

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

The Second Reading

Romans 1:1-7

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Psalm

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *
the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

Before proclaiming the Gospel, the Priest says

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Announcements

Birthdays this month

1st: Laura Newsom
 2nd: Connie Fedrizzi
 4th: Bart Jackson
 6th: Gloria Akinson
 6th: Janet Sue Whetzel
 7th: Isabella Newsom
 14th: Becky Supercinski
 26th: Jeff Richardson

This Week at SMAA

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service: Rev. Kevin Wittmayer

Sunday, December 28, 2025

9:00 am Bible Study

10:00am Morning Prayer



Longest Night Service at Trinity

Sunday, December 21st at 7:00 PM

Christmas Eve Service

Wednesday, December 24th at 6:00 PM, Fr. Kevin Wittmayer

Poinsettia Dedications

If you would like to provide a Poinsettia for the Sanctuary, please fill out the form located in the narthex and place in the offering plate. Suggested donation: \$20.00 per Poinsettia. Please indicate "Poinsettia" on your check. **Orders must be submitted by Sunday, December 21, 2025.**

Church Annual Meeting

We will be having a potluck lunch after the service on **Sunday, January 18, 2026**. Please bring a side dish to share.

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- The family of Kathleen Bullock
- The family of H.I. Carlson
- Charlie Hertel
- Mr. Morgan (spouse of Sherri Morgan)
- Mathew Jackson
- Jack Foster
- Susan Brown
- JoLee Ferguson
- Andrew McWhorter
- The Akinson & Brown Families
- Lorraine and Margie Litterski

To submit a prayer request, fill out the back of the information sheet in the pew and place it in the offering.

Or, send an email with your request to: prayer@smaalongview.org

**** Emailed prayer requests are received by all who've signed up for the SMAA prayer chain. This community of prayer is committed to holding up our needs and thanksgivings to God whenever they are shared. TO JOIN IN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, JUST SEND A REQUEST TO SMAA@SMAALONGVIEW.ORG ASKING TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN. ****

Stewardship Update

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	ABOVE/BELOW
11/23/25	\$2,702	\$3,431	-\$729
11/30/25	\$2,093	\$3,431	-\$1,338
12/07/25	\$3,950	\$3,431	\$519
12/14/25	\$1884	\$3,431	-\$1,547
YTD TOTALS	\$156,748	\$171,550	-\$14,802

This Sunday's Servers

Acolytes: Patti Maxwell

Cameras & Streaming: Devin McLaughlin

Eucharistic Ministers: David Brown

Greeter: Dana Parker

Lector: Chris James

Nursery Helper: Becky Supercinski

Ushers: Bryan White, Stan Williams

Vestry People: Roxanne Brink, Patti Maxwell

Worship Tech: Amy Brown

NEXT Sunday's Servers (12/28)

Acolytes: Amy Brown

Cameras & Streaming: Michael Greathouse

Eucharistic Ministers: David Brown

Greeter: Jessica Cunningham

Lector: Susan Brown

Nursery Helper: Carolyn Deakins

Ushers: Donna Richardson, Chip Doran

Vestry People: Michael Greathouse

Worship Tech: Wayne Workman