



“Blessed be  
the Lord God of Israel;  
for he hath visited  
and redeemed his people,  
And hath raised up an  
horn of salvation  
for us  
in the house of his  
servant David; . . .”

Luke 1:68-70

# Friedens Evangelical Lutheran Church

28983 – 181<sup>st</sup> Avenue | New Prague, MN 56071

Church: (952) 758-2828 | Website: [EFriedens.com](http://EFriedens.com)

Pastor Henry Koch

## Welcome to Worship!

### Worship Services

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. | Tuesday: *See Church Calendar* | Saturday: Noon

## Prayer Before Worship

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much  
seek to be consoled, as to console;  
To be understood, as to understand;  
To be loved, as to love;  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.  
Amen.



### Notes About Your Visit

- **Worship programs are available in large print.** They are located in the basket with the regular programs.
- **Restrooms** are in the north hallway, by the double glass entry doors, as well as in the basement. **The church park has restrooms north of the Pavilion.**

# THE SERVICE, *Setting One*

December 6 & 7, 2025

## HYMN



### 322 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to  
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of  
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a  
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in

set thy peo - ple free; from our fears and  
all the earth thou art, dear de - sire of  
child and yet a king, born to reign in  
all our hearts a - lone; by thine all - suf -

sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text and tune: Public domain

*STAND*

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

**Amen.**

## **CONFESSION**

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If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

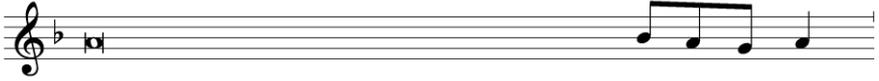
Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

# Lord, Have Mercy



In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



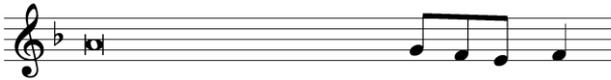
For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**A - men.**

## **The Word**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

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 your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be Seated*

## **First Reading**

Deuteronomy 18:15-22 (Evangelical Heritage Version)

### A Prophet from Their Own Brothers

<sup>15</sup>The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brother Israelites. Listen to him.

<sup>16</sup>That is exactly what you asked from the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly. You said, “Do not let me hear the voice of the LORD my God

anymore, and do not let me see this great fire again, or I will die.”

<sup>17</sup>Then the LORD said to me, “They have done well by saying what they said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up a prophet for them from among their brothers, like you, and I will put my words in his mouth, and he will speak to them everything that I command him. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who will not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself will call him to account. <sup>20</sup>Any prophet who presumes to speak something in my name that I have not commanded him to speak or who speaks something in the name of other gods—that prophet shall die.”

<sup>21</sup>What if you ask yourselves, “How can we know that the LORD has not spoken that word?” <sup>22</sup>If a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, and the thing does not come about and does not come true, the LORD has not spoken that word. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously. Do not be afraid of him.

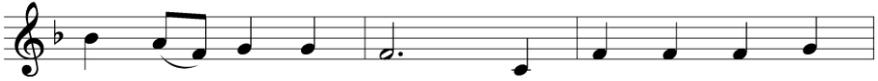
-----  
*The Word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

# 954 Blessed Be the God of Israel



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el, who  
 2 With prom - ised mer - cy will God still the  
 3 My child, as proph - et of the Lord, you



comes to set us free and rais - es up new  
 cov - e - nant re - call, the oath once sworn to  
 will pre - pare the way, to tell God's peo - ple



hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.  
 A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all,  
 they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph - ets long de - clared that  
 that we might wor - ship with - out fear and  
 Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine



with a might - y arm God would turn back our  
 of - fer lives of praise, in ho - li - ness and  
 forth and nev - er cease to drive a - way the



en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.  
 right - eous - ness to serve God all our days.  
 gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

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 Tune: Public domain

## Second Reading

### 2 Timothy 3:10-17 The Value of the Holy Scriptures

<sup>10</sup>But you have faithfully followed my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfast endurance, <sup>11</sup>my persecutions, my sufferings—the kind that happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra, the kind of persecutions I endured—and the Lord rescued me from all of them. <sup>12</sup>Indeed, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, <sup>13</sup>while evil people and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.

<sup>14</sup>As for you, continue in the things you have learned and about which you have become convinced. You know from whom you learned them <sup>15</sup>and that from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup>All Scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that the man of God may be complete, well equipped for every good work.

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*The Word of the Lord.*

*Thanks be to God.*

Stand

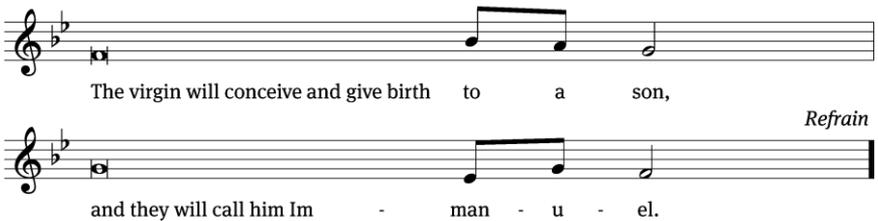
## Gospel Acclamation - Setting 1



Refrain



Tone



Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: CCLI no. 11241921

## Gospel

### Luke 1:67-80 Zechariah's Hymn of Praise

<sup>67</sup>His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

<sup>68</sup>Blessed is the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has visited us and prepared redemption for his people.

<sup>69</sup>He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David,

<sup>70</sup>just as he said long ago through the mouth of his holy prophets.

<sup>71</sup>He raised up salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us,

<sup>72</sup>in order to show mercy to our fathers by remembering his holy covenant,

<sup>73</sup>the oath which he swore to Abraham our father,  
<sup>74</sup>to grant deliverance to us from the hand of our  
enemies,  
so that we are able to serve him without fear,  
<sup>75</sup>in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.  
<sup>76</sup>And you, child, will be called a prophet of the Most  
High, because you will go before the Lord to prepare  
his ways, <sup>77</sup>to give his people the knowledge of  
salvation by the forgiveness of their sins,  
<sup>78</sup>because of God's tender mercies,  
by which the Rising Sun from on high will visit us,  
<sup>79</sup>to shine on those who sit in darkness and in the  
shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of  
peace.

<sup>80</sup>The child continued to grow and became strong in  
spirit. He lived in the wilderness until the day of his  
public appearance to Israel.

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*The Gospel of the Lord.*

*Praise be to you, O Christ!*

*Be Seated*

CHILDREN'S LESSON

# Hymn of the Day

WORD OF GOD

281

## God Has Spoken by His Prophets



1 God has spo - ken by his proph-ets, Spo - ken his un -  
2 God has spo - ken by Christ Je - sus, Christ, the ev - er -  
3 God is speak - ing by his Spir - it, Speak - ing to the



chang - ing Word, Each from age to age pro - claim - ing  
last - ing Son, Bright - ness of the Fa - ther's glo - ry,  
hearts of all, In the age - less Word ex - pound - ing



God the one, the right - eous Lord. In the world's de - spair and  
With the Fa - ther ev - er one, Spo - ken by the Word in -  
His own mes - sage for us all. Through the rise and fall of



tur - moil One firm an - chor holds us fast: God is  
car - nate, God from God, be - fore time was, Light from  
na - tions One sure faith is stand - ing fast. God a -



king, his throne e - ter - nal, God the first and God the last.  
Light, to earth de - scend - ing— He re - veals our God to us.  
bides, his Word un - chang - ing, God the first and God the last.

Text: George W. Briggs, 1875–1959, alt. © 1953. Renewed 1981 by The Hymn Society  
(admin. Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188). All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
Tune: REX GLORIAE (87 87 D) Henry T. Smart, 1813–79.

## SERMON

STAND

## NICENE CREED

**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** (Kindly fill out the red Friendship Registers. Thanks.)

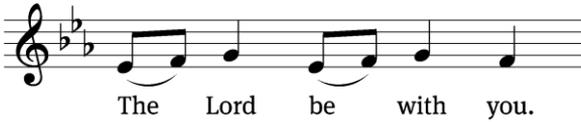
**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

## Participation in the Lord's Supper

At Friedens Lutheran Church, we believe that participation in the Lord's Supper is both a confession of faith and an expression of our unity in that faith. When you commune with us, you are saying that you agree with our teachings about the Lord's Supper and all the other teachings of the Bible. If you have never communed with us before, we ask that you speak with our Pastor to learn how you can establish a communing fellowship with us. We are eager to enjoy that fellowship with you!

### The Sacrament

#### Preface



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, *whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.*

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

**Holy, Holy, Holy**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na, ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he,  
bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## 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.**

## Words of Institution

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

# O Christ, Lamb of God

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,  
you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - - men.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "O Christ, Lamb of God". It consists of five staves of music in a single system, all written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and so on. The final line of music ends with a double bar line. The word "A" is written below the final note of the fifth line, followed by a long dash and the word "men.", indicating a long note or a specific performance instruction.

## Distribution



ADVENT

## 28 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has  
2 What the fa - thers most de - sired, What the  
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's  
4 Wel - come, O my Sav - ior, now! Joy - ful,  
5 Crush for me the ser - pent's head That, set



tru - ly kept his word And at last to  
proph - ets' heart in - spired, What they longed for  
help - er, Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold  
Lord, to you I bow. Come in - to my  
free from doubt and dread, I may cling to



us did send Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.  
man - y a year Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.  
race be - hold— Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.  
heart, I pray; Oh, pre - pare your - self a way,  
Lord, in faith, Safe - ly kept through life and death,

6 And, when you shall come again  
As a glorious king to reign,  
I with joy may see your face,  
Freely ransomed by your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Tune: NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND (77 77) *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524.

*Stand*

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**His mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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.**



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**CLOSING HYMN REQUEST** *(This song is a precious memory of Daisy Babione's as it reminds her of her loved ones. Her husband Rob sang this song at her mother's funeral on this day years ago.)*

# God Will Take Care of You

CIVILLA D. MARTIN

W. STILLMAN MARTIN

1. Be not dis-mayed what-e'er be-tide, God will take care of you;  
 2. Thru days of toil when heart doth fail, God will take care of you;  
 3. All you may need He will pro-vide, God will take care of you;  
 4. No mat-ter what may be the test, God will take care of you;

Be - neath His wings of love a - bide, God will take care of you.  
 When dan-gers fierce your path as - sail, God will take care of you.  
 Noth - ing you ask will be de - nied, God will take care of you.  
 Lean, wea - ry one, up - on His breast, God will take care of you.

CHORUS

God will take care of you, Thru ev - ry day, O'er all the way;

He will take care of you, God will take care of you. —  
 take care of you.

# What's Coming Up at Friedens?

## Last Week's Attendance

Saturday (11/29/25): 10

Sunday (11/30/25): 67

Total: 77

<b>Sunday, December 7</b> <i>*Christmas Eve Children's Service</i> <i>Practice After Sunday School!</i> <b>11:05 a.m.-11:30 a.m.</b>	Worship (Communion) <b>Christmas Decorating</b> <b>(See Will &amp; Brenda Rancour)</b> Coffee Time Sunday School* <b>Bible Study</b> SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER MTG.	9:00 a.m. After Worship  10:00 a.m. 10:10 a.m. 10:30 p.m. 11:15 a.m..
<b>Monday, December 8</b>	<i>OUTREACH MEETING</i>	6:00 p.m.
<b>Tuesday, December 9</b>	Worship at Mala Strana <b>Choir</b>	11:00 a.m. 7:15 p.m.
<b>Wednesday, December 10</b> <b>Pastor's Office Hours--</b> <b>10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.</b> <b>3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.</b>	Games 5 & 6 Catechism 7 & 8 Catechism <b>Advent Service</b> <b>Snacks &amp; Games</b>	9:00 a.m. 4:15 p.m. 5:40 p.m. 7:15 p.m. After Worship
<b>Thursday, December 11</b>	<i>LADIES AID MEETING</i> <i>EXEC. COUNCIL MEETING</i>	1:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
<b>Friday, December 12</b>		
<b>Saturday, December 13</b>	<b>Men's Bible Study</b> Worship	8:00 a.m. Noon
<b>Sunday, December 14</b> <i>*Christmas Eve Children's Service</i> <i>Practice After Sunday School!</i> <b>11:05 a.m.-11:30 a.m.</b>	Worship Sunday School* <b>Bible Study</b>	9:00 a.m. 10:10 a.m. 10:15 p.m.
<b>Monday, December 15</b>		
<b>Tuesday, December 16</b>	<b>Choir</b>	7:15 p.m.



# Volunteer

# 2026



Dear Church Members:

In light of the response we received for more church events (from our congregational survey), the church Elders and Council realized we have to be more prepared with having our volunteer teams in place prior to the new year. We are asking our members to please see the new **"VOLUNTEER"** wall (across from the literature table) and sign up to be a volunteer for an event or two. **Go ahead and just feel free to fill up those sign-up sheets!** Then, we can keep having our wonderful events we enjoy so much.

**THE NEW PLAN PER THE COUNCIL:** Before the new year (2026), we'll see how many volunteers we have signed up. If we have all the volunteers we need for an event by **December 31, 2025**, that event will be included in the 2026 Special Events Schedule. Sadly, if we do not get any or enough volunteers signed up by the Deadline (**December 31, 2025**), that event will not be included in the 2026 Special Events Schedule.

Please Note: At any time, if anyone would like to host an event, they can always go to the Elders and ask.

Please and thank you!

**UPDATE:** We're doing pretty well with filling our volunteer spots for church events; however, we still need some volunteers—especially to sign up to bring snacks, etc., for the **New Year's Eve Party**. Please take a peek, also, at our Volunteer Wall for 2026. Thank you!

# USHER SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER 2025

DATE	TEENS		ADULTS	
December 3 (Weds. Advent 7:15 p.m.)	Daniel Callahan	Claire Callahan	Jeff Heine	Joe Stahl
December 7 (Sunday 9:00 a.m.)	Lucas Holicky	Mason Storlie	Dean Cornelius	Willard Rancour
December 10 (Weds. Advent 7:15 p.m.)	Josef Jirik	Ethan Paler	David Tietz	Linda Jandt
December 14 (Sunday 9:00 a.m.)	Sam Workman	Ruth Workman	Roger M. Meyer	Eric Schanus
December 17 (Weds. Advent 7:15 p.m.)	Mikkala Quickle	Kameron Quickle	Keith Barta	Scott Gilsrud
December 21 (Sunday 9:00 a.m.)	Daniel Callahan	Claire Callahan	Doug Holicky	Troy Rabenberg
December 24 (Weds. Christmas Eve 3:00 p.m.)	Lucas Holicky	Mason Storlie	Duane Jirik	Justin Storlie
December 24 (Weds. Children's 6:30 p.m.)	Josef Jirik	Ethan Paler	Gary Grassmann	Bruce Nelson
December 25 (Thurs. Christmas Day 9:00 a.m.)	Sam Workman	Ruth Workman	Jeff Heine	Joe Stahl
December 28 (Sunday 9:00 a.m.)	Mikkala Quickle	Kameron Quickle	Dean Cornelius	Willard Rancour
December 31 (Weds. New Year's Eve 6:00 p.m.)	Daniel Callahan	Claire Callahan	David Tietz	Linda Jandt

*Thank you for serving as an Usher, as you guide and help worshippers in God's House!*

Hello Church Family!

***Do you hear what I hear? Haul out the holly . . .***  
we are planning on decorating the church and Fellowship Hall on December 7, after the church service. If you'd like to help, you can just show up and do some ***Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree.***

Thanks, in advance, for your help—  
And ***Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas***  
***. . . and a Silent Night!***

**(Please Ask the Decorating Leaders for Guidance:  
Will & Brenda Rancour.)**

***Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow!***