

Mark your calendars:

- December 24th: Christmas Eve Service 4pm at Nora
- December 28th: 9:30am at Kirkebo

Perley Parish
Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 21, 2025

Prelude and Bell

Gathering Hymn: On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's City (LBW #36 vss. 1, 3, 5)

Welcome and Announcements:

- Christmas Eve Service at Nora December 24th at 4pm

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Long-expected God, **we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen**

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior. **Amen**

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (read responsively)

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth **before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might and come to save us!** Restore us, O God; let

your face shine, that we may be saved. **O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?** You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure. **You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.** Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved. **But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.** Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name. **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 1:18-25: Glory to you O Lord

The Gospel of our Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ**

Message

Hymn of the Day/Offering: **Hark, the Glad Sound! (LBW #35 all vss.)**

Offering Response: *We give thee but thine own, whatever that gift may be. All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O, Lord, from thee.*

Apostle's Creed

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 the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the people God of Grace, 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. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

As brothers and sisters in Christ, let us pray together the prayer that Jesus taught us.

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. 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

Meal

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all. Amen

Words of Institution

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. **Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.** Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, **all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Prayer after Communion

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.**

Bell

Blessing: May God who comes among us, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: **What Child is This (LBW #40 all vss.)**

Dismissal: Go in peace. Keep awake. **Thanks be to God.**