

Sunday, December 7, 2025

St. Timothy Lutheran Church

Advent 2



Vision Statement:

**Living in God's amazing grace,
St. Timothy Lutheran Church
nurtures relationships, celebrates
diversity and opens doors so
that we may be a glimpse of
God's kingdom.**

Caring, Sharing, Daring

St. Timothy Mission Statement:

**We intentionally reach out,
seeking and serving,
sharing the joy of Jesus Christ**

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Welcome to St. Timothy! We are honored to have you in worship with us this morning. Everyone is welcome to share Holy Communion at the rail from the altar or with individual cups from the church entrance. See how to use the sets on page 9 under Distribution.

Land Acknowledgement:

St. Timothy Lutheran Church humbly acknowledges that we live within the traditional lands of the Multnomah, Kathlamet, and Clackamas bands of Chinook; the Cowlitz; the Tualatin Kalapuya; the Molalla and many other Tribes who made their homes along the Columbia River. Most of these peoples are currently part of the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde. In our place of ministry in Portland, Oregon, St. Timothy thanks God for living and serving in this domain of Native people from over 380 different Tribal backgrounds.

GATHERING

Call to Worship

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

ELW 256

Announcements

Opening Prayer

Thanksgiving Confession and Forgiveness

(Please rise as you are able)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
 who forgives all our sin,
 whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

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

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free
ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have
not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors
as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on
us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your
will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In
the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God
strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in
your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Gathering Song *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

ELW 249

Pastoral Greeting: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Day *(together)*

C: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. *(Please be seated)*

Children's Message

First Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,
but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

L: The word of the LORD,

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king's son;
**that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**

that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.

**Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**

May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.

**Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**

In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

**Blessed are you, Lord God, the God of Israel;
you alone do wondrous deeds!**

And blessed be your glorious name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

Second Reading: Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised

on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles
and sing praises to your name”;

and again he says,

“Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;
and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;
and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;
in him the gentiles shall hope.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. L: The word of the LORD.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please rise as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.)

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’ ”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming

after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

(Please rise as you are able)

Hymn of the Day: *Rejoice, Rejoice Believers*

ELW 244

The Apostles' Creed (together)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day He rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

(A brief silence.)

With wisdom and understanding, inspire the faithful around the world. Unite hearts and minds in work to address poverty, access to housing, and equity among peoples. God of grace, **C: hear our prayer.**

With counsel and might, move us to care for creation. As we dream of the day when all creatures will flourish alongside one another, guide us in ways humanity and all creation will mutually thrive. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

With righteousness and faithfulness, encourage nations to live in harmony with one another. We pray for international student and teacher exchanges, for our partner churches, and for the shared mission of Lutheran World Relief and Lutheran Disaster Response. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

With steadfastness and encouragement, strengthen those who have lost hope in the face of grief, depression, or disease especially Madieri Markwart and husband Bill with ongoing medical concerns, Kristina, Christine, Linda Wabs, Anthony L., Deanna, Ron, Greta, Judy H., Ernie, Pastor Chuck, Al, Barb Vecsi and David, Ron, Marshall, Steve (Mary's brother). Renew the spirits of those recovering from surgery and medical procedures. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

With welcome and hospitality, embolden us in our shared ministry to overcome all that divides. In acts of repentance, reconciliation, and reparation, may we serve in the way of Christ. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

With joy and peace, we remember our ancestors in the faith. We pray for the following saint's families in their death, Jim McConnell and Bruce Strade. Fill us with the hope of the Holy Spirit now and into the ages of ages. God of grace,

C: hear our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

C: Amen.

(Please rise as you are able for sharing of the Peace & The Great Thanksgiving)

Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

Offertory Hymn: *Praise God from Whom all blessings Flow ELW 885*
Praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heav'nly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Offering Prayer: (together)

C: Nourishing God,
you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this
meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the
world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks
and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...join the unending hymn:

Hymn: ***Holy, holy, holy Lord,*** ***ELW page 144b***
God of pow'r and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. (Please be seated)

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer (together)

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.

Distribution Hymns:

***Lamb of God
All Earth is Hopeful
By Your Hand You Feed Your People***

*ELW page 146b
WOV 629
ELW 469*

DISTRIBUTION

We welcome you to the Lord's Table to share the Sacrament of Holy Communion with us.

If taking communion from the pews, pick up one of the communion plastic cups at the church entrance. When invited by Pastor, take the top off the wafer side and eat. When invited, remove the covering over the drink and drink. Place the empty cup in the container at the end of your pew. If you are taking communion at the rail, ushers will guide you down the side aisle. Please pick up a small chalice as you approach the rail. When space allows, kneel as you are able at the rail. Take and eat the bread, and drink the wine or grape juice. Afterwards, set the chalice on the table in the middle aisle and continue down the aisle to your pew.

(Please rise as you are able)

Prayer of Thanksgiving: (together)

C: God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SENDING

Blessing:

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn:

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW 264

Dismissal :

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude:

Hark, a Thrilling Voice is Sounding ELW 246

We give God thanks or lift before God:

- + For our nation and the world that all might put love, generosity, compassion and patience first.
- + For homeless people as they struggle to stay hydrated and to find shelter.
- + For St. Timothy and all churches, that the Holy Spirit would continue to inspire, encourage, and guide us in God's mission to love the world.
- + Give strength to those with challenges at work, home, and in their personal lives.
- + For the effort of Cultivate Initiatives for people in need in S.E. Multnomah County.
- + For Kristina Heitmann in her ongoing health concerns.
- + For Ernie Rippe for continuous recovery.
- + For Linda Wabs for cancer treatment.
- + For Anthony L. & family for healing as he continues with cancer treatments.
- + For Dorian & family according to their needs.
- + For Pastor Chuck with his declining health.
- + For Deanna for healing.
- + For Greta for comfort and healing.
- + For Johann according to his needs.
- + For Judy H. for healing according to her needs.

Daily Readings for December 8-13:

Monday: 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

Tuesday: Isaiah 41:14-20

Wednesday: Matthew 12:33-37

Thursday: Isaiah 35:1-10

Friday: Psalm 146:5-10

Saturday: James 5:7-10

Next Sunday, December 14th:

Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 146:5-10; James 5:7-10
and Matthew 11:2-11

This Week at St. Timothy's

Today, Sunday December 7th, 2025 Advent 2

9:20 am—Choir practice

10 am—Worship Service (Zoom available)

Coffee Hour after the Service

Monday 10 am—1 pm Office & Pantry hours

Tuesday 11 am—1 pm Office & Pantry hours

Wednesday 10 am—1 pm Office & Pantry hours

10 am—11:30 am Pastor Hamada's office hours

11 am—12pm Advent Midweek Worship Service

12pm Advent Service Ministry

Thursday 10 am—1 pm Office & Pantry hours

7 pm—8:30 pm Choir Practice

Friday 10 am—1:30 pm Pastor Hamada's office hours

Saturday

Sunday December 14th, 2025, 3rd Sunday of Advent

9:20 am—Choir Practice

10 am—Worship Service (Zoom available)

Coffee Hour after the Service

December Worship Services If you are unable to make your scheduled Sunday, please contact another person to take your place.				
	December 7th	December 14th	December 21st	December 28th
Preacher	Pastor Yukio Hamada	Pastor Yukio Hamada	Pastor Yukio Hamada	Pastor Yukio Hamada
Assistant	Ray W	Sherry W	Shannon H	Ray W
Lector	Shannon H	Cathy He	Mary F	Lisa S
Usher	Allen P & Tim H	Skip & Marcia E	Gladys K & Tim H	Steve & LeAnn T
Communion	Cathy H	Marie R & Karen O	Cathy H	Candace O & Gladys K
Tiny Tims	Daniel R	Michelle G	Karen O	Amanda M
Video & Sound	Ray W	Ray W	Ray W	Ray W
Counters	Tim H & Candace O	Cathy H & Ray W	Tim H & Mary F	Candace O & Ray W
Music	Gary S.	Gary S.	Gary S.	Gary S.
Care Coordinator	Karen O.	Karen O.	Karen O.	Karen O.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God is doing great things here at St. Timothy.

Our ministry is grounded in the 3P's:

PASTOR + PEOPLE = PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL

HOLY COMMUNION: We have communion at the altar railing or at your seat in the pew.

See page 9 under Distribution.

WORSHIP WITH US ONLINE on Sundays at 10 am at:

Zoom.us meeting 846 9586 7893 code: 307128

FOOD PANTRY VISITS: We served a total of **51 individuals** this week at our food pantry. **SHOPPERS:** we need , fruit, personal care items, soup, snacks, water and juice, chicken, pasta (all kinds), cooking oil and cereal. We will receive Portland Food Project donations on the 13th. Feel free to volunteer at Open Door at 9:30 or volunteer at St. Timothy at 12 to put food away. Youth are particularly needed.

COATS FOR KIDS: Centennial Social Work picked up coats on the 4th. If you still wish to shop we particularly need small adult. You can still donate for 5th Sunday too. Sherry will make a delivery for remaining coats in the near future.

GRESHAM COMMUNITY CHOIR: This community choir will perform TODAY at 3pm at Reynolds High School. This is a **FREE** event, and they ask that you come with canned goods for East County Food Pantry for admission. The East County Food Pantry, similarly to St Timothy, are often low on food and getting less from the Oregon Food Bank.