



Daily Bible Readings for Advent

December 1
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19;
Zechariah 14:1-9; 1
Thessalonians 4:1-18

December 2
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19;
Micah 2:1-13; Matthew
24:15-31

December 3
First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

December 4
Psalm 79; Micah 4:1-5;
Revelation 15:1-8

December 5
Psalm 79; Micah 4:6-13;
Revelation 18:1-10

December 6
Psalm 79; Micah 5:1-5a;
Luke 21:34-38

December 7
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13;
Hosea 6:1-6;
1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

December 8
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13;
Jeremiah 1:4-10;
Acts 11:19-26

December 9
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13;
Ezekiel 36:24-28;
Mark 11:27-33

“Advent: Its Complicated...”

Dear Friends in Christ,

Although it feels a little late this year, welcome to the season of Advent!

The fact that it feels that way is a reflection of the fact that Advent this year is about as late as it can be on the calendar. It’s also as short as it can be.

Measured by the four Sundays before the Nativity of Christ December 25, we only get three Advent Sundays before Christmas Eve, with the fourth Sunday of Advent pulling double duty.

On top of that, our Gospel readings for Advent this year come from Mark, the most succinct of the four gospel writers. “Immediately” is one of Mark’s favorite words. As I write this December 1, Advent hasn’t even started yet, and already I’m feeling rushed.

Or maybe I’m just projecting my own anxieties onto the season. Human beings have a tendency to do that. Especially in situations that are complicated.

“Advent: Its Complicated...”

So, not only is Advent short and late this year, Advent is always a little complicated. It isn't just one thing. It is a season where we hold in tension the “already” of God with the “not yet” of God.

In some Eucharistic prayers, the celebrant and the people say or sing, “Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come, come again.” The longed for Christ, the present Christ, the coming Christ.

Themes of Advent include hope, anticipation, preparation, promise, and joy. The prayers of the day for the four Sundays of Advent always begin with the words, “Stir up”. Stir up your power..Stir up our hearts...Stir up the wills of your faithful people... Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

The people of God, stirred up by the Spirit, in a stirred up, mixed up world.

I think Advent is complicated because life is complicated. If we try to limit Advent to being “a season to get ready for Christmas”, we constrain the power of the incarnation to touch every facet of the human condition. Our joys and our sorrows. Our roses and our thorns. Our laughter and our tears.

When “the Word became flesh and lived among us,” it was to enter fully into our complicated, stirred up lives. Advent reminds us of that.

May the Christ who was, who is, and who is to come be with you this season and always.

Have a blessed Advent!

Pastor Craig

December 10
Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
2 Peter 3:8-15a
Mark 1:1-8

December 11
Psalm 27; Isaiah 26:7-15;
Acts 2:37-42

December 12
Psalm 27; Isaiah 4:2-6;
Acts 11:1-18

December 13
Psalm 27; Malachi 2:10-3:1;
Luke 1:5-17

December 14
Psalm 126; Habakkuk 2:1-5;
Philippians 3:7-11

December 15
Psalm 126; Habakkuk 3:2-6;
Philippians 3:12-16

December 16
Psalm 126; Habakkuk 3:13-19;
Matthew 21:28-32

December 17
Third Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 18
Psalm 125; 1 Kings 18:1-18;
Ephesians 6:10-17

December 19
Psalm 125; 2 Kings 2:9-22;
Acts 3:17-4:4

December 20
Psalm 125; Malachi 3:16-4:6;
Mark 9:9-13

December 21
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26;
2 Samuel 6:1-11;
Hebrews 1:1-4

Service Helpers for December 2023

December 3

Greeter: Dick Kaegi
Reader: Carolyn Popma
Ushers: Lynn Bloomfield & Ilene Marnella
Donuts: Barb Bannister

December 10

Reader: Doris Grider
Usher: Marvis Gilnett
Communion Helper: John Ries
Coffee Host: Helen David

December 17

Reader: Mike Boonstra
Ushers: Susan and Dale Williamson
Christmas Cookies! Host: Marie Gunther
and VOLUNTEER helpers

December 24

Reader: Dan Harms
Ushers: Dan and Lonnie Harms
Coffee Host: Marvis Gilnett

December 24

11 pm

Christmas Eve
Reader: Burt Aus
Ushers: John and Lynn Ries

December 31

Reader: Kenton Wolfe
Ushers: Kenton and Mary Wolfe
No Coffee Host this Sunday

December 22
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26;
2 Samuel 6:12-19;
Hebrews 1:5-14

December 23
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26;
Judges 13:2-24;
John 7:40-52

December 24
Fourth Sunday of Advent
2 Samuel 7:1-11,16
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

December 24 Christmas Eve
Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

December 25 Christmas Day
Isaiah 62:6-12; Psalm 97;
Titus 3:4-7;
Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20

December 26
Luke 1:46b-55; 1 Samuel
1:19-28; Hebrews 8:1-13

December 27
Luke 1:46b-55;
1 Samuel 2:1-10;
Mark 11:1-11

December 28
Psalm 148; Jeremiah 31:15-
17; Matthew 2:13-18

December 29
Psalm 148; Isaiah 49:5-15;
Matthew 12:46-50

December 30
Psalm 148; Proverbs 9:1-12;
2 Peter 3:8-13

December 31
First Sunday
after Christmas Day
Isaiah 61:10—62:3
Psalm 148
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40

In Our Hearts & Prayers

| Prayers for | Requested by |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Abraham | Barb B. |
| Amy | Barb B. |
| Anna (Grider) Westcott | Jim & Doris Grider |
| Beth Brandt | Mary W. |
| Betty Gerhardt | Kenton and Mary Wolfe |
| Bob and Sally Boonstra | Doris Grider |
| Brian Wolfe | Kenton & Mary |
| Brooke | Heather W |
| Carol Smith | Helen D |
| Charles G. | PC |
| Pastor Christine Core | PC |
| Colin Brown | Heather W |
| Dave Stegmeier | Dan and Lonnie Harms |
| Dexter Walter Family | Kay |
| Ellen Paulson | Lorrie Dyrdaahl |
| Eric Wechter | PC |
| Evie Berg | PC |
| Frank Cutsforth Family | PC |
| Gene Free Family | Ilene Marnella |
| Heidi Daniel and family | PC |
| Howard & Kathy Brandt | Mary W. |
| Jan G | PC |
| Jenno | Heather W |
| Jill & Ray Goodness | Mary W. |
| Jill Weygandt | Dan H |
| JoAnn Caufield | Cindy C |
| Joanna Painter | Dixie |
| Joyce Colvin | Susan W |
| Julie (Bayless) Coffey | PC |
| Kate | PC |
| Kim | Lisa |
| Kimberly Kyser | Cindy C |

| Prayers for | Requested by |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Kyla | Jordain |
| Larry Marnella | Ilene Marnella |
| Larry Townsend, family of | PC |
| Laurie Boyce | PC |
| Lawson Roberts | PC |
| Linda Bradley | Susan W |
| Lynn Bloomfield | Lonnie and Dan Harms |
| Margaret Schultz | Marie Gunther |
| Marie G | Barb B. |
| Martin Nygaard | Barb B. |
| Matt H | PC |
| Mike Harms | Dan and Lonnie Harms |
| Mike McCue | Heather Wechter |
| Neal McLain | PC |
| Nicole Callahan | Sharon G. |
| Norman Colvin | Nancy |
| Piper | Heather W |
| Robert | Jordain |
| Roy Steven | Joyce |
| Sandra Villegas | Barb |
| Shirley Ann Andreason | Ilene Marnella |
| Summer Railey, Family of | PC |
| Sylvia Peter | PC |
| Teresa Condon, Family of | PC |
| Traci | Barb B. |
| Vi Anderson | Judi |

- Those with memory care issues and those who care for them.
- Those receiving radiation or chemotherapy.
- Those who are in hospice care.
- Our loved ones serving in the armed forces, especially those serving overseas.
- All who are undergoing treatment for serious illness.



4-ingredient Chocolate Mint Marble Slice

4 Ingredients

2 x 180g blocks dark chocolate, chopped

1 tsp peppermint
essence

2 x 180g blocks white chocolate, chopped

Green gel food coloring, to tint

Step 1

Grease a 20 x 30cm slice pan.

Line with baking paper.

Step 2

Place dark chocolate in a microwave-safe bowl.
Microwave on High for 1 minute 30 seconds, stirring
every 30 seconds, or until melted and smooth.
Add the peppermint essence and stir until combined.

Step 3

Place white chocolate in a microwave-safe bowl.
Microwave on High for 1 minute 30 seconds, stirring
every 30 seconds, or until melted and smooth.
Add food colouring to tint green. Stir until evenly
coloured.

Step 4

Spoon large dollops of the dark and white chocolate
mixtures, alternating mixtures, into prepared pan.
Tap pan on bench until mixture is level. Use a skewer
to marble the mixtures. Set aside for 2 hours or until
firm. Cut into slices to serve.



December Birthdays

Jenni Lockett 17

Dick Kaegi 21

Megan Popma 28

Steve Roberts 28

Dan Harms 29

Taylor Miller 29

**CALENDAR FOR 2023
DECEMBER GIVING TREE**

12/3

Last day to take a tag

**12/10 Last day to return wrapped gifts
and nonperishable food.**

12/11

Shop for unclaimed gift tags and nonperishable food.

12/12 11:00-1:00 pm

Wrap gift purchases, check to be sure we have all gifts; arrange for purchasing any missed gifts: organize nonperishable food on each family's table.

12/22 3:00 to 6:00 pm

Deliver perishable food to basement in a.m., sort onto family tables, and deliver 'Christmas' to families

12/22 10:30 to 12:00 pm

Deliver perishable food to church.

12:00-3:00 pm

Sort perishable food to each family table

3:00-6:00 pm

Deliver CHRISTMAS

To avoid confusion, only one family will be packed for delivery at a time.



**Aurora Community Holiday Concert
F E A T U R I N G Mosaïque**

Saturday, December 16

7:00 pm

Aurora Presbyterian Church
21553 Liberty Street NE, Aurora

Admission by freewill donation
benefitting the historic church

**Colby & Amelia Gianella
Christmas Music Concert**

Sunday, December 17

5:00 pm

Christ Lutheran Church
15029 2nd St NE, Aurora, OR 97002

Freewill Offering Donating
to Rafael Pelaez Charity

December 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--|----------|
| | | | | | 1 Wellbriety 6-8 pm | 2 |
| 3 Giving Tree: Last day to take gift tags Worship 10 am AA 7pm | 4 | 5 Backpack Buddies 10 am AA 6 pm | 6 | 7 | 8 Wellbriety 6-8 pm | 9 |
| 10 Worship 10 am AA 7pm | 11 | 12 Wrap gift purchases 11am-1pm AA 6 pm | 13 | 14 Council Meeting 6:30 pm | 15 Creative Gathering 10 am Wellbriety 6-8 pm | 16 |
| 17 Worship 10 am AA 7pm | 18 | 19 AA 6 pm | 20 Food Share 3 pm | 21 | 22 3:00-6:00 pm Deliver CHRISTMAS Wellbriety 6-8 pm | 23 |
| 24 Worship 10 am AA 7pm Christmas Candlelight Worship 11:00 pm | 25 | 26 AA 6 pm | 27 | 28 | 29 Wellbriety 6-8 pm | 30 |
| 31 Worship 10 am AA 7pm | | | | | | |

Christ Lutheran Church
15029 2nd Street N.E.
Aurora, OR 97002
clcaurora.org
(503) 678-5135

COURIER



December 2023

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AURORA



to the world, the LORD is come!