

First United Lutheran Church

3481 Campus Loop Road
Kennesaw, GA. 30144
770-427-0325 • www.fulc.org



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C

9:30 am Worship Service

December 1, 2024

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to all who have chosen to worship at First United Lutheran Church today. On your way in you may have received a “Welcome Card” to place in the offering plate. If not, you can find those, along with our guest book, on the left in the hallway exiting the sanctuary.

REMINDERS

Your children are welcome in our worship! At the entrance to the sanctuary, we have tool kits with age-appropriate items to help children participate in worship. Please help your child take a drawer, with supplies and instructions, to your pew and return it to the drawer unit after the service. At the front of the sanctuary there is a quiet play space for younger children. If needed, we also have an unstaffed nursery room located in the hallway to the sanctuary.

As we prepare for worship: Please respect those who are in the sanctuary for meditation and the prelude with silence.

Online worship: To view the service online visit fulc.org and select the worship button on the homepage.

PRELUDE “*Sleepers, Awake*” by J.S. Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection

P: God of mercy,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We trust earthly powers and human authority alone. We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

P: God of might,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We have turned away from our neighbors. We have trusted false promises.

P: God in our midst,

C: we confess that we have sinned. We plead: come to us. Bring your mercy to birth in us.

P: A righteous branch springs forth: it is Christ the Lord, our Savior, in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy. By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God through ✠ Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

C: Amen

GATHERING HYMN “Come Thou Almighty King” (ELW 408)

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE

P: Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God’s Kingdom:
Lord have mercy.

C: Lord have mercy.

P: You come in the word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:
Christ have mercy.

C: Christ have mercy.

P: You will come in the glory with salvation for your people:
Lord have mercy.

C: Lord have mercy.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Person A: The season of Advent reminds us of the hope we have in the humanity of Jesus. God came to us, leaving behind the glory of heaven to be a person feeling pain, joy, loss, and love.

Person B: Today, we light the candle of HOPE, because in Jesus, heaven came to earth.

Light the first candle.

AFFIRMATION OF HOPE

L: Let us proclaim the HOPE of our faith:

L: From our first breaths of life to our final moments before death, our bodies tell God’s story of hope.

C: We are created to attach, to connect, and to live in community. This is our hope.

L: We hear the story of hope in the dependence of babies who know help is coming when they cry.

C: We are created to need one another. This is our hope.

L: We hear the story of hope in children who ask, explore, experiment, and wonder.

C: We are created to enjoy creation. This is our hope.

L: We hear the story of hope in teenagers who notice injustice, waste, and hypocrisy.

C: We are created to advocate for each other. This is our hope.

L: We hear the story of hope in middle age, when questions of identity and purpose find depth and discovery.

C: We are created to be distinctly and uniquely beloved. This is our hope.

L: We hear the story of hope in our older adults who pursue passions formed by decades of wisdom and experience.

C: We are created to attach, to connect, to live in community. This is the hope of our faith.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray:

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMS Psalm 25:1-10

R: *To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. (Ps. 25:1)*

C: ¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. ²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me. ³Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous. ⁴Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths. ⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long. ⁶Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting. ⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD. ⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way. ⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way. ¹⁰All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹²And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (page 142)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL TEXT Luke 21:25-36

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty first chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

After the reading of the Gospel:

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

SERMON HYMN *"My Lord, What a Morning"* (ELW 438)

CREED *Nicene Creed*

A: God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Each portion of the prayer ends with these words:

A: Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P: Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: and also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERING “*Give Thanks*” by H. Smith and L. Larson

(Please place your offering in the offering plate as you enter the nave)

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Creator God, you made the whole world, even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us. We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine. Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the true presence of Jesus Christ.

LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS

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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

OUR FATHER

P: And now we are bold 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.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

P: Behold the Lamb of God who bears away the sin of the world.

C: Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE “Lamb of God” (ELW page 135)

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please be seated.

The Communion follows. Come forward at the direction of the ushers. If you are visiting us today, please know that as baptized members of the body of Christ, you are welcome at the Eucharistic Feast.

COMMUNION HYMN “What Feast of Love” (ELW 487)

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace to eternal life.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation. We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace. We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

C: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, † and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN *“People Look East”* (ELW 248)

SENDING

A: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *“Come, Savior of the Nations”* by J.S. Bach

November 24, 2024 Attendance and Giving

Attendance: 56

Offering: \$

Simply Giving & E giving: 11/18/24 – 11/22/24 = \$

<u>Month of October 2024</u>		<u>Year to Date</u>
Actual Expenses	\$23,894	\$234,748
Actual Giving	\$32,757	\$231,586
Variance	+ \$8,862	- \$3,162

Pastor: Randy Jones and Vicar Kat Folk Sunday Servants Serving Today December 1st

Head Counter: Harry Grubb

Counters: Kay Grubb

Assisting Minister: Travis Bryan

Reader: George Eliopoulos

Acolyte: Bryanna Kendrick

Musician: Ben Wadsworth

Altar Guild: Rose Werner, David Werner

Ushers: Ed Einert, Dave Gustafson, Peder Fagerholm, Frank Hull (as available)

Serving Next Service December 8th

Head Counter: Harry Grubb

Counters: Kay Grubb

Assisting Minister: Krista Moran

Reader: Linda Hull

Acolyte: TBA

Musician: Ben Wadsworth

Altar Guild: Rose Werner, David Werner

Ushers: Ed Einert, Dave Gustafson, Peder Fagerholm, Frank Hull (as available)

Birthdays for the Month of December

Ben Wadsworth, Linda Hull, Samson Spitz, Roger Weinhold Sr., Rich Fryman, Mike Haitchi, Damon Denzin, Mark Knauff, Steve Stahlman, Kelly Jones, Lucy Denzin, Barbara Weinhold, Salome Folk, Joy Knauff, Katilyn Boyer, Angela Reeves, Ryan Ronnenberg, Donna Ellsworth, Nikki McFarland

Weekly Calendar Office is Open:

Mon.-Thur., 8:30am - 1:30pm

3481 Campus Loop Rd ~ Kennesaw, GA 30144

770-427-0325

You can always visit us at www.fulc.org or contact us at office@fulc.org

SUNDAY: December 1st

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Baraka Church Prayer Meeting

Worship Service

Kenyan Baraka Church (FH)

MONDAY: December 2nd

10:00 AM

Dorcas Circle Quilting Club

TUESDAY: December 3rd

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Levites Group (TC)

Ewe Are Loved (116)

WEDNESDAY: December 4th

10:00 AM

McCarthy Bible Study

THURSDAY: December 5th

FRIDAY: December 6th

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM

The Depot AA Meeting (FH)

SATURDAY: December 7th

10:00 - 11:00 AM

4:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Bell Choir

Retrouvaille Group/Godshalk Group

SUNDAY: December 8th

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

11:00 AM

11:00 AM

2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Worship Service

Finance Committee Meeting (FO)

Mid-Year Congregational Meeting

Kenyan Baraka Church (FH)

Visit <https://www.fulc.org/> and select the worship button on the home page for our online service.



**TO REQUEST PRAYERS OR JOIN THE PRAYER TEAM CONTACT:
LINDA GEORGE AT
PRAYERCHAIN@FULC.ORG**

WE PRAY FOR THE FAMILIES OF FIRST UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH

Those in need of healing, comfort and strength:

Pour out your Spirit of comfort, gracious God. Heal your children in need. We pray especially for **Bryanna Kendrick**; **Rosemary Matemba's** children in Malawi, Africa; M Stahlman's cousin, **Jeanne**; **Frank Hull**; **Ginny Frederick**; Anthony Ward's twin brother, **Timothy**; N Boccadoro's friends, **Clay & Brian**; **Lisa Byrn**; P Merriman's. brother, **Barry**; **Sharon Moe & Sherry Quitter**; **Nuru Emmanuel Ronnenberg & family**; **Elsie Howard 99**; B Woods' friend **Marsha & her son, David**; **Ron Emberg**; **Kay & Harry Grubb**; **Pat Warner**; **Joanne Einert**; **Janet Stover & neighbor, Chris**; D Ellsworth & D Moulton's parents, **Roy & Ruth & friends Ken & Cindy**; **Hunter Smith**; K. Moran's friend. **Jamie**; **Steve Hoge**; **Mark Brandau-Shirley**; **Lou & Ardy Boyer**; B Newton's family & friends **Terry & Lee, Betty, Brian, Tom & Billie**; **Molly Werner**; **Megan Mosholder**; **Jim & Janet Rooks**; E Tennis' daughter, **Diane**.

Those serving in our military:

Pour out your Spirit of love, glorious God. We pray for your blessings upon the **students, staff & faculty of KSU** and for those bravely serving our country at home and around the world especially: Bock Lyke son-in-law in Washington D.C., **Officer Huck Sarin**; Hextell nephew, Illinois **K9 Officer Tyler Post, Brian Uncapher**, Navy aircraft carrier; Great grandson of Evelyn Tennis, **Casey Peterson**, Army in Germany; & Brandau-Shirley family, **Marshall Wish** currently stationed with his family in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

Thanksgiving for those who have gone before us:

Pour out your Spirit of peace, resurrecting God. Bring all who grieve into a community rooted in you. We pray especially for Sonja Link's nephew, **Erik**; Joy Knauff's brother, **Charles**. Uphold her family with your grace and keep us all grounded in your promise of life eternal.

Those in Mission for Christ Overseas:

JULIA & VINCENT Leiyoole & their Church in Kenya. The audio New Testament and JESUS Film in Samburu language has opened the minds and hearts of all who hear. Since July, God has gathered 589 men, women, and children into the church through Baptism! **ILAG** The Augustinian Lutheran Church in Guatemala & for their pastor, **Karen Castillo**, & her son, **Diego Gil**.