

† FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT †
November 30, 2025

Service of Holy Communion 9:00 & 10:45 a.m.
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PRELUDE

Lo! He Comes

Scott Hylsop

OPENING HYMN (*Congregation rising*)

LSB Hymn 336

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

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

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

C Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things and Judge of all people, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. For the sake of Your beloved Son, have mercy on us, forgive us all that is past, and with the power of the Holy Spirit move us to serve You faithfully; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P As we light our Advent wreath, we remember the One who comes – Jesus, the light of the world.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

(The first candle is lit)

ADVENT CANTICLE O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (LSB Hymn 357, v. 2)

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, who ord'rest all things mightily;

to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

A Let us pray:

C Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come. Rescue us by Your merciful protection from the threatening dangers of our sins, and guide us with Your light to walk in the way of salvation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM OF THE DAY (*Congregation rising*)

(Psalm 122)

A I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

C Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

A Jerusalem built as a city that is bound firmly together. To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

C For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.

A Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: May they prosper who love you.

C Peace be within your walls and security within your towers.

A For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."
C **For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 24th chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to his disciples:] ³⁶"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(9:00) CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come **LSB Hymn 350**

MESSAGE "The Bible's the Word: Love is a Verb" Deacon Dr. Anton DeRosa

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Congregation rising*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE (*Congregation rising*)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. You comforted Your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom You will also make all things new in the day when He comes to judge the world in righteousness. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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 and SIGN OF PEACE

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

AGNUS DEI (*Sung to the hymn "On Jordan's Bank"*)

Lord Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, who takes the sin of the world away, have mercy on us, grant us peace, and fill us with Your love and grace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus **LSB Hymn 338**
As you come forward, you will receive the bread in your hand (please ask for "gluten-free" if desired); then take the wine in the individual cup from the tray. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray. After drinking, place empty cups in the second tray.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*Congregation rising*)

A God for whom we wait, in this meal You have given us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known Your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN The Advent of Our King **LSB Hymn 331**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Wake, Awake John Ferguson

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Participants in the Services:

Rev. Mark Budenholzer, Associate Pastor/Director of Youth & Family Ministry
Philip Auman Godlewski, Associate Organist (Saturday)
Deborah Reiss, Minister of Music (Sunday)

	5:30	9:00	10:45
Lector/AM	Anton DeRosa	Kristin Pimentel	Andrea Ansorge
Youth Asst.		Thomas Henry	
Altar Care	Anton DeRosa	Kristin Pimentel	
Usher Team	Volunteer	Volunteers	John Ansorge
Sexton		Violet Linn	
Refreshments		Story Family	

Evening Service of Holy Communion 5:30 p.m.

PRELUDE

INVOCATION and CONFESSION *(Congregation rising)*

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

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

C **Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things and Judge of all people, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. We do repent and are truly sorry for these our sins. For the sake of Your beloved Son, have mercy on us, forgive us all that is past, and with the power of the Holy Spirit move us to serve You faithfully; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

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P The Lord be with you.

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C **Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come. Rescue us by Your merciful protection from the threatening dangers of our sins, and guide us with Your light to walk in the way of salvation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

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it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A God of grace,

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COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE (*Congregation rising*)

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C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might; heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

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P Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

C **Lord, have mercy upon us and grant us Your peace.**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

DISTRIBUTION

On Saturdays, distribution will be at the main altar. You will receive the bread first (please ask for "gluten-free" if desired), then the wine in the individual cup. White grape juice is available in the center of the tray. Empty cups will be collected at the end.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (*Congregation rising*)

A God for whom we wait, in this meal You have given us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known Your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

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CLOSING HYMN

The Advent of Our King (v. 1-4)

LSB Hymn 331

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

COMMUNION STATEMENT

Village Lutheran Church welcomes to Holy Communion those baptized Christians who: †Know Jesus Christ as their Savior (*John 20:31*); †Recognize that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine (*1 Cor. 11:29*); †Are able to examine themselves and repent of their sins (*1 Cor. 11:28*); and †Look to God's Holy Spirit for help in living the Christian life (*Col. 1:10*). Persons not receiving Communion may come forward to receive a blessing.

News and Notes:

Christmas at Sea – Many thanks to everyone who helped us reach out to the seafaring community. We have at least 34 satchels signed out! Please be sure to return filled satchels back to VLC by **Sunday, Nov. 30**.

Decorating Party – We will be decorating our campus on the **First Sunday of Advent, November 30**, at 12:00 noon. Pizza will be provided for all volunteers. If you wish, bring a dessert to share. Please RSVP to the church office (914-337-0207 x1003 or KRapillo@VLC-NY.org) or use the back side of the pew card.

Poinsettias and Wreaths for Christmas – Another way to help decorate is to order a poinsettia plant for the sanctuary or a wreath for the exterior doors. These will be added by the weekend before Christmas (December 20-21) and poinsettias may be taken home after Christmas Eve. The donation is \$30 per plant or wreath and may be made in honor or memory of a loved one. **Please place your orders no later than Sunday, December 7.** Make checks payable to Village Lutheran Church. Use the pew card or pew envelope, or contact the church office at 914-337-0207 x1003 or KRapillo@VLC-NY.org

Youth Holiday Tag Sale – There is still time to pick up holiday items and support our youth! Check out part two of our holiday tag sale **in the Friendship Room on December 6-7**.

Round-the-Table Carol Sing – Our music ministry will lead worship as we honor the birth of our Savior with readings, hymns and carols on **Sunday, December 7, at 10:45 a.m.** Our theme this year is "The Christmas Rose." O come, let us adore Him!

Voter's Meeting – Please join us for our next Voter's Meeting on **Sunday, December 7**, at noon (following our Round-the-Table Carol Sing). Pizza will be provided before the meeting begins.

Christmas Lunch Bunch – Join us for some Christmas cheer on **Tuesday, December 9**. Doors open at 11:30 in the Friendship Room. **Please RSVP by December 1** to Kim Rapillo, 914-337-2027 x1003 or KRapillo@VLC-NY.org, or fill out the pew card and place it in the offering plate. A freewill offering will be taken to defray expenses.

German Christmas will be held on **Saturday, December 13, at 5:30 p.m.** We welcome back from Germany Pastor Klaus Gress to offer a message "auf Deutsch" as we hear readings in German and sing traditional German hymns. **Volunteers are needed** to bring desserts for the reception afterwards. Additional German lectors are also welcome. If you would like to assist, please fill out the pew card or contact Minister of Music Deb Reiss **by December 8** at 914-337-0207, x1018 or Dreiss@VLC-NY.org

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS are needed for December through the spring. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the MPR or speak to Warren Wong.

SOUP KITCHEN – Prepare food in aluminum trays (available at the Reception desk) and drop-off in the parking lot from 12:00-1:00. Please go to our church web site to sign up and indicate what food you will prepare. The next date is **Wednesday, December 17**. Contact Katie Bukofzer at etakwhit@aol.com.

Service of 9 Lessons & Carols – You are cordially invited to this traditional church and school service led by choirs of The Chapel School on **Wednesday, December 17, at 7:00 p.m.** Hear the promise of salvation from Genesis to John, with musical reflections on each reading and the theme "You are the Light of the World."

Christmas Eve Eucharist – We would like to introduce a new worship opportunity with Holy Communion for Christmas. A brief spoken communion liturgy will begin after the 8:00 p.m. service, **at 9:20 p.m.** If you would like to partake, please gather in the front pews and join us for quiet reflection and the sacrament.

"Strengthening God's House" Capital Campaign Pledges – There is still time to make an impact! Every pledge is meaningful as we join together to keep our church and school in good working order. Please prayerfully consider what you might give and pledge card today. Thank you for helping to sustain our ministry.

Wednesday Bible Study – On December 3 we will be looking at Jesus the Good Shepherd in John chapter 10.

Youth News: Voyagers (Grades 3-6) meet Thursday, Dec. 4, at 6:00 p.m. in the MPR; Lifers (Grades 7-8) Dinner Talk on Thursday, Dec. 4, and Confirmation class on Sunday, Dec. 7

Music Ministry: Rehearsals for this week include special times as follows:

- ❖ High School Choir – Sunday, Dec. 7, at 10:00 a.m.
- ❖ Village Bells – Wednesday, Dec. 3, at 6:00 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 7, at 10:15 a.m.
- ❖ Youth Choir – Thurs., Dec. 4, at 7:00 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 7, at 10:00 a.m.
- ❖ Chancel Choir – Thurs., Dec. 4, at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, Dec. 7, at 9:15 a.m.

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Elizabeth Acosta, Marcela Acosta, Antonella Barbuto, Irene Bryant, Davenport Family (William, Jordan, Joshua, Sonya, Wayne), Sonia Dooley, Amani Fahr, Jake & Christine Gitter, Anita Gould, Brandi Grissmeyer, Logan Grissmeyer, Anita Kebschull, Ilse Koerper, Michaela Kroppel, Freddie Lando, Michelle Liscoe, Douglas Miller, Rome Martello, Cole Martello, Aaliyah Pedrosa, Elizabeth Pedrosa, Paola Pedrosa, Torrey Pietarinen, Elaine Podszus, Anthony Rapillo, John Scaramuzzo, Joanne Stellmaszyk, Peter Williams

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

† **Laurence Newton**, friend of Greg Perotto, passed away on October 30, 2025

DECEMBER WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday, December 7 – 10:45 a.m.	Round-the-Table Carol Sing
Saturday, December 13 – 5:30 p.m.	German Christmas
Sunday, December 14 – 9:00 a.m.	Sunday School Pageant
Wednesday, December 17 – 7:00 p.m.	Lessons & Carols

CHRISTMAS EVE Wednesday, December 24

5:00 p.m. Family Service

8:00 p.m. Carols and Choirs

9:20 p.m. Christmas Eve Eucharist

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School

172 White Plains Road, Bronxville, NY 10708

914-337-0207 + www.VLC-NY.ORG

Connect Card – Scan QR code to contact us via digital link

