

FIRST WEDNESDAY IN ADVENT
December 3, 2025

Advent Services ~ December 10 & 17

Advent Meal - 5:30 p.m.
Advent Divine Service
w/Holy Communion- 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 7

Matins Service
8:00 a.m.
Worship Service w/Holy Communion
9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class
10:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 14

Worship Service w/Holy Communion
9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class
10:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 21

Worship Service w/Holy Communion
9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class
10:30 a.m.
Christmas Caroling - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Children's Program
6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 25

Christmas Day Worship
w/Holy Communion - 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 28

Worship Service w/Holy Communion
9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class
10:30 a.m.

Opening Hymn		<i>p. 350</i>
	<i>"Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come"</i>	
Divine Service Three		<i>p. 184</i>
Kyrie		<i>p. 186</i>
Collect of the Day		
Old Testament Reading	Hosea 14:4-8	
	(God compares Himself to the evergreen tree imparting the fruit of life.)	
Epistle	Revelation 22:1-5	
	(We have access to the tree of life in our eternal home.)	
Holy Gospel	John 11:17-27	
	(Jesus announces Himself as the source of eternal life.)	
Nicene Creed		<i>p. 191</i>
Sermon Hymn	<i>"The Tree of Life"</i>	<i>p. 561</i>
Sermon	Evergreens	
Offering	<i>(Offering plates are near the doors as you exit)</i>	
Prayers of the Church		<i>p. 193</i>
Service of the Sacrament		<i>p. 194</i>
Distribution Hymns		
	<i>"Savior of the Nations, Come"</i>	<i>p. 332</i>
	<i>"How Firm a Foundation"</i>	<i>p. 728</i>
	<i>"Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"</i>	<i>p. 623</i>
Nunc Dimittis		<i>p. 199</i>
Salutation & Benedicamus		<i>p. 201</i>
Closing Hymn	<i>vs. 1 & 4</i>	<i>p. 357</i>
	<i>"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"</i>	

SERVING US THIS EVENING

Rev. Peter C. Kolb, Pastor ~ Stephanie Christiano, Organist

A LOVING WORD TO THOSE GUESTS WHO WISH TO COMMUNE

We believe, as Scripture teaches, that the Body and Blood of our Lord are truly present in, with, and under the bread and the wine of the Sacrament and those who eat and drink unworthily, that is, not believing these truths, do so to their great harm. Also, Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is professed at this altar. Therefore, if you are not yet instructed, in doubt, or hold to a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, you are requested to refrain from the table and speak to the Pastor or Elder to see how you can prepare in the future to also receive this gift of grace.

St. Mark Lutheran Church

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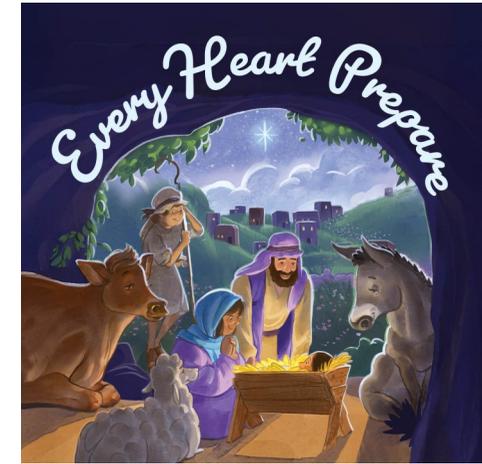
Rev. Peter C. Kolb, Pastor
pastor@stmarkwaco.com



Find us on Facebook
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Our Mission Statement: Learning, Living and Sharing Christ's Love



EVERY HEART PREPARE

We decorate in preparation for Christmas. In November and December people spend hours putting up lights in their living space and ornaments on their evergreens. Poinsettias are placed on the mantel and presents under the tree, and we "deck the halls with boughs of holly." These Christmas decorations bring enjoyment and anticipation to the holiday.

Advent is the church's season of preparation for Christmas, for the coming of the Lord. This Advent season, as part of our preparation, we reflect upon three common Christmas decorations and how they help us see Christ and prepare for His coming: evergreens, lights, and the creche. Then on Christmas we will focus on the decorated presents which point us to the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ.

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MIDWEEK OF ADVENT 1
EVERGREENS

We decorate in preparation for Christmas. Our decoration preparation includes the use of evergreens—from Christmas trees to pine garland. The evergreen decorations also help us prepare for the advent (or coming) of Jesus during Advent—a season of preparation. Today we will consider how evergreens point us to the coming of Christ and the eternal life that He brings.



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