



  
**Northdale**  
*Lutheran*  
CHURCH & SCHOOL

**NORTHDALÉ LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**TAMPA, FL**  
**DECEMBER 18, 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 FOURTH 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

We make our final preparations for Christmas as we ready our hearts to receive our Savior.

### 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 #23, "OH COME, O COME EMMANUEL"**

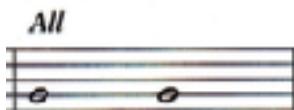
*PLEASE STAND*

## ADVENT GATHERING RITE

### INVOCATION

*(Sung)*

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



A - men.

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

*All*



And al - so with you.

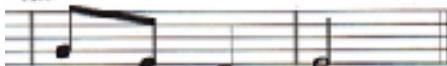
### CONFESSION OF SINS:

M: My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves to celebrate the wonders of our Savior's coming, let us call to mind our sins and rejoice in God's forgiveness.

*(SUNG—THE CONGREGATION WILL ECHO THE PASTOR'S "LORD, HAVE MERCY")*

M You came to reconcile us to one another and to the Father: Lord, have mercy.

*All*



Lord, have mer - cy.

M: You heal the wounds of sin and division: Christ, have mercy.

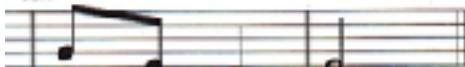
*All*



Christ, have mer - cy.

M: You intercede for us with your Father: Lord, have mercy.

*All*



Lord, have mer - cy.

M: (Spoken) May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

C: (Spoken) Amen.

All: (Sung) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

(Sung)

M: Let us pray.

All powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at his coming and call us to his side in the kingdom of heaven, where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.



BE SEATED



# THE WORD OF GOD



## THE FIRST LESSON: 2 SAMUEL 7:8-16

*The Savior whom God promised here was about to come to fulfillment in the Gospel lesson for today. We receive the Savior that God promised and delivered with open and welcome hearts.*

Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. <sup>9</sup>I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. <sup>10</sup>And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning <sup>11</sup>and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

“ ‘The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: <sup>12</sup>When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. <sup>13</sup>He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. <sup>14</sup>I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. <sup>15</sup>But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. <sup>16</sup>Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.’ ”

## PSALM OF THE DAY, *PSALM 89*

*There is no one like the Lord who brings salvation to us through his Son.*

*Refrain*

At the works of your hands, O Lord, I  
lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.

*Psalm tone*

\*

### **Refrain**

I will sing of the LORD'S great love forever;\*  
I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.

I will declare that your love stands firm forever,\*  
that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.

The heavens praise your wonders, O LORD,\*  
your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.

### **Refrain**

O LORD God Almighty, who is like you?\*

You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness surrounds you.

Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,\*  
who walk in the light of your presence, O LORD.

They rejoice in your name all day long;\*  
they exult in your righteousness.

**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***

## **THE SECOND LESSON: ROMANS 16:25-27**

*We wait in anticipation for our Savior to be revealed again at Christmas. May we take the time to ponder our joy in gladness that our Savior would descend into the manger of our hearts.*

Now to him who is able to establish you in accordance with my gospel, the message I proclaim about Jesus Christ, in keeping with the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, <sup>26</sup>but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all the Gentiles might come to the obedience that comes from faith— <sup>27</sup>to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

## **THE VERSE OF THE DAY**

M: Alleluia. The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel. Alleluia

*PLEASE STAND*

## **THE GOSPEL LESSON: LUKE 1:26-38**

*This lesson will serve as our Sermon Text.*

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

<sup>29</sup>Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord

God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

<sup>34</sup>"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup>The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup>For no word from God will ever fail."

<sup>38</sup>"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

*BE SEATED*

**SERMON HYMN, CW #2, "SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME"**

**SERMON TEXT: LUKE 1:26-38**

**SERMON THEME:**

## ***The Ordinary Becomes Extraordinary***



# 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

## OFFERING HYMN, CW #488, (vs. 1, 4)



1 Sav - ior, thy dy - ing love Thou gav - est me,  
2 O'er the blest mer - cy seat, Plead - ing for me,  
3 Give me a faith - ful heart, Like - ness to thee,  
4 All that I am and have, Thy gifts so free,



Nor should I aught with - hold, Dear Lord, from thee,  
My fee - ble faith looks up, Je - sus, to thee,  
That each de - part - ing day Hence - forth may see  
In joy, in grief, through life, Dear Lord, for thee!



In love my soul would bow, My heart ful - fill its vow,  
Help me the cross to bear, Thy won - drous love de - clare,  
Some work of love be - gun, Some deed of kind - ness done,  
And when thy face I see, My ran - somed soul shall be



Some of - f'ring bring thee now, Some - thing for thee,  
Some song to raise or prayer, Some - thing for thee,  
Some wan - d'rer sought and won, Some - thing for thee,  
Through all e - ter - ni - ty Some - thing for thee.

Text: Sylvester D. Phelps, 1816-95  
Tune: WESTERTON (64 64 6664) Joseph Barnby, 1838-96.

## 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 worshippers' hearts in praise. The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy.)*

*(Sing to the Tune of "Angels We Have Heard on High")*

**M:**        **May the good Lord be with you.  
                  Lift your hearts to God in praise.**

**C:**        **May the Lord be with you too.  
                  To the Lord our hearts we raise.  
                  Gloria in excelsis deo! Gloria in excelsis deo!**

**All:**       **Therefore with the church on earth And the hosts in heav'n above**  
**Let us praise his name, whose birth Brings to us eternal love.**  
**Gloria in excelsis deo! Gloria in excelsis deo!**

**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. Amen

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

*(Sing to the tune of "From Heaven Above", CW 38)*

**C:**       **The night our Savior was betrayed**  
**He took the bread, and when he'd prayed,**  
**He broke and gave them of the bread,**  
**And unto his disciples said:**

**M:**       (Spoken) "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

**C:**       **(Sung) Then when the sacred meal was o'er,**  
**Our blessed Savior spoke once more:**  
**He offered thanks, and lifted up,**  
**To give to all, the blessed cup.**

**M:**       (Spoken) "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."

**C:**       **(Sung) O Lamb of God, you take away**  
**The sin of all; now hear us pray,**  
**And grant us from our sins release**  
**Have mercy on us! Grant us peace.**

*BE SEATED*

## **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.)*

## **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

*CW #20, "WHEN ALL THE WORLD WAS CURSED"*

*CW #24, "THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME"*

*PLEASE STAND*

## **SONG OF THANKSGIVING**

*(Sung to the tune of "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen")*

**Oh, thank the Lord and sing his praise what he has done proclaim!  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name;  
Who leads his thankful people forth—his promises to claim  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy! Oh, tidings of comfort and  
joy!**

**Lord, let your servant go in peace, your word has been fulfilled.  
My eyes have seen the saving work which for the world you willed:  
The glory of your chosen race as light for all revealed.  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy! Oh, tidings of comfort and  
joy!**

**Oh, praise to God the Fa-ther, and praise to God the Son,  
And praise to God the Spir-it, most blessed Three in One;  
As 'twas, is now, and e'er shall be while endless ages run!  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy! Oh, tidings of comfort and  
joy!**

## **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](http://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](mailto:pastorvann@tampabay.rr.com) and let him know. You can also become a friend on Facebook.



## **Announcements:**

**Thank you, Pastor Nuss:** We thank Pastor Steve Nuss for his message from God's Word today. Pastor Nuss is now retired from full time ministry and a member of our congregation. He helps out by sharing God's Word with us about once a month. We are thankful for his work and his message and pray for God's continued blessings.

**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. We meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays. Please consider joining us for this.

**The Northdale Lutheran ONLINE church directory is now up and available for our members to access!** Visit [www.northdalelutheran.org](http://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](mailto: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!

**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.)*

**Poinsettia Sign Up:** There is a sign up sheet to purchase poinsettias for Christmas Eve worship. You can take home your plant after that service. The price is \$10/plant. Please sign up in the back. Money can be given to Jean Roate.

**Bible Information Class:** Pastor Vann will be starting his next Bible Information Class on Tuesday, January 17. The class will meet from 6:30-8:00 p.m. for 13 weeks. The Bible Information Class is an overview of all of the main teachings in the Bible. It is a great introduction for someone who is interested in learning more about what the Bible teaches. It is a great way to share with a friend or relative what our church teaches. It is also a good review for our members of all those truths that were taught at Catechism class so many years ago. This class is also required for anyone who wants to join our congregation. If you are interested in attending, or if you have a friend or neighbor interested or that you would like to invite, please talk to Pastor Vann about that. The class is a free class and a great way to dive deep into the truths of scripture.

**New Offering Envelopes:** The offering envelopes for 2017 are here. You will find them in your mailboxes. If you have any questions about your envelopes, you can direct your questions to our Church Ministry Elder, Chris Teeples. Please start using those envelopes with the first of January.

## **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:**

Thursday (12/22): 6:30pm - Thursday Bible Study

Saturday (12/24): 5:00pm - Children's Christmas Eve Worship

7:00pm - Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship

Sunday (12/25): 10:00am - Christmas Day Worship

## **Serving Today**

Music: Mark Thiesfeldt  
Ushers: 8:00—Mike Laurin  
          10:30 —Chris Haring/Tim Madden  
Acolyte: 8:00—Mary Sawyer  
          10:30—Natalie Yancey  
Hostess: Lourdes Jacobs  
Elder: Chris Teeples

## **Serving Next Week**

Music: Mark Thiesfeldt  
Ushers: 10:00 — Dave/Barb Hartwig  
Acolyte: 10:00—Julia Busch  
Hostess: Lourdes Jacobs  
Elder: Chris Teeples

## **Attendance Last Week**

8:00 a.m.—25  
10:30 a.m.—88  
Total: 113  
Yearly Average: 111  
% of Members in Worship: 51%

## **Financial Information**

Contributions for 12/11: \$3,225.27  
Contributions budgeted: \$4,884.61  
Contributions budgeted to date: \$117,230.64  
Contributions received to date: \$90,069.77  
Ahead or (Short) through 12/11/16: (\$27,160.87)

## **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)

# Kids Page

## An Angel Visits Mary

You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. Luke 1:31 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 1:26-38



K V G J E U J H T U Z G T J N  
X T Y K V V V Z S H N U B K J  
P D N W U E J N F O R M O O B  
C J K G L L I O W N N O R S D  
H B E E D G X E S N R O N Z B  
I C G S R O F V B E M W D E I  
H N L I U P M T I B P A V Q B  
A Q V B I S H L R M W H R L A  
Z Z J P J P L X T C D Q W Y G  
D F H H D P F P H N A C I K A  
A D A F R A I D W N V X K N B  
E B W Q K U P O V X I J X Y R  
Q G P L T C T L R X D L F H I  
E L I Z A B E T H Q B O C Y E  
Y K C N P O S T D N F E E O L

ELIZABETH	JESUS	JOSEPH	BORN	AFRAID
SON	KINGDOM	DAVID	GABRIEL	BIRTH
MARY	TOWN	ANGEL	THRONE	VIRGIN