

Hanging of the Greens

December 3, 2023

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

First Sunday in Advent



The Greeting and Announcements

Opening Prayer

The Meaning of the Service

Christmas Hymn: **“Oh Come All Ye Faithful”**
verses 1-4

Reading: The Christmas Poinsettia
(*Poinsettias are brought in*)

The Call to Celebration

*Responsive Reading *please stand**

Leader: For the time is coming; says the Lord when I will place a righteous branch upon King David’s throne.

Congregation: He shall be a King who shall rule with wisdom and justice, and cause righteousness to prevail everywhere throughout the earth.

Leader: For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder.

Congregation: These will be His royal titles: Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Leader: His ever-expanding, peaceful government will never end. He will rule with perfect fairness and justice from the throne of His Father.

Congregation: He will bring true justice and peace to all the nations of the world. This is going to happen because the Lord of Heaven has dedicated Himself to do it!

Leader: And Christ became a human being and lived here on Earth among us and was full of loving faithfulness and truth.

All: Let us praise God that the light of Christ shines on in the darkness, which has never overcome it. To God be the glory in Jesus Christ and in the church forever and ever. Amen.

Invocation -in unison

Gracious God, Ruler of the Universe, Author of Life, we come into Your presence today to make our preparations for the birth of the Christ Child. Fill us with Your love and open our hearts so we may behold the wonder of Your great gift of salvation. Amen.

Christmas Hymn: ***“Go Tell it on the Mountain”***

(Wreaths are hung on windows)

Reading: The Sanctuary Evergreens

THE PROPHECY

Scripture: Mark 1:1-3

(Lighting of the Advent Candle)

Reading: Advent Wreath

Advent Hymn: ***“Come thou Long Expected Jesus”***

verses 1&2

THE ANNUNCIATION

Scripture Reader: Luke 1:26-35

Christmas Hymn: ***“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”***

verses 1&2

(Lighting of altar candles)

Reading: Light

THE BIRTH

Scripture Reader: Luke 2:1-7

Christmas Hymn: ***“Silent Night, Holy Night”***

(Nativity scene is set up)

Reading: Nativity Scene

THE SHEPHERD’S STORY

Scripture Reader: Luke 2:8-15

Christmas Hymn: ***“The First Noel”***

verses 1& 2

Reading: Christmas Caroling

Christmas Hymn: ***“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”***

(Angels placed on trees)

Reading: Angels

Noisy Offering

Children’s Message

Message

Pastor Eric

THE ADORATION

Scripture Reader: Luke 2:16-20

Christmas hymn: ***“Away in a Manger”***

(Tree is lit)

Reading: Christmas tree and lights

THE COMING OF THE MAGI

Scripture Reader: Matthew 2:1-9
Christmas Hymn: **We Three Kings**
(*Banners are hung*)
Reading: Wise Men

verses 1&2

OUR GIFT

Scripture Reader: Matthew 2:10-11
(*Gift of "gold" are placed under tree*)
Reading: Gifts

Offering

Reading
Christmas Hymn: "**What Child is This**"
(*Baby Jesus is placed in the manger*)

Prayer

The Blessing
Christmas Hymn: "**Joy to the World**"
Please stand

Thank You to all who participated and helped with our service today. We thank you for joining us today at Bethlehem, may this advent season prepare your heart and mind for the coming of our Lord and Savior. Blessings to you and yours

Greeters and Ushers

December

***10 Carter(c) Wubben Family**
Mark and Kim Ostermann

***17 Nick Holland Family**
Linda Berhow

24 Jesse Bosma Family/ Jen McGrady

31 Shirley Hagenson
Glenda Sapp/ Laurie & Andi Buchs

Prayers for our members and friends:

Brian Bashans	Harlan Melz
Randy Melz	Carolyn Bartz
Clarice Stonebreaker	Deloris Steffensen
Claire Hinz	Dawn Jensvold
Logan Sabin	William Jensvold, Sr.

Upcoming Events and Announcements:

5-Bible Study with Pastor Eric @2pm

6-Confirmation @6:45pm

10-Traditional Worship/Communion @9:30/SS

Tour Of Lights @5pm

12-Worship committee @8:30am

12-Quilting @1pm

13-Confirmation @6:45pm

17-Worship @9:30/SS

SS Christmas Program @4pm

18-No 1G

20-Confirmation @6:45pm

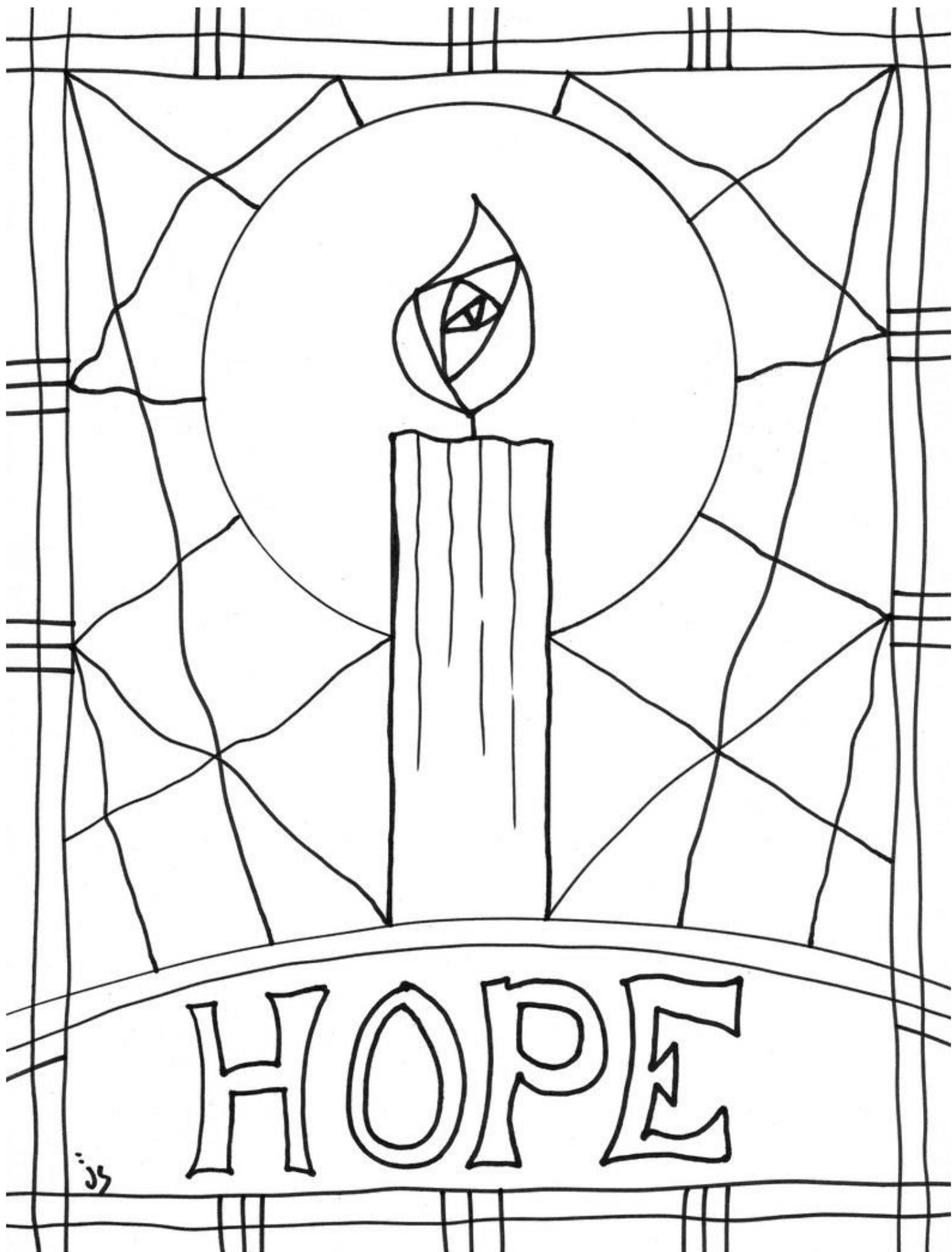
24-Worship @9:30am/no SS

Worship @4pm Candlelight Service/Communion

Worship @10pm Candlelight Guitar Service

25-No 1G

31-Worship @9:30/Darla Thompson preaches



HOPE

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