LUTHERAN UNDERGROUND

The Historic Lutheran Church Year Planner

2026 - 2027

SAMPLE PREVIEW

52 dated Sunday planning worksheets

13 monthly calendars + reading index

Historic one-year lectionary | print-ready

Advent 29 November 2026 - Last Sunday 21 November 2027

An independent, editable, congregation-friendly planning companion

How to Use This Planner

A working tool for pastors, organists, musicians, and parish staff

1 CHECK THE APPOINTED PROPER

Each Sunday worksheet lists a primary Old Testament reading, Psalm, Epistle, and Gospel from the historic one-year cycle. Other authorized choices and transferred observances may apply. Check the official lectionary before printing a bulletin.

2 PLAN THE HYMNS

Record hymn numbers and titles from your own authorized hymnal. This kit does not reproduce hymn texts, notation, proprietary worship orders, or hymn-of-the-day assignments. Confirm local licensing before reproducing any protected material.

3 PREPARE THE SERVICE

Use the checklist and weekly spaces for the order of service, sermon focus, musicians, choir, acolytes, Communion preparation, and practical notes. Copy or print additional worksheets as needed.

4 MAINTAIN A WORKING INDEX

The companion CSV and Excel workbook provide the same 52 Sundays for filtering, editing, and tracking progress. Update the status fields throughout the church year.

5 DECIDE LOCAL OBSERVANCES

Colors are common historic Lutheran suggestions, not binding rubrics. Festival precedence, parish custom, optional readings, Sunday transfers, and the availability of a special service may change the calendar.

SAMPLE PREVIEW

IMPORTANT SOURCE AND INDEPENDENCE NOTE

Date and reading references checked against public LCMS 2026-27 resources and the Word to Worship historic one-year listing; references only, not reproduced Scripture text.

LCMS: https://www.lcms.org/resources/post/series-b-and-one-year-series-calendars-with-lectionary-readings

Year-specific reference: https://wordtoworship.com/lectionary/lcms1yr?year=2026

This product is independently prepared and is not sponsored or endorsed by the LCMS.

Sunday and Festival Index

The historic one-year cycle / 2026-27

DATE	OBSERVANCE	GOSPEL
29 Nov 2026	**Advent I**	Matt. 21:1-9
06 Dec 2026	**Advent II**	Luke 21:25-36
13 Dec 2026	**Advent III**	Matt. 11:2-10 (11)
20 Dec 2026	**Advent IV**	John 1:19-28
27 Dec 2026	**Christmas I**	Luke 2:(22-32) 33-40
03 Jan 2027	**Christmas II**	Matt. 2:13-23
10 Jan 2027	**Epiphany I**	Luke 2:41-52
17 Jan 2027	**Transfiguration**	Matt. 17:1-9
24 Jan 2027	**Septuagesima**	Matt. 20:1-16
31 Jan 2027	**Sexagesima**	Luke 8:4-15
07 Feb 2027	**Quinquagesima**	Luke 18:31-43
14 Feb 2027	**Invocavit – Lent I**	Matt. 4:1-11
21 Feb 2027	**Reminiscere – Lent II**	Matt. 15:21-28
28 Feb 2027	**Oculi – Lent III**	Luke 11:14-28
07 Mar 2027	**Laetare – Lent IV**	John 6:1-15
14 Mar 2027	**Judica – Lent V**	John 8:(42-45) 46-59
21 Mar 2027	**Palm Sunday / Passion**	Matt. 26:1-27:66
28 Mar 2027	**Easter Day**	Mark 16:1-8
04 Apr 2027	**Quasimodogeniti – Easter II**	John 20:19-31
11 Apr 2027	**Misericordias Domini – Easter III**	John 10:11-16
18 Apr 2027	**Jubilate – Easter IV**	John 16:16-22
25 Apr 2027	**Cantate – Easter V**	John 16:5-15
02 May 2027	**Rogate – Easter VI**	John 16:23-30
09 May 2027	**Exaudi – Easter VII**	John 15:26-16:4
16 May 2027	**Pentecost**	John 14:23-31
23 May 2027	**Holy Trinity**	John 3:1-15 (16-17)

SAMPLE PREVIEW

Planning by Church Season

A confessional Lutheran approach to service preparation

ADVENT

Confess the coming Lord: promised, incarnate, present in His gifts, and returning in glory. Select hymns that express repentance, expectation, and the sure promises of God.

CHRISTMAS AND EPIPHANY

Place the incarnation and manifestation of Christ at the center. The Son of God comes in our flesh for our salvation; readings and hymn choices should proclaim the person and work of Christ.

PRE-LENT AND LENT

Follow the readings toward the saving passion. Distinguish Law and Gospel carefully; repentance is met by Christ's forgiveness and His finished atoning work.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Let the appointed Passion and Resurrection accounts govern the week. Plan rehearsals, Communion provision, processions, and extra services well in advance.

PENTECOST AND TRINITY

Proclaim the Holy Spirit's work through the external Word and Sacraments, and the one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

TRINITY SEASON AND END OF YEAR

Attend to discipleship as the fruit of faith, not its cause. Do not turn the Gospel into moral advice: Christ gives what He commands, and His people live by grace.

SAMPLE PREVIEW

December 2026

Date grid / parish planning and rehearsals

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
6 Advent II		1	2	3	4	5
13 Advent III	7	8	9	10	11	12
20 Advent IV	14	15	16	17	18	19
27 Christmas I	21	22	23	24 *Christmas Eve*	25 *The Nativity of Our Lord*	26
	28	29	30	31		

SAMPLE PREVIEW

MONTHLY PRIORITIES

Music rehearsal / organ maintenance _____

Parish printing deadline _____

Special services / sacristy coordination _____

SUNDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 2026

Advent I

Advent / Suggested color: Violet / blue

GOSPEL FOCUS

The promised King comes in humility

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES / PRIMARY LISTED OPTIONS

OLD TESTAMENT
Jer. 23:5–8

PSALM
Psalm 24

EPISTLE
Rom. 13:(8–10) 11–14

GOSPEL
Matt. 21:1–9

HYMN OF THE DAY

ENTRANCE / OPENING HYMN

DISTRIBUTION HYMN(S)

CLOSING HYMN

SERMON TITLE / EMPHASIS

OTHER MUSIC / CHOIR / INSTRUMENTS

SUNDAY PREPARATION

- ☐ Readings checked
- ☐ Hymns selected
- ☐ Bulletin proofed
- ☐ Musicians briefed
- ☐ Communion prepared
- ☐ Staff confirmed

PARISH NOTES / FOLLOW-UP

SAMPLE PREVIEW

SUNDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2027

Oculi - Lent III

Lent / Holy Week / Suggested color: Violet

GOSPEL FOCUS

The stronger One overcomes the evil one

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES / PRIMARY LISTED OPTIONS

OLD TESTAMENT
Ex. 8:16-24

PSALM
Psalm 136:1-16

EPISTLE
Eph. 5:1-9

GOSPEL
Luke 11:14-28

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