

**Luther
House**

December Newsletter

The Songs of Advent

A candid photo of the full table (and full bellies) during a November dinner

Now a few weeks into our seven-week experiment of Advent with the OSU Lutheran–Episcopal campus ministry, we are well-settled into this season of darkness and light. At the same time, students in the campus ministry are caught up in way too much to do. In the midst of exams and seemingly never-ending midterms (or, as some professors creatively rename them, “quests”), we’ve mapped out four songs from the scripture stories of Advent.

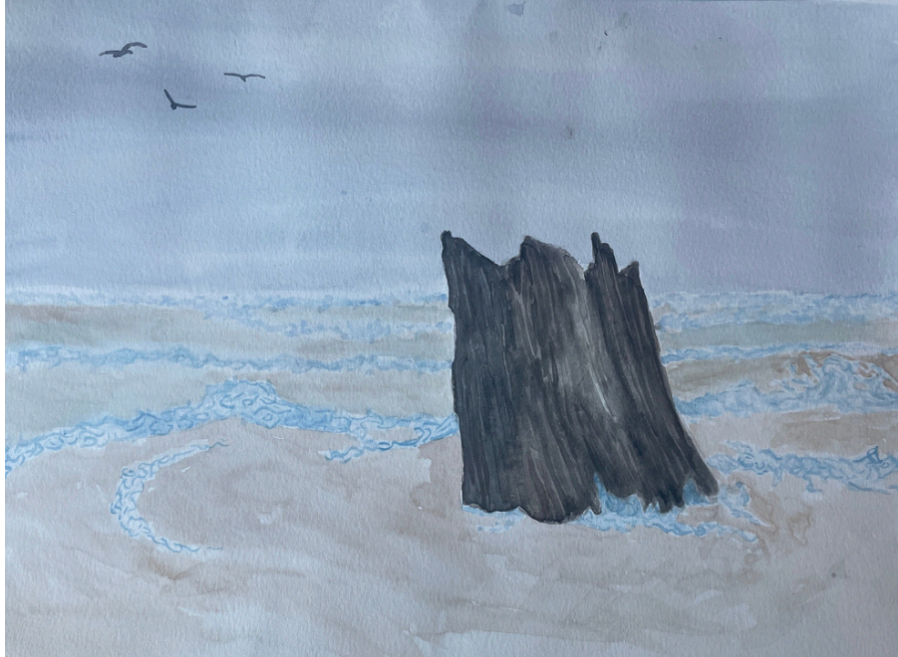
Zechariah’s song, Mary’s Magnificat, the angels’ unearthly proclamation, and Simeon’s gratitude overflowing in song are ancient lyrics woven into our scriptures. The songs of Advent are also woven into the busy, sprint-to-the-end-of-semester evenings with students for a different way of listening and attending to the presence of God unfolding with us.

Zechariah’s song breaks open only after disbelief quiets his own voice. After many trimesters in silence, in what I imagine to be a gift only God could give to an old patriarch way out of his depth, he finally speaks of blessing and promise unfolding before his very eyes. *“Because of the tender mercy from on high,”* he says at last.

Mary’s Magnificat erupts with vulnerability and power, proclaiming God’s promises for the whole world. Then the shepherds, keeping watch in the fields, are awakened by an unearthly proclamation in the sound of the world already beginning to turn. And Simeon’s song of gratitude flows out as he holds a newborn in his arms, trusting the promises of God-with-us embodied in this tender life.

Songs have echoed the promises of God through the psalms and prophets and through the voices of the faithful in every age. I hold these songs with particular joy this season, as the campus ministry continues to follow the Holy Spirit into the places our students live and study. It is a gift to be invited to listen and be present where they are called and where they find life and creativity and vibrant hope.

I look forward to continuing to share the stories of our students in the campus ministry with you, in the trust of God's faithfulness in joy and song.



from a "Liturgy of Lamentation and Jubilee for Creation" (created by students)

As we wrapped up our program year, students submitted works of art, poetry, and liturgy from the pilgrimage hikes, vocation retreats, and Sunday Dinner Church in the **Liturgy of Lamentation and Jubilee for Creation**.

Uniquely young adult, uniquely rooted in the Pacific Northwest, this book offers one ever-changing community of faith's reflection of learning stories. It marks the beginning of a renewed Christian practice to discern the next steps in our work to care for Creation and steward our unique gifts, energy, and resources towards healing and wholeness with the earth.

A digital copy is available below. If you would like a hard copy, please contact the office at lhouse@peak.org

[Click to read the Liturgy of Lamentation and Jubilee for Creation](#)



Finals week lunches

On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of finals week (December 8-10), drop in anytime between 11 am and 1 pm for food, coffee, tea, encouragement, and free wifi. Students, we will have cookies and care packages to go to help get through those last minute study sessions.

Thank you to the Outreach Committee of Grace Lutheran for providing the Tuesday meal (baked potato bar- yum!).



Sunday Dinner Church

Weekly Sunday Dinner and worship continues for one more Sunday of the term before taking a winter break pause.

Take a break, refuel, and recenter, and join us **Sunday December 7th from 6–7:30 PM** for a free dinner. Afterwards, stay for singing, music, and candlelight with Holden Evening prayer — open to all college students!

Come hungry (physically + spiritually)— vegetarian, vegan, dairy-free, and gluten-free options will be available. For other dietary accommodations, please contact Pr. Hallie.

Hosted at **Luther House** (211 NW 23rd), there's no need to sign up — just show up. See you Sunday night!

Note: Sunday dinners will begin in the new year on Sunday, January 11th



Maker's Space

Looking for a cozy, creative way to unwind? Come join us for the final two Maker's Space of the term **Tuesday December 2nd and 9th** from **6–8 PM**.

Students are invited to chill with friends, make something awesome, and connect with community. This evening we'll offer ornament making, cookie decorating, and other festivities.

Hosted this month at **Luther House** (211 NW 23rd St), bring your creativity (and maybe a friend!) — we'll bring the cookies, craft supplies & dinner. Let's make something beautiful together!

Note: Maker Space will begin again in the new year on Tuesday, January 6th



Do you know a student at Western Oregon University? We do, too! We have a number of students this year at WOU, and we are looking to support our students in an affirming, inclusive community of faith (and seeking) on campus.

We'll gather this month in Monmouth at St. Hilda's Episcopal Church on **Thursday, December 4th and 11th at 6 pm** for curious and interested students. Dinner provided!



Young Adult Faith and Climate Gathering!

Emmaus Campus Ministry in Montana is hosting a region Faith and Climate retreat this spring- and the Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry at OSU is invited!

[Dr. Claudio Carvalhaes](#) (an expert in ritual and eco theology from Union Theological Seminary) and [Gwen Lankford](#) (an indigenous climate activist from Missoula) will be our presenters and guides for thoughtful discussion and meaningful ritual.

When? April 17th-19th, 2026

Where? Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

Who? Open-minded and curious young adults (no religious affiliation required)

How much? \$150 per person (plus travel expenses; travel scholarships available)

For more information, talk to Pr. Hallie and check out Emmaus Campus Ministry's page <https://www.emmausmontana.org/faithandclimateretreat>

With joy- an announcement

Pr. Hallie and her family are expecting a baby in March of 2026. They covet your prayers as they watch, wait, and ponder so many things in their hearts.

Pregnancy announcements can be tender and triggering; if you hold grief or trauma with pregnancy and loss, there are many resources, including those offered by [A Sanctified Art](#) for pastoral accompaniment and care.

December hours for Luther House and Canterbury House

The office at **Luther House** (211 NW 23rd St) will be open **Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays 9:30 am - 1:30 pm** in December.

Luther House is always available to students for study space, pool, free laundry, and gatherings/meetings from 8 am to 10 pm; please contact the office for a building access code.

This month, Luther House will be open limited hours over OSU winter break (December 14th- January 3rd). The office will be closed December 24th and 25th, as well as December 31st and January 1st. Please email or call ahead if you would like to stop by.



Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}

{{Organization Address}}

{{Organization Phone}}

{{Organization Website}}

{{Unsubscribe}}