

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE  
5:00 P.M. WORSHIP  
DECEMBER 24, 2025

**Prelude:** Mason Lewno, Claire Schwandt, Sarah Hill, Michelle Fink on harp, and Kristi Seehafer  
**Accompanists:** Kristi Seehafer and Vicki Strege    **Song Leaders:** Elise Busse and Sue DeJong

**Call to Worship by Sarah Hill**    *“Carol of the Bells”*

**Welcome**

**Please Stand**

**Opening Hymn**    *“Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful”*

LBW 45

**Greeting and Response**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**C: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.**

P: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

**C: We have beheld Christ’s glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

P: For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

**C: In Him was life, and the life was the light of man.**

**Advent Candle Song**    *“We Light the Advent Candle”* vs. 5

**Reading and lighting of Advent candles by the Reede Family**

**Prayer of the Day:** *“O God, you have made this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant, we pray, that as we have known the mysteries of the Light here on earth, we may also come to the fullness of his joys in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.”*  
**Amen**

**Reading: Luke 2:1-7**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

**Hymn**

*“What Child Is This”* vs. 1,3

LBW 40

**Reading: Luke 2:8-14**

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

**Hymn**

*“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

LBW 71

**Reading: Luke 2:15-20**

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

**Hymn**

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

LBW 41

**Sermon**

**Special Music by Elise Busse**

*“Oh Holy Night”*

**Reflection on the Angels**

**Hymn**

*“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”*

LBW 54

**Prayers of the Church**

**Hymn**

*“Away in a Manger”*

LBW 67

**Psalm 96**

P: Oh sing to the Lord a new song;

**C: sing to the Lord, all the earth!**

P: Sing to the Lord, bless his name;

**C: tell of his salvation from day to day.**

P: Declare his glory among the nations,

**C: his marvelous works among all the peoples!**

P: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;

**C: he is to be feared above all gods.**

P: For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,

**C: but the Lord made the heavens.**

P: Splendor and majesty are before him;  
**C: strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.**  
P: Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,  
**C: ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!**  
P: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;  
**C: bring an offering, and come into his courts!**  
P: Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness;  
**C: tremble before him, all the earth!**  
P: Say among the nations, “The Lord reigns!  
**C: Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.”**  
P: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;  
**C: let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it!**  
P: Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord, for he comes,  
**C: for he comes to judge the earth.**  
P: He will judge the world in righteousness,  
**C: and the peoples in his faithfulness.**

Lord's Prayer LBW p. 71

## Responsive Reading

P: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,  
**C: and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning**

P: Through him all things were made,  
**C: without him nothing was made that has been made.**  
P: I John 1:3-4

P: In him was life,  
**C: and that life was the light of all people.**  
P: The light shines in the darkness,

P: The light shines in the darkness,  
**C: and the darkness has not overcome it.**

**P: The Word became flesh  
C: and made his dwelling among us,**

P: and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father,  
**C: full of grace and truth.**

### **Silence for Reflection and Lighting of Candles**

## Prayer Please Stand

## Benediction

## Postlude by Kristi Seehafer and Sarah Hill

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## 2025 LWLC Council Contacts

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President: Jackie Olson

Vice President: David Kruger

Secretary: Julie Berger

Treasurer/Finance: Shannon Vietmeier

Youth & Education: Laurie Maas

Sharon Hyde

Worship & Evangelism: Deb Buttke

David Kruger

Property Management: Tim DeJong

Kyle Schwandt

Newsletter: Nancy Kruger  
Email: [livingword@itcmilbank.com](mailto:livingword@itcmilbank.com)  
Website: [livingwordmilbank.com](http://livingwordmilbank.com)

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## Living Word Lutheran Women Officers

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Coordinator: Sandy Christensen

Vice-Coordinator: Teri Hjelle

Secretary: Lori Kasuske

Treasurer: Annette Redepenning

Mission Action: Gloria Cooley

Mission Growth: Linda Wagner

Mission Community: Marcia Heinje

Advisor: Brenda Seehafer

Pastor: Melanie Reiners

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## Living Word's Calendar

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SUNDAY (12/21)

8:45 Sunday School  
9:00 Coffee Fellowship  
9:00 Servant Team Meets  
10:00 Worship

TUESDAY (12/23)

No Quilting

WEDNESDAY (12/24)

No Confirmation  
No Dynamic Disciples  
5:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

THURSDAY (12/25)

Christmas Day—Church and Office Closed

FRIDAY (12/26)

Church and Office Closed

SUNDAY (12/28)

No Sunday School  
9:00 Coffee Fellowship  
10:00 Worship

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## Announcements

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**Prayers** for Dave Hepper, Shirley Kindt, Jenna Johnson, Hailey Heinje, Keaton Johnson, Bob Hornstein, Myles Maas, Kent Englund, Jon Liebe, Karen Hallquist, Sandy Christensen, Bob Johnson, and Heather Dorsey.

**If you would care to share a poinsettia** or other Christmas flower with us, it would make our church even more beautiful for Christmas. If possible, please bring them to the church on the 23rd or bring them with you to the Christmas Eve service.

**Are you on Facebook?** If so, please go to the Living Word Lutheran Church, Milbank, SD, and click on "like." (Be sure to include "Milbank, SD" in your search or you may get a different Living Word Lutheran.)



## Mark Your Calendars

**December 24** Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 5:00

**December 25** Christmas Day—Church and Office Closed

**December 26** Church and Office Closed

**January 1** New Year's Day—Church and Office Closed

**January 5** Education Meeting at 4:00



## Radio Broadcast

Prayerfully consider sponsoring a **Radio Broadcast** of our church service on KMSD Sunday mornings at 8:00 AM. The cost is \$65. Signup sheets for the radio broadcast and/or for providing flowers on the altar are on the table in the fellowship hall.

## Noisy Change

Noisy Change collected in the month of December will be used for the Visiting Neighbors Program in Milbank. This service provides part-time assistance for elderly and disabled residents to help them live independently at home. The total collected to date is \$267.00.



## Servant Team

**January Servant Team.** Servant Teams help usher, greet, furnish and/or serve treats for coffee fellowship, help with weddings if scheduled during the month, and help and/or furnish for funerals that may occur during the month. If every member who is able volunteers for several areas of service during their month, the work of the church will be easily accomplished throughout the year. Your help is greatly appreciated. Please prayerfully consider being a co-chairman for your Servant Team.

*“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” (1 Peter 4:10)*

\*\*Co-chairs

Beckman, Rhonda

Buth, Beverly

Cooley, Gloria

Dallman, Brian & Laura

Flaig, Kurt & Jean

Forster, Doug

\*\*Kruger, David

\*\*Leininger, Scott & Jean

Nelson, Robert & Pam

Peterson, Don & Kelly

Ramsey, Tim & Rena

Schmidt, Marlin & Shirley

## Welcome Visitors

**Welcome visitors.** Please sign our guest book located in the fellowship hall. Thank you for worshiping with us at Living Word Lutheran Church. We hope your worship experience is a blessing. If you live in the area and wish to know more about Living Word and the salvation found in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, please pick up a tote that contains a brochure with more information. Thanks for visiting Living Word, and come back often.

## Shut-ins

**Living Word Lutheran Church shut-ins** would welcome a visit or phone call.

**St. William's Care Center:** Larry Brook, Lil Colberg, Betty Kloster, and Rita Raffety

**Avantara:** Lane Lindquist

**Fairview View-Granite View:** Bob Hornstein