

ADVENT IS A TIME FOR . . .

“ears to hear the delicate rustle of angel wings, eyes to see the Star, feet to hurry quietly to the stable, knees to bow humbly before Him, minds to comprehend, hearts to receive the gift which God has graciously prepared for us all.”

WATCH — PREPARE — REJOICE — BEHOLD

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28—ADVENT 1 “WATCH”

ANGEL TREE GIFT CARD DONATIONS—WWW.GETHSEMANEAUSTIN.ORG

- 9:30 am Sunday School Classes
- 9:30 am Choir & Bellissimo Rehearsals
- 10:30 am In-Person/Live-Streaming
Holy Communion (Sanctuary)



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- 7:15 am-5:30 pm Children's Ministry (M-F)
- 2:00 pm Central Texas Food Bank Pickup

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- 9am-12pm Food Pantry
(Lower Level—south Parking lot)



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

- 9:30 am GWELCA Quilting (Music Room)
- 12 Noon Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
- 1:00 pm Conversation (Steffans Parlor)
- 6:15 pm Midweek Bible Study (Steffans Parlor)
- 7:00 pm Advent Holden Evening Prayer Service (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

- 6:30 pm Japanese Sword Art Class (Narthex)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3

- 9:00 am GLCM Chapel (Narthex)
- 7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous (Music Room)
- 7:30 pm TLU Vespers-Jackson Auditorium

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

- 9:30 am Men-in-Mission lighting of Christmas tree and lunch
- 6:00 pm Holiday Choral Virtual Concert-Drive a Senior Central Austin
- 7:30 pm TLU Vespers-Jackson Auditorium



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5—ADVENT 2 “PREPARE”

- 9:30 am Sunday School Classes
- 9:30 am Choir & Bellissimo Rehearsals
- 10:30 am In-Person/Live-Streaming
Holy Communion (Sanctuary)

- 4:00 pm TLU Vespers-Jackson Auditorium

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6—ST. NICHOLAS DAY

- 7:15am-5:30pm GLCM (M-F)
- 2:00 pm Central Texas Food Bank Pickup

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

- 9am-12pm Food Pantry
(Lower Level—south Parking lot)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

- 9:30 am GWELCA Ladies Circle Mary/Martha (Music Room)
- 12 Noon Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
- 1:00 pm Conversation (Steffans Parlor)
- 6:15 pm Midweek Bible Study (Steffans Parlor)
- 7:00 pm Advent Holden Evening Prayer Service (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

- 9:00 am GLCM Chapel (Narthex)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

- 7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous (MR)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

- 6-8 pm Love's Pure Light—Drive Thru Light Celebration (GLC grounds)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12—ADVENT 3 “REJOICE”——CANTATA

153rd Anniversary 1st Lutheran worship 1868,

Austin, Texas, organization of Gethsemane Lutheran Church

- 9:30 am Sunday School Classes
- 9:30 am Choir & Bellissimo Rehearsals
- 10:30 am In-Person/Live-Streaming
Holy Communion (Sanctuary)



- 4:00 pm TLU Vespers (St. Martin's)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13—SANTA LUCIA DAY

- 7:15 am-5:30 pm Children's Ministry
- 2:00 pm Central Texas Food Bank Pickup



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

- 9am-12pm Food Pantry
(Lower Level—south Parking lot)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 12 Noon Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
- 1:00 pm Conversation (Steffans Parlor)
- 6:15 pm Midweek Bible Study (Steffans Parlor)
- 7:00 pm Advent Holden Evening Prayer Service (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 9:00 am Children's Ministry Chapel
- 7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous (MR)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19—ADVENT 4—“BEHOLD”

- 9:30 am Sunday School Classes
- 9:30 am Choir & Bellissimo Rehearsals
- 10:30 am In-Person/Live-Streaming
Holy Communion (Sanctuary)



MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

- 2:00 pm Central Texas Food Bank Pickup

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

- 9am-12pm Food Pantry
(Lower Level—south Parking lot)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

- 12 Noon Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
- 1:00 pm Conversation (Steffans Parlor)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24—CHRISTMAS EVE

- 12 noon Family Christmas Eve Carol sing & Holy Communion
- TBA Christmas Eve Candle Light Family Worship, Santa Lucia, Christmas apples



- 7:30 pm Narcotics Anonymous (MR)

- TBA Christmas Eve Candle Light Worship, Santa Lucia, Christmas apples

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25—CHRISTMAS DAY—NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

- 8:00 am Swedish Julotta (Sanctuary)
- 9:00 am Eucharist, Carols, Christmas Story (Sanctuary)



ADVENT HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER SERVICES December 1, 8 & 15 at 7pm. Join us for a brief midweek Holden Evening Prayer service in the Sanctuary to fill your heart with the sights and sounds of hope this Advent season!

ANGEL GIVING TREE Gethsemane Lutheran members and families are invited to continue a neighborhood holiday tradition by sponsoring T.A. Brown Elementary School children and families. We will be, as we did last year, asking individuals/families to donate gift cards which can be purchased through Gethsemane Lutheran Children's Ministry Pre-School. Pickup your information angel off the Angel Tree in the narthex, details and the link in the G-News this week or visit our website, www.gethsemaneAustin.org.

GETHSEMANE POINSETTIA GARDEN: You are invited to place a poinsettia plant in the Gethsemane Chancel for the 12 days of the Christmas Festival in memory/honor of a loved one by using the "*Special Gifts & Memorials*" envelope for your gift and instructions for appropriate wording. The Gethsemane Poinsettia Garden beautifully decorates the chancel for the Nativity of our Lord. Cost \$15 per plant. Thank you for remembering, honoring and sharing.

TLU VESPERS Titled "Where The Light Begins" the 2021 Vespers service of word and music will feature the TLU Choir, TLU Treble Choir, Kantorei Chamber Choir, and the TLU Symphonic Winds and Percussion. San Antonio actress, Sam Carter Gilliam, will perform short monologues between the musical numbers which weave a story and lend context to the music being performed. The music for this service will focus on Advent as a time of quiet reflection, prayerful waiting, and hopeful anticipation of the birth of Christ. Christmas Vespers will be held in TLU's Jackson Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3rd; 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4th; and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5th. Tickets for each Vespers service are free but required. If you are interested in attending the Vespers service in Austin at St. Martin's Evangelical Lutheran Church, it will take place on Sunday, Dec. 12, at 4 p.m. This Vespers service is free and no tickets are required.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Fridays, 7:30 pm, Music Room

GETHSEMANE MEN-IN-MISSION plan to decorate the outdoor Christmas tree on Saturday, December 4th. Gather 9:30a.m. to decorate the tree with a light meal to follow.

2021 VIRTUAL HOLIDAY CHORAL CONCERT FOR DRIVE A SENIOR –

NORTH CENTRAL AUSTIN The Annual Holiday Choral Concert continues to be timeless memorable evening of beautiful Christmas music! Choirs and musicians from central and north Austin join together to create this dynamic evening of joyful music and generosity of spirit. Give yourself the gift of music! Join us online, December 4th, 6pm, to hear lovely music and take part in the sing-a-longs. Tickets are \$10 and on sale now through their website, www.drivesenioratx.org. OTHER OPPORTUNITIES: Bakers and Drivers to help with Annual Cookie Connection AND Drivers and Ticket Sponsors for the Austin Trail of Lights. Call their office at 512-472-6339 OR email their Director at director@drivesenioratx.org for more information. Proceeds go to Drive a Senior – North Central Austin, a 501(c)(3) non-profit whose provides over 4,500 rides to help seniors in our community who no longer drive. Share in the music of Advent & Christmas.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS PROGRAM The youth of Gethsemane and Gethsemane Lutheran Children's Ministry invite you to "Love's Pure Light", this year's Advent/Christmas Program, which will be a Drive- thru Light Celebration! Come drive through the parking lots (enter the lower parking lot/exit on Georgjan) of Gethsemane and see Love's pure light!! Mark your calendars for Saturday evening, December 11th, open 6 - 8 p.m. If you have any lights, decorations, or extension cords you can share or donate, contact Dar Joy.

SAVE THE DATES!!! January 14-16, 2022 for the Gethsemane Border Mission Trip to San Lucas Lutheran Church in Eagle Pass AND February 26-27, 2022 for the Family Retreat at Camp Chrysalis! More information and registration coming soon for both!

WELCOME TO ADVENT WORSHIP at Gethsemane Lutheran. The four weeks prior to the twelve days of the Christmas Festival give a message of waiting...watching, preparing for the festival celebration of "the Word made flesh". Within the community of the baptized, thanks is given for the coming of the Incarnate Word of God revealed in the Holy Scripture and blessed Sacraments. Advent is a time of hopefulness. The message of Advent hope is symbolized by the blue paraments on the altar and in the stoles worn by the clergy. Living today as Advent people, waiting with anticipation for the coming of the Promised One, we express the ancient hopefulness by praying "*Amen, Come Lord Jesus, Come*". Welcome to Gethsemane Lutheran.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Given to the Glory of the Triune God in Thanksgiving for the faithful stewardship of Gethsemane Lutheran congregants past and present generously giving offerings of grateful thanks to God supporting the ministries of Gethsemane, the Southwestern Texas Synod, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by the George Wesley "Wes" & Alvina Seaholm Sassman Altar Guild Fund.

ADVENT TRADITIONS The liturgical church year invites the baptized community to be transformed into the Advent Community lighting candles in the Advent wreath, singing the traditional Advent carols, commemorating St. Nicholas, 4th century Bishop of Myra December 6; the first Lutheran worship service in Austin leading to the birth of Gethsemane congregation, December 12, 1868; learning from Santa Lucia to share with others, December 13. Advent is a time of hope, watching, preparing, rejoicing, beholding the coming of God manifested in the waiting community. Advent is for the faithful anticipating the celebration of the One who came, comes, will come again—"Come Lord Jesus, Come."

LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE in the 2021 Gethsemane Advent Wreath starts the four week Advent Season. An Advent wreath or Advent log is a beautiful way to assist your spiritual life anticipating the Twelve Day Christmas Festival.

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL LEARNING HOUR The Adult Class meets in the Steffans Parlor 9:30 am following Covid 10 Protocols. The class is led by Pastor Gronberg. Everyone is welcome to join in the conversation. Children's Learning hour (2 yrs—6th grade) will begin under the Bornemann Tree with songs, bible story, snacks and much more! Gethsemane Confirmation youth meet with Pastor Schnelle in the confirmation room downstairs. Senior High youth gather for fellowship and conversations with Greg Althaus in the youth loft. An important part of our faith journey is service and one way we encourage both our Jr. and Sr. high youth to serve other is by participating in worship as an acolyte. Wear a mask!

GETHSEMANE FOOD PANTRY Thanks to those donating to the Food Pantry. Tuesdays, 9am-12pm. "*I was hungry, you fed me, I was naked, you clothed me...as you did it to the least of these members of my family, you did it to me*" (St. Matthew 25: 35-40)

GWELCA QUILTING & LADIES CIRCLE MARY/MARTHA GATHERINGS Wednesday, December 1st & Wednesday, December 8th, 9:30am, Music Room. All are welcome!

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY Gethsemane members and friends are invited during the Advent season to the Wednesdays 6:00 pm Bible Study in the Steffans Parlor with Pastor Karl Gronberg. Recent conversations considered the role of angels in the Bible particularly Michael and All Angels; the Biblical influence on St. Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church, Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society, William Tydale, translator, martyr, Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, pastor in North America; brought a new awareness to the class participants of the influence of the Bible to the witness of these faithful Christians. Pastor Gronberg has met with a Gethsemane friend knowledgeable of the life of the late beloved Henri Nouwen. Plans are for the Wednesday evening class to look at the teachings of Nouwen on Identity, God, Love, Suffering, Freedom. Come join the Wednesday evening conversation.