short) through 11/27/16: (\$27,317.80)

2016-2017 Year to Date Actuals Through October 31

Total Income (Church and School): \$172,0267.18

Total Expenses (Church and School): \$182,236.31

Ahead of (Short) Year to Date: (\$10,210.13)