OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH PARISH CALENDAR – November 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1. ALL SAINTS' DAY/ Johannes, Luther's Father Confessor
2. **ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY/ TRINITY 23/ PENTECOST 24** 10 a.m. Bible Study 11 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship –Communion Daylight saving time ends	3.	4.	5.	6. 2-4 & 6-8p.m Food Bank	7.	8.
9. **TRINITY 24/ PENTECOST 25** 10 a.m. Bible Study 11 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship –Communion Martin Chemnitz (birth), Pastor and Confessor	10. Martin Luther (birth) Doctor and Confessor	11. Martin of Tours, Pastor VETERANS DAY/ REMEMBRANCE DAY	12.	13. 2-4 & 6-8p.m. Food Bank	14. Emeproor Justinian, Christian ruler and Confessor of Christ	15.
16. **TRINITY 25/ PENTECOST 26** 10 a.m. Bible Study 11 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship –Communion Clement of Rome, Pastor	17.	18.	19. Elizabeth of Hungary	20. 2-4 & 6-8p.m Food Bank	21.	22.
23. **CHRIST THE KING - LAST SUNDAY of CHURCH YEAR** 10 a.m. Bible Study 11 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship -Communion	24.	25.	26.	27. THANKSGIVING DAY (US) 2-4 & 6-8p.m. Food Bank	28.	29. 5:30 pm Volunteers Annual Appreciation Dinner Noah
30. **First Sunday in Advent (Ad Te Levavi)** St. Andrew, Apostle (R)						

Upcoming Events

Wednesdays in Advent

Wednesday December 3	7:30 p.m.	Advent I Worship using Service of Evening Prayer
Wednesday December 10	7:30 p.m.	Advent II Worship using Service of Evening Prayer
Wednesday December 17	7:30 p.m.	Advent III Worship using Service of Evening Prayer

Congregational Members are encouraged to attend these Advent services and the dinner on November29th.
At the volunteer dinner, we show appreciation for all those who volunteer and make our Food Bank a success.
Members of the congregation are encouraged to attend and get to know our volunteers and to join in the carol singing.

Other Events in December

Saturday December 20	6:30 a.m.	South Asian (Hindi/ Urdu/ Punjabi) Carol Sing

THE TIME OF CHRISTMAS
ADVENT

Begins on the fourth Sunday before December 25, or the Sunday closest to the Festival of St . Andrew (November 30), and ends with midday prayer on December 24.

The Saviour's birth is second in importance only to His resurrection on Easter Sunday. During the time of Christmas, Christians reflect on God's great and gracious gift of Himself.

The Church Year begins with Advent (from Latin adventus, which means "coming into"), a four week period of preparation before Christmas. The story of Jesus during Advent is the story of hope coming into the world. When the time was just right, God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world. The Advent season teaches us to prepare to receive Jesus, the hope of the world.

In Advent , we wait for our coming King.

Isaiah 7:14; 11:1-2 Micah 5:2

Matthew 1:18-25 Luke 1:26-38, 46-55

ADVENT PRACTICES AND TRADITIONS

- The colour for Advent is blue, which symbolizes anticipation and hope in our coming King. Violet can also be used during Advent as a It has become common to symbol of our repentance in preparation of our coming King.
- We do not sing the Gloria in Excelsis in the Divine Service during Advent. This is the angel's song at Christmas, so during Advent we pass over this traditional Hymn of Praise in silent anticipation.
- It has become common to use an Advent wreath to mark the season. This wreath has four candles – one for each week in Advent. As these candles are lit each week, our anticipation mounts as we look forward to Jesus' coming.
- We gather for midweek services. These services heighten our awareness and anticipation for the celebration of Christ's coming in the flesh.

THE TIME OF CHRISTMAS
CHRISTMAS AND ITS SEASON

Begins with evening prayer on Christmas Eve (December 24) and ends with midday prayer on January 5.

Christmas tells the story of Jesus as the long-awaited King who has finally come to save us. Jesus, God's Son, the King of heaven and earth, is born in Bethlehem – the Son of God is a baby lying in a manger.

The evening services of Christmas Eve mark the beginning of the Church's celebration of the Nativity of our Lord. The season continues after December 25 over a period traditionally known as the twelve days of Christmas. This season includes a number of lesser festivals: The Festival of St Stephen, the first martyr, occurs on December 26. St John, apostle and evangelist, is remembered on December 27. The death of the babies in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:16-18) is observed on December 28 as the Festival of the Holy Innocents. The circumcision and naming of Jesus on the eighth day after His birth (Luke 2:21) is celebrated on January 1.

At Christmas, we worship our God made flesh

Luke 2:1-24 John 1:1-18 Galatians 4:4-5

CHRISTMAS PRACTICES AND TRADITIONS

- We sing the Gloria in Excelsis and join the angels at Christmas in their Hymn of Praise: "Glory be to God on high: and on earth, peace, goodwill toward men."
- The colour for Christmas and its season is white, symbolizing the divinity, eternity, purity, light, and joy of Christ.
- Many Christians celebrate with special services during the Christmas season. A special Divine Service late on Christmas Eve reminds us how the angels announced the birth of Jesus to Shepherds who were "keeping watch over their flock by night." On Christmas Day, we celebrate the Word of God made flesh and receive Him in the Means of Grace. And on January 1, eight days after His birth, we gather in worship to begin the year in His name, Jesus, which means "the Lord saves," for He has come to save His people from their sins.

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