

St. Matthew Lutheran Church

15617 Mason Road

PO Box 774

Vermilion, Ohio 44089

November 30, 2025

10:30 AM

First Sunday in Advent

<https://stmatthewvermilion.wixsite.com/home>

Today we light the first candle with a blue ribbon. Blue reminds us of our sinful nature which is in need of a Savior. This candle symbolizes HOPE and is known as the **Prophet's Candle**. It reminds us that as Jesus came in Bethlehem, He is coming again to bring the ages to a close and to usher in the fulness of the Kingdom of God.

Opening Song "Come, Our Long-Expected Jesus"

Come, our long-expected Jesus, Born to set Your people free;
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in You.
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth You are,
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born Your people to deliver; Born a child and yet a king!
Born to reign in us forever, Now Your gracious kingdom bring.
By Your own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Your all-suf-fi-cient mer-it Raise us to Your glorious throne.

Invocation & Prayer

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Almighty God, all hearts and desires are known to You. No secrets are ever hidden from You. We ask You now to come to us and help us so that we might turn away from our rebellion against Your will and live according to Your will alone. Send to us Your Holy Spirit so that we may hear Your Word with our hearts and follow it as we -- confess our sins -- receive Your forgiveness -- and mature into the full likeness of Jesus, Who is our Lord and Redeemer.

ALL: Almighty and merciful Father, I am a deeply troubled and sorrowful sinner. I come to You confessing all that I have said and done that is not in accord with Your Word and will. I know that I have disrespected and ignored You and deserve nothing from You but punishment. I beg in the name of Jesus that You would give me Your underserved mercy and forgive my sinful disobedience. May Your Holy Spirit dwell in my heart and help me to respect You and be obedient to You in all things, and through the sacrifice of Jesus bring me to eternal life in Your presence. Amen.

P: As the called servant of our Lord Jesus Christ, I declare to you that God forgives all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

God's Word Is Proclaimed

Isaiah 2:1-5

Thanks be to God

Romans 13:8-14

Thanks be to God

Matthew 24:36-44

Glory to You, O Lord

Praise to You, O Christ

We Declare Our Faith

All: 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 hades. 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 there He will return to judge both the living and the dead.

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

Song "Savior of the Nations, Come"

Savior of the nations come, Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth, That the Lord chose such a birth.

Here a maid was found with child. Yet remained a virgin mild.
In her womb this truth was shown; God was there upon His throne.

Then stepped forth the Lord of all. From His pure and kingly hall;
God of God, yet fully man, His heroic course began.

From the manger newborn light Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides; In this light faith now abides.

Message “Waiting on God” Hebrews 11:39

Presenting Our Tithes & Offerings (We rise to sing the Doxology)

Prayers & Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father Who is in heaven, holy be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. **And forgive our sins as we forgive the sins of others.** And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Jesus

Sharing the Sacrament

We believe that in, with, and under the simple elements of bread and wine we truly receive the body and blood of Jesus and His forgiveness. If you have questions, please speak to the Pastor.

Prayer & Blessing

Song **“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

O come, O come, Emmanuel And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save, And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Video

Over 2,000 years ago, God's people were waiting. They believed He was there, but it was just silence. Before their lifetime, God would send messages through burning bushes or pillars of fire, even prophets. We, too, may know how it feels to wait for a reply but to be left in the dark. But then, there was assurance that God, Emmanuel, would come to us and never leave us.

Announcements:

Volunteers needed to clean the church after the Nativity
Mitten Tree (Lynn Swanzer)
Living Nativity Dec. 12-14

Doing the Works of God:

Peanut butter; jelly; toothpaste; tooth brushes; all-purpose cleaners